

**ASX Release**

7 November 2022

**EUROPE PATENT TO BE GRANTED FOR AROVELLA'S iNKT CELL THERAPY PLATFORM**

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 7 November 2022:** Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell platform to treat cancer, is pleased to announce that the European Patent Office has issued a notification of Intention to Grant a patent for the iNKT cell therapy platform which is under licence to Arovella from Imperial College Innovations Limited.

The patent application, which covers the manufacturing of CAR-iNKT cells, is expected to proceed to grant in early 2023 following completion of the grant formalities. Once granted, the patent will have a maximum term that will expire on 28 February 2039.

The European Application No. EP19710101.7 is titled "TRANSDUCTION AND EXPANSION OF CELLS".

Corresponding applications are pending in the United States, Canada, China, Hong Kong and Australia.

Arovella's CEO and MD, Dr Michael Baker, commented: "Receiving the notice that this European patent application will proceed to grant is an excellent milestone for the technology, and we are excited to continue developing the therapy to demonstrate the value of our platform and to have a positive impact on the lives of many cancer patients."

Arovella acquired the iNKT cell therapy platform technology under licence from Imperial College London in June 2021<sup>1</sup>. The completed pre-clinical studies demonstrate that CAR19-iNKT cells are a robust therapeutic option for eliminating haematological malignancies (blood cancers) that produce CD19, with further enhanced activity against cancers that also produce CD1d.

Arovella has partnered with Imugene (ASX:IMU) to combine ALA-101 with Imugene's onCARlytics platform, which opens up the possibility of using ALA-101 to tackle solid tumours<sup>2</sup>.

Arovella's ALA-101 has been shown in pre-clinical studies to outperform conventional T cells against cancers that express CD19 and CD1d. A key feature of iNKT cells is that they can be used off the shelf and collected from a healthy donor, re-engineered to target cancer cells and given to patients when required.

The iNKT cell therapy platform technology that is the subject of this patent family can also target different cancers by employing, for example, Arovella's DKK-1-peptide targeting technology under a licence from MD Anderson Cancer Center.

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<sup>1</sup> See ASX release "SUDA Licenses a Novel iNKT Cell Therapy Platform from Imperial College London"

<sup>2</sup> See ASX release "Preclinical trial of ALA iNKT therapy and IMU onCARlytics"

**ASX: ALA**

Arovella Therapeutics Limited  
ACN 090 987 250



For and on behalf of the Board and for further information, please contact:

**Dr Michael Baker**

**Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director**

**Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Tel +61 (0) 403 468 187

[investor@arovella.com](mailto:investor@arovella.com)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing therapies to treat human diseases. Arovella is developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella is also expanding its DKK1-peptide targeting technology licenced from MD Anderson and used in conjunction with its iNKT cell therapy platform. The Company is also commercialising ZolpiMist™, a first-in-class oral spray of zolpidem tartrate to treat short-term insomnia. ZolpiMist is approved by the FDA and the TGA and is marketed in the USA. Arovella has rights to the product outside of the US and Canada.

For more information, visit [www.arovella.com](http://www.arovella.com)

This announcement contains certain statements which may constitute forward-looking statements or information ("forward-looking statements"), including statements regarding negotiations with third parties and regulatory approvals. These forward-looking statements are based on certain key expectations and assumptions, including assumptions regarding actions of third parties and financial terms. These factors and assumptions are based upon currently available information and the forward-looking statements contained herein speak only as of the date hereof. Although the expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable in the view of the Company's directors and management, reliance should not be placed on such statements as there is no assurance that they will prove correct. This is because forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could influence actual results or events and cause actual results or events to differ materially from those stated, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. These risks include, but are not limited to: uncertainties and other factors that are beyond the control of the Company; global economic conditions; risk associated with foreign currencies; and risk associated with securities market volatility. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements, except as required by Australian securities laws and ASX Listing Rules.