

**ASX Release**

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**AROVELLA SIGNS SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH QIMR BERGHOFER MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO MANUFACTURE ITS iNKT CELL THERAPY FOR CLINICAL TRIALS**

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 20 April 2022:** Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell platform to treat blood cancers, is pleased to announce that it has agreed the commercial terms for the initial manufacturing Services Agreement for its first investigative CAR19-iNKT cell therapy candidate (ALA-101) with Q-Gen Cell Therapeutics (Q-Gen), the cell therapy manufacturing arm of the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute (QIMR Berghofer). Streamlining manufacturing is a critical step to initiate clinical trials for Arovella's lead product, ALA-101 to treat CD19-producing leukemias and lymphomas.

In January 2022, Arovella selected the manufacturer for its clinical grade lentiviral vector and with the selection of Q-Gen, the manufacturers are now in place to generate ALA-101 for clinical trials. Arovella's CAR19-iNKT cells are being developed to be used off-the-shelf, meaning that the therapy can be manufactured from a healthy donor, frozen and given to patients when needed, without any delay unlike the FDA approved autologous CAR-T cell therapies. Arovella expects this to make the therapy potentially more readily available, more affordable and will enable it to reach more cancer patients.

Q-Gen is at the forefront of manufacturing immunotherapies and cell therapies. Established in 2002 to support clinical translation and discoveries by the Institute's researchers, the facility now manufactures for academic and biopharmaceutical partners nationally and internationally. Q-Gen is accredited by Australia's Therapeutic Goods Administration as a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) facility. The facility can produce cellular immunotherapies for patients in Australia, Asia, the United States and Europe. Q-Gen has successfully produced autologous and allogenic cell therapy products for clinical trials.

Arovella's CEO and Managing Director, Dr Michael Baker, commented "We are delighted to commence our partnership with Q-Gen. We are looking forward to manufacturing our novel CAR19-iNKT cell therapy to treat cancer patients. We see the development of an off-the-shelf product as essential step forward for the cell therapy field."

Q-Gen Cell Therapeutics' General Manager, Andrew Masel, commented "We are excited to be working with Arovella on what we see as a unique cell therapy platform. The team at Q-Gen is looking forward to working closely with Arovella to produce the product for clinical trials."

The Services Agreement is effective immediately and is anticipated to be followed by a proposed Master Manufacturing Services Agreement. The Services Agreement is anticipated to conclude in FY2022. The proposed Services Agreement will allow Arovella to begin to work with Q-Gen to manufacture the product for later stage clinical trials. Normal commercial cancellation provisions

apply to the Services Agreement. The overall costs of the services under the Services Agreement are not considered material and are included in existing budgets and funding. Both parties retain their own intellectual property (IP). IP created under the services agreement will vest with Arovella, unless created solely by QIMR Berghofer, who will retain such IP.

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

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:****About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing therapies to treat human disease. Arovella's two focus areas are oncology and conditions that impact the central nervous system. Arovella is developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers. Arovella is also developing its DKK1-peptide targeting technology licenced from MD Anderson to be used in conjunction with its iNKT cell therapy platform. The Company is developing low-risk oral sprays to reformulate existing pharmaceuticals. The potential benefits of administering drugs through the oral mucosa (i.e. cheeks, tongue, gums and palate) include ease of use, lower dosage, reduced side effects and faster response time. Arovella's product pipeline includes an oral spray for the platelet-lowering drug anagrelide to treat metastatic disease in the background of high platelets, and ZolpiMist™, a first-in-class oral spray of zolpidem tartrate to treat short-term insomnia. ZolpiMist is approved by the FDA, TGA and the Ministry of Health (Chile) and is marketed in the USA. Arovella has rights to the product outside of the US and Canada. Other products in development include oral sprays to treat migraine headaches, motion sickness, and drug-resistant epilepsy.

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.