iSAE Consortium Ltd.

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SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY TO PARTNER WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENTS CONSORTIUM TO RESEARCH THE GENETICS OF DRUG INDUCED SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENTS

Shanghai Jiao Tong University to leverage national translational research network to study the role of genetic variation in drug induced serious adverse events in the Chinese population

Chicago (June 15, 2011) – The International Serious Adverse Events Consortium (SAEC) announced today it will collaborate with Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) and a national network of over 30 Chinese hospitals to research the genetics of drug induced serious adverse events (SAEs) in Chinese populations. The SAEC is a novel, non-profit international research consortium, formed by with global pharmaceutical industry and the Wellcome Trust, to better understand the role genetics plays in drug safety. SJTU is one of China's oldest and most prestigious research universities, and has an impressive history of pioneering education and scientific research. SJTU has numerous science and engineering academic schools, including key government laboratories and national engineering research centers. The collaboration with the SAEC will be directed out of the university's Bio-X Institute, which focuses on research into the genetic and molecular basis of disease and drug response.

The SAEC's is actively recruiting patients, through an international network of academic centers and integrated health care systems (with strong electronic health records/databases) to study SAEs with a strong immunologic underpinning. Examples include drug induced liver injury (DILI), drug induced kidney injury (DIKI), drug induced serious skin rashes (DISSR), and acute hypersensitivity syndrome (AHSS). The aim of this collaboration is to significantly expand our understanding of the impact of ethnic diversity on the genetics of SAEs, by researching these diseases in Chinese populations. The collaboration will be under the direction of Drs. Lin He (Professor) and Shengying Qin (Associate Professor). The first phase of the collaboration is expected to last approximately two years.

"Our genetic research to date points to a strong role of the immune system in a number of our target SAEs." said Arthur L. Holden, Chairman of the SAEC. "To better understand the full genetic effects contributing to these diseases, we need to develop larger and more diverse collections of subjects. Our collaboration with SJTU and the Bio-X Institute will be an important initiative to help us achieve this research objective. We are thrilled that Drs. He and Qin share our commitment to research into the genetics of drug-induced SAEs."

"Identifying the genetic variation correlated with adverse drug reactions has important clinical significance. The collaboration of Bio-X institutes and iSAEC will speed up the adverse drug reaction study of Chinese population，which will be enhance the development of personalized medicine for the Chinese population." said Dr. Lin He.

Founded in the fall of 2007, the SAEC is a private, global partnership of leading pharmaceutical companies, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and academic institutions from around the world to identify and confirm genetic markers that may help predict which patients are at risk for drug-related serious adverse events. Through identifying and ultimately validating genetic markers associated with SAEs, the Consortium hopes to reduce the patient and economic costs caused by drug-related SAEs. The SAEC also hopes to improve the flow of safe and effective medical therapies by better addressing idiosyncratic safety risks of new drugs before they reach the market. It provides to qualified researchers, free access to its study data and results.

About the International SAEC
The International Serious Adverse Event Consortium (SAEC, www.saeconsortium.org) is a 501(c) 3 organization dedicated to identifying and validating DNA variants useful in predicting the risk of drug-related serious adverse events. The Consortium brings together the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory authorities, and academic centers to address clinical and scientific issues associated with drug-related serious adverse events.
SAEC members include representatives from the pharmaceutical industries, the scientific community, and the Wellcome Trust.

- Pharmaceutical industry partners are involved in all aspects of the Consortium launch, providing ongoing consultation on the development and structure of the Consortium's scientific model, contributing cohort data, and underwriting costs of the SAEC's studies.

- SAEC members include Abbott, Amgen, Astra-Zeneca, Daiichi Sankyo, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, Takeda, and the Wellcome Trust.

- The FDA provides consultation on the direction of the SAEC, the design and conduct of SAEC studies, and support of research data release.

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