

ALPHAVAX ANNOUNCES NEW LEASE FOR VACCINE MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

Research Triangle Park, N.C. AlphaVax has announced new arrangements for its vaccine manufacturing activity at Greer in Lenoir, NC, today. Under a new lease agreement with Greer, AlphaVax has assumed direct responsibility for vaccine manufacturing operations using Greer's vaccine production facility in Lenoir, including employment of several Greer staff who are involved in making AlphaVax vaccines there. Previously, vaccines that the company makes for use in clinical trials were produced at Greer under a contract manufacturing arrangement put in place in 2000.

In announcing the change, Andrew Graham, Vice President of Development at AlphaVax and the executive responsible for the company's manufacturing activity, said, "Assumption of direct responsibility for our own vaccine manufacturing operations is a logical step in AlphaVax's strategic plan. The manufacturing process is a critical, rate-limiting step in the development of a new, complex biological technology like ours. Unlocking the potential of our core technology so that it can successfully support a broad array of new vaccine products depends on how effectively a company solves the challenges of manufacturing within the strict demands of FDA regulation. This is a long-standing strategic priority for AlphaVax, and one where we have established strong proprietary expertise."

The company announced plans last year to expand its manufacturing capacity by renovating another leased manufacturing facility in Durham, NC, near its central laboratory and office facilities in Research Triangle Park. The two manufacturing sites will give AlphaVax the flexibility it needs to support the growing number of product development programs it is advancing with its government, corporate, and academic collaborators, Graham noted.

"Our manufacturing relationship with Greer over the last few years allowed us to propel our technology into clinical development," said Graham. "Our new arrangement lets both companies focus on their own strategic business needs." Greer is a leading provider of allergy immunotherapy products and services for treating humans and animals. Greer continues to work towards facilitating advancements in the practice of allergen immunotherapy.

AlphaVax has previously announced grant awards from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, supporting seven vaccine programs in HIV, biodefense, SARS, and influenza. The company is working with a number of other academic and industry partners on vaccines for diseases like herpes and human papilloma virus (the principal cause of cervical cancer), as well as vaccines that can be used to treat different types of cancer.