

# ViroGates awarded a 6.6 DKKm EU Horizon 2020 grant for a project to optimize hospital resources and ensure early therapeutic intervention for COVID-19 patients based on suPARnostic®

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**BIRKERØD, DENMARK** 8th June 2020 - ViroGates A/S, a medical technology company developing blood tests for better triaging in hospitals to improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs, today announces that it has been granted 6.6 DKK million under the EU Horizon 2020 framework.. The grant will support the efforts of better clinical risk stratification of patients at the emergency departments with symptoms from COVID-19.

The aim of the project is to identify low-risk patients who can be discharged earlier than today and to identify patients that will benefit from early clinical intervention based on on two therapeutic drugs, an <a href="interleukin1 receptor antagonist">interleukin 1 receptor antagonist</a> (Anakinra) and an <a href="interleukin 6 receptor antagonist">interleukin 6 receptor antagonist</a> (Tocilizumab). Furthermore, the grant will cover steps for ViroGates to bring some of the manufacturing of suPARnostic® TurbiLatex to Europe improving the company's supply chain.

Studies have previously shown that suPARnostic® has a very high negative predictive value (ability to guide discharge of patients without risk progression of the disease) and data from another COVID-19 drug study suggest that early intervention is pivotal for the ability to help patients fight the effects of COVID-19 disease.

**Jakob Knudsen, Chief Executive Officer of ViroGates, says:** "We are very happy that the EU has decided to back our efforts in supporting medical professionals' difficult decisions concerning the discharge of patients with a severe disease such as COVID-19. For discharge decisions of COVID-19 patients, this should include a low risk of respiratory failure where suPARnostic® has proven to be a strong prognostic biomarker with a high negative predictive value. Furthermore, we look forward to helping the guidance of therapeutic intervention based on drugs in development for treatment of COVID-19. We know that a successful outcome is directly related to early treatment intervention and prioritisation of these drugs is pivotal due to cost and potential side effects."

The announcement can be found at https://www.virogates.com/investor/announcements

# For further information please contact:

ViroGates A/S:

CEO, Jakob Knudsen

Tel. (+45) 2226 1355, email: jk@virogates.com

Certified Advisor:

Västra Hamnen Corporate Finance

Per Lönn

Tel. (+46) 40 200 250, email: per.lonn@vhcorp.se

## **About ViroGates**

ViroGates A/S is an international medical technology company developing and marketing blood test products under the suPARnostic® brand for better triaging in hospitals to improve patient care, reduce healthcare costs and empower clinical staff

The company was founded in 2000 based on the discovery that suPAR was predictive of outcome in HIV-infections and subsequently in many other disease areas. Headquartered in Denmark, ViroGates' sales force covers the Nordics, Spain, and France, while distributors serve other markets.

ViroGates' shares (VIRO) are listed on Nasdaq First North Growth Market Denmark. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.virogates.com">www.virogates.com</a>.

#### About suPAR and suPARnostic®

suPAR is the biomarker detected by ViroGates' suPARnostic® products and is a protein in plasma, measurable in every human being. suPAR is considered a general risk status biomarker indicating disease presence, disease severity and progression, organ damage and mortality risk across disease areas such as cardiovascular diseases, kidney diseases, type 2 diabetes, cancer, etc. Strong scientific evidence from more than 600 clinical trials and studies show that the higher the level of suPAR, the worse the prognosis for the patient.

The suPARnostic® products can be used to support healthcare professionals in making clinical decisions on hospitalization or discharge of acute care patients. The increasing demands on health systems globally and tightening healthcare budgets necessitate efficiency improvements and innovative solutions in hospitals. The use of suPAR in clinical routine in emergency departments can improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs by increasing the number of discharges by 34% and reducing the average hospital length-of-stay by 6% without affecting mortality. suPARnostic® TurbiLatex is currently available on Siemens ADVIA XPT instruments and Roche Diagnostics' cobas instruments. ViroGates works with partners to develop solutions for other platforms

# **Disclosure regulation**

Prospects about the future reflect ViroGates' current expectations for future events and results. The statements are by nature inherent in risks, uncertainties and other matters that are difficult to predict or out of control. The actual results may therefore differ from the expectations expressed.

#### **Contacts**

Jakob Knudsen, CEO, +45 2226 1355, jk@virogates.com

### **Attachments**

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