

#### **ASX Announcement**

Melbourne, Australia, 27 October 2022

#### **UPCOMING WEBINAR**

• Webinar: Genetic Medicines and exosomes: Recent testing provides supporting validation

Genetic medicine and exosome-based drug-delivery company Exopharm Limited (ASX:EX1) releases notice of, and information to be covered in an upcoming webinar.

Title: Genetic Medicines and exosomes: Recent testing provides supporting validation

Time: 8:00 (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia), 28 October 2022 Registration: <a href="https://exo.ph/Genetic-Medicines-and-exosomes">https://exo.ph/Genetic-Medicines-and-exosomes</a>

By the Managing Director – this release has been authorised by the Managing Director.

#### **COMPANY AND MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

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#### **ABOUT EXOPHARM**

Exopharm (ASX:EX1) is a leader in advancing Genetic Medicines and other exosome-based medicines using exosomes or extracellular vesicles (EVs) as a chassis for improved and non-viral drug-delivery.

Exopharm (ASX:EX1) is pursuing a product pipeline-driven platform strategy. Exosomes can be loaded with a variety of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and can be targeted to selected cell-types and tissue types, improving the safety-profile of the APIs and providing better treatments. Exosomes can be used to deliver small molecule drugs, mRNA, DNA and other types of APIs.

Exosomes are an alternative means of drug-delivery inside the body, alongside technologies such as lipid nanoparticles (LNP), cell-penetrating peptides, viral vectors and liposomes.

Exopharm's exosome technologies solve important needs for the success of exosome medicines – **LEAP** manufacturing technology, **LOAD** API loading technologies and **EVPS** tropism technologies.

Exosome-based medicines could improve the treatment of many chronic or inherited medical conditions.

Exopharm is making its proprietary technologies available to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies that want to harness exosome-delivery for their own products. In addition, Exopharm is using its technology platform to enable its own product development programs - each aimed at delivering a transformative medicine for an unmet medical need.

#### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This announcement contains forward-looking statements which incorporate an element of uncertainty or risk, such as 'intends', 'may', 'could', 'believes', 'estimates', 'targets', 'aims', 'plans' or 'expects'. These statements are based on an evaluation of current corporate estimates, economic and operating conditions, as well as assumptions regarding future events. These events are, as at the date of this announcement, expected to take place, but there cannot be any guarantee that such events will occur as anticipated or at all given that many of the events are outside of Exopharm's control or subject to the success of the Development Program. Furthermore, the Company is subject to several risks as disclosed in the Prospectus dated 6 November 2018.





## Webinar:

Genetic Medicines and exosomes:
Recent testing provides supporting validation

Exo-webinar series: part 3

Thu 27 October 2022 – 17:00 (Boston) / 14:00 (San Francisco)

Fri 28 October 2022 – 08:00 (Melbourne)

Registration: https://exo.ph/Genetic-Medicines-and-exosomes

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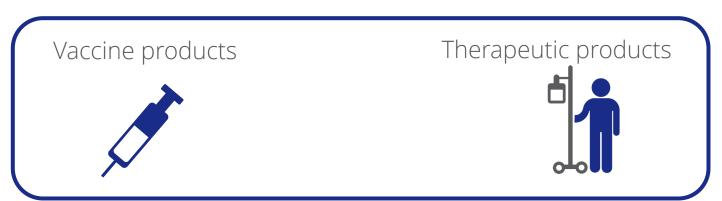


#### Recap: Exosomes for Genetic Medicines (GM)

#### Exosomes are an emerging GM therapeutic product delivery chassis

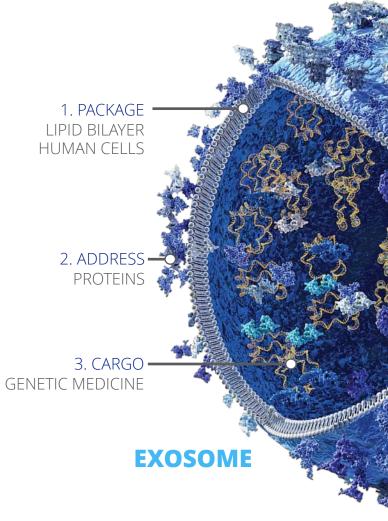
1. **GM therapeutic products** require specialised delivery uniquely suited for **Exosomes** 

#### **Types of GM products**





Exosomes are suited to deliver therapeutic products





#### **Recap: Exosomes for GMs**

#### To be effective GM therapeutic products have specific delivery requirements

3. GM therapeutic products require immune-silent delivery, re-dosing flexibility, and may require biological barrier crossing capability



#### Immune profile:

Given their natural origin, exosomes are considered immune silent



#### Re-dosing flexibility:

Immune-silence and absence of accumulation means exosomes enable repeat/multiple dosing



#### Cross biological barriers:

Exosomes exist throughout the entire body in nature, so exosomes carrying a GM cargo could cross tissue barriers such as blood-brain harrier



## Highlighted difference between exosomes and LNPs for delivery

Membrane fusion is the start – what happens inside a target cell matters most

- 4. Exosomes are efficiently processed inside a cell optimising the GM therapeutic product delivery efficiency
  - Exosomes are taken up by cells through 3 processes, releasing the GM cargo into the cytoplasm
  - Inherently natural, exosomes are efficiently processed inside the target cell, leading to higher delivery efficiency over synthetic LNPs
  - LNPs and their synthetic components exhibit immunogenicity and toxicity, can trigger immune activation and have impaired GM cargo delivery

**LNP** = Lipid Nanoparticle, **GM** = Genetic Medicine (e.g., RNA, DNA, AAV, CRISPR technologies)

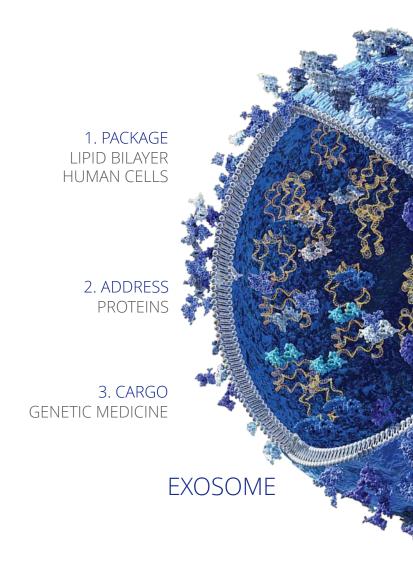


#### Exosomes and safety as a drug-delivery chassis

#### Exosomes represent an ideal GM therapeutic product delivery chassis

#### Today's topics and themes:

- 1. Why the characteristics of the drug-delivery chassis are **vital for GM success**:
  - Safety in the patient is critical
  - Safety is made up of:
    - toxicity; and
    - immunogenicity
- 2. The safety of **Exopharm's exosomes have now been demonstrated**: successful *in vivo* study outcomes reported





#### The importance of toxicity

#### Toxicity of the GM carrier is critical for product success and safety

Most new drugs fail due to poor safety, and toxicity is the main problem

Toxicity means that the drug makes the patient sick or the patient dies

In GMs, toxicity can come from:

- the carrier (e.g. LNP, AAV); and
- the cargo (e.g. mRNA)

In GMs the toxicity is sometimes associated with the carrier

The lipids and fats from LNPs can accumulate in cells and become toxic

The empty capsids of AAVs have been shown to be toxic and deadly





Exosomes enable non-toxic and safe GM delivery

#### The importance of immunogenicity

#### Inherently natural, exosomes are ideal for GM therapeutic product delivery

Delivering **GM therapeutic products** multiple times whilst avoiding an adverse immune response is paramount:

- Immunogenicity of a material is a measure of the extent that the body's immune system 'sees' it as 'danger' or 'foreign'
- Immunogenicity of the carrier will accelerate its clearance by the immune system
- Multiple doses of high immunogenicity material will lead rapid clearance and failure to deliver the GM \*
- Immunogenicity can trigger allergic reactions or severe adverse events

Exosomes enable non-immunogenic and safe GM delivery



### Exopharm's immunogenicity and toxicology questions

Preclinical study to test if HEK293 exosomes are safe – preliminary results

- Preclinical study to demonstrate exosomes are nonimmunogenic, non-toxic, and safe
- HEK293 exosomes are:
  - Produced by highly-scalable GMP HEK293 cells
  - Collected by our proprietary cell culture system: Hexocollect
  - Purified using our proprietary technology: LEAP



#### in vivo safety of Exopharm's exosomes

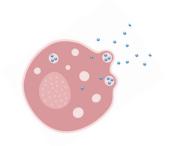
#### Study scope and design

#### Objective

Understand the immunogenicity and toxicology of repeat dosing of HEK293-derived exosomes in healthy adult mice

Exopharm proprietary suite of technologies that underpin the study









Cell banking & culture

HEK293 cells

Exosome secretion & collection

**Hexocollect** 

Exosome purification



Product formulation and quality control

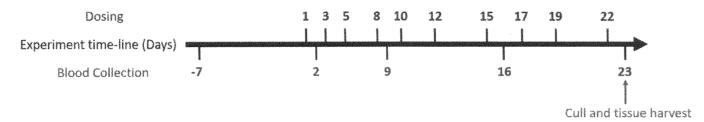


#### in vivo safety of Exopharm's exosomes

#### Study protocol and measures

#### Key details of the study

Dosing over 23 days and a total of 10 doses per mouse



 At the end of treatment, mice were assessed for the following: body and organ mass, gross necropsy, hematology, blood chemistry, histology, spleen cell immunophenotyping and cytokine stimulation



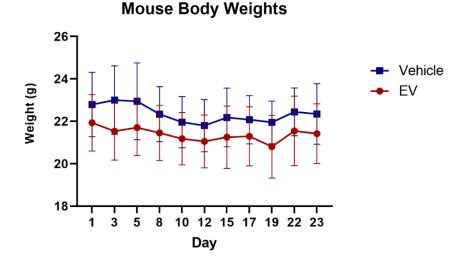
#### in vivo safety testing of Exopharm's exosomes

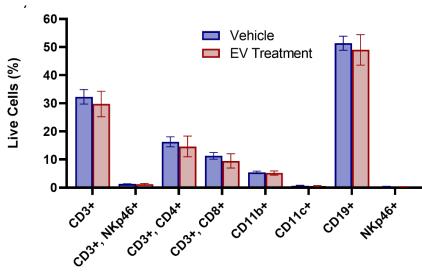
#### Preliminary study outcomes

After 23 days of dosing, the study observed:

- No significant changes in body weight or behaviour
- No gross lesions or significant changes in organ weight
- Little to no effect on the measured haematology parameters, including, white blood cells, red blood cells, platelets, monocytes, lymphocytes
- No abnormalities in immune cell populations in the spleen

These preliminary data indicate the absence of an immune response and no detectable toxicity levels.





Vehicle: Control PBS; EV treatment: HEK293 exosomes

#### in vivo immunogenicity of Exopharm's exosomes

#### Key takeaways from the preliminary study results

- Exosomes demonstrated to be non-immunogenic and safe in an animal model
- Exopharm's proprietary exosome manufacturing process is suitable for clinical development, including validation of:
  - HEK293 cells compliant with strict current GMP quality requirements as an source of human exosomes
  - Advanced cell culture and exosome collection Hexocollect
  - Exosome purification technology LEAP



Study outcome is an important step towards the successful development of future exosome products



## Webinar key takeaways

- Ensuring safety early is an essential requirement for GM therapeutic product development success
- Preliminary study results support the use of Exopharm's exosomes and manufacturing technologies to make and develop exosome-encapsulated GM therapeutic products:
- Exopharm manufactured HEK293 exosomes were successfully applied in multiple doses and
- were not immunogenic or toxic

## Exopharm is making things happen in medicine

Genetic Medicines (GMs) that are important Exosome drug delivery to make new GMs work

based on Exosomes: Nature's drug delivery chassis enabled by Exopharm's manufacturing technologies



# exopharm



Thank you for your participation. Join us again next week at this same time.

Please add your questions in the Q/A chat box.

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