PLUVIA

Pluvia Biotech receives grant from the Research Council of Norway to advance PKU therapy candidate

Bergen, Norway, 25 November 2025 – Pluvia Biotech, a biotechnology company developing novel therapies for phenylketonuria (PKU), today announced that it has been awarded an *Innovation Project for the Industrial Sector (IPN)* grant of NOK 15.6 million (approximately USD 1.5 million) from the Research Council of Norway. The funding will support the last preclinical development steps for PBAS499, Pluvia's lead therapeutic candidate, and enable the company to progress the program to the IND-ready stage.

PBAS499 restores endogenous phenylalanine hydroxylase (PAH) function by stabilizing and enhancing the activity of misfolded PAH variants associated with PKU. As a pharmacological chaperone, PBAS499 aims to treat the underlying cause of the disease and deliver a disease-modifying approach. By being an allosteric binder of the PAH enzyme, PBAS499 differs fundamentally from other therapeutic approaches or dietary management currently available and provides an opportunity for combination therapy.

The IPN grant will support completion of preclinical safety studies, manufacturing scale-up, and regulatory preparations necessary for an Investigational New Drug (IND) submission. Furthermore, the grant supports Pluvia's science team to perform supportive validation of PBAS499 and additional PKU discovery work.

"PBAS499 has demonstrated efficacy and safety in in vitro and in vivo models for PKU," says Dr. Ann Kari Grindheim, Director Non-clinical Development of Pluvia Biotech. "This grant allows us to progress our PKU R&D program and move efficiently through the final stages of IND-enabling development."

"The Research Council's support is a strong validation of our scientific strategy for PBAS499," added CEO Willem van Weperen, "By developing a pharmacological chaperone that restores native PAH function we hope to provide an additional treatment option to help PKU patients to normalize protein intake."

About PKU

PKU, also known as Følling's disease (named after the Norwegian physician Ivar Asbjørn Følling, the first to identify the disease in 1934), is a rare genetic disorder characterized by the body's inability to break down the amino acid phenylalanine due to a deficiency in the enzyme PAH, caused by genetic variants. This results in the accumulation of phenylalanine in the bloodstream, leading to intellectual disabilities and other neurological problems if left untreated. Patients need a strict lifelong diet without regular protein intake to prevent cognitive impairment. Convenient pharmacological therapy options are needed to help patients to normalize protein intake, while keeping phenylalanine levels within guideline ranges.

About Pluvia Biotech

Pluvia Biotech is a spin-out from the University of Bergen (Norway) dedicated to addressing orphan diseases caused by protein misfolding and having a high unmet medical need. The company's lead program is focused on developing a "first in class" oral pharmacological chaperone treatment of PKU. Through pioneering research and development, Pluvia aims to provide PKU patients with an innovative disease modifying and corrective therapy, and the opportunity to live life without the dietary constraints imposed by the condition. Pluvia's progress is supported by investors Sarsia, Trond Mohn Foundation and Investinor.

For more information about Pluvia Biotech and its innovative work in PKU treatment development, please visit www.pluviabiotech.com. For media inquiries and additional information, please contact info@pluviabiotech.com