

National PKU Alliance invests in Pluvia Biotech to support development of potential novel PKU treatment

Bergen, Norway, 25 February 2026 – Pluvia Biotech, a biotechnology company developing novel therapies for phenylketonuria (PKU), today announced that National PKU Alliance (NPKUA), the US patient advocacy organization for PKU, is investing in Pluvia's drug development program. NPKUA is joining Pluvia's investors to support the final preclinical development steps for PBAS499, Pluvia's lead therapeutic candidate, towards clinical studies.

PBAS499 can potentially restore endogenous phenylalanine hydroxylase (PAH) activity by stabilizing and increasing the functional performance of misfolded PAH variants associated with PKU. Acting as a pharmacological chaperone, it targets the root cause of the disorder and is designed to provide an oral disease-modifying treatment approach. As an allosteric binder of the PAH enzyme, PBAS499 may be distinct from currently available therapies and dietary management strategies, while also offering the potential for use in combination regimens.

The support from NPKUA will strengthen Pluvia's scientific basis and contributes to the completion of preclinical activities to progress PBAS499 towards an Investigational New Drug (IND) application for clinical studies in PKU patients.

"After careful evaluation by our Scientific Advisory Board, NPKUA will support development of PBAS499 as a potential oral therapy option for PKU," says Catherine Warren, Executive Director of NPKUA "Financial support of this program aligns with our mission to improve the lives of people with PKU by expanding treatment options to ultimately allow for more natural protein intake."

Pluvia's CEO Willem van Weperen adds "It is a privilege for Pluvia to be working with NPKUA, which allows us to be closely connected with patients, scientist, clinicians and companies in the area of PKU. With the needs of PKU patients in mind, the Pluvia team will continue its mission to develop an innovative new PKU therapy"

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 (Phe) due to a deficiency in the enzyme PAH, caused by genetic variants. This results in the accumulation of Phe in the bloodstream, leading to intellectual disabilities and other neurological problems if left untreated. Patients need to follow a strict lifelong diet low in Phe, which is found in most protein sources, to prevent cognitive impairment. Convenient oral pharmacological therapy options are needed to help patients to normalize protein intake, while keeping blood phenylalanine levels within recommended 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, Investinor, Trond Mohn Foundation and NPKUA.

About National PKU Alliance (NPKUA)

National PKU Alliance (NPKUA) is the only national organization based in the United States dedicated solely to supporting individuals and families affected by phenylketonuria (PKU). NPKUA's mission is to improve the lives of individuals with PKU, pursue a cure by expanding research and provide education and support to individuals living with PKU and their caregivers. To learn more about NPKUA, please visit www.npkua.org.

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