
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____.

OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shell company report _____

Commission file number: 001-39446

CureVac N.V.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

The Netherlands

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076

Tübingen,

Germany

+49 7071 9883 0

(Address of principal executive offices)

Franz-Werner Haas

Chief Executive Officer

Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076

Tübingen,

Germany

info@curevac.com

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common shares, par value €0.12 per share	“CVAC”	The NASDAQ Global Market

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act:

None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer’s classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

The number of outstanding shares as of December 31, 2021 was:

Title of Class	Number of Shares Outstanding
Common shares, par value €0.12 per share	187,120,718

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.
Yes No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

Note – Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those Sections.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files).

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of “accelerated filer and large accelerated filer” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer Non-accelerated Filer Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company that prepares its financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards† provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

† The term “new or revised financial accounting standard” refers to any update issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board to its Accounting Standards Codification after April 5, 2012.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management’s assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

- U.S. GAAP
- International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board
- Other

If “Other” has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

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If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

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PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

We report under International Financial Reporting Standards, or IFRS, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, or IASB. We have made rounding adjustments to some of the figures included in this Annual Report. Accordingly, numerical figures shown as totals in some tables may not be an arithmetic aggregation of the figures that preceded them.

Our financial statements included in this Annual Report are presented in euro and, unless otherwise specified, all monetary amounts are in euro. All references in this Annual Report to “\$,” “U.S. dollars” and “dollars” means U.S. dollars and all references to “€” and “euro” mean euro, unless otherwise noted.

In this Annual Report, unless otherwise indicated, some euro amounts have been translated into U.S. dollars at the rate of \$1.1326 to €1.00, the official exchange rate quoted as of December 31, 2021 by the European Central Bank.

This Annual Report contains the historical financial statements and other financial information of CureVac AG, which was acquired by CureVac B.V., an entity which converted into CureVac N.V. as part of the consummation of our Corporate Reorganization. Following the Corporate Reorganization, the consolidated financial statements of CureVac N.V. are a continuation of the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac AG.

CERTAIN REFERENCES

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, all references in this Annual Report to “CureVac” or the “Company,” “we,” “our,” “ours,” “ourselves,” “us” or similar terms refer to: (1) on or following the consummation of the Corporate Reorganization, CureVac N.V. together with its subsidiaries, including CureVac AG, and (2) prior to the consummation of the Corporate Reorganization, CureVac AG.

We are a holding company and our sole asset is the capital stock of our wholly owned subsidiaries, including CureVac AG. CureVac N.V. operates and controls all of the business and affairs and consolidates the financial results of CureVac AG. We are incorporated in the Netherlands, and a majority of our outstanding securities are owned by non-U.S. residents. Under the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, we are currently eligible for treatment as a “foreign private issuer.” As a foreign private issuer, we are not required to file periodic reports and financial statements with the SEC as frequently or as promptly as domestic registrants whose securities are registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act.

We own or have rights to various trademarks and trade names, including CureVac® and the CureVac logo, that we use in connection with the operation of our business. This Annual Report may also contain trademarks, service marks and trade names of third parties, which are the property of their respective owners. We do not intend our use or display of other entities’ trademarks, trade names or service marks to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, any other entity. Solely for convenience, the trademarks, trade names and service marks in this Annual Report are referred to without the symbols ® and ™, or SM, but the omission of such references should not be construed as any indication that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or the right of the applicable owner of these trademarks, service marks and trade names.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements. Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Report can be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “could,” “expect,” “should,” “plan,” “intend,” “estimate” and “potential,” or other similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements appear in a number of places in this Annual Report and include, but are not limited to, statements regarding our intent, belief or current expectations. Forward-looking statements are based on our management’s beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements due to of various factors, including, but not limited to, those identified under the section entitled “Risk Factors” in this Annual Report. These risks and uncertainties include factors relating to:

- our ability to obtain funding for our operations necessary to complete further development and commercialization of our product candidates;
- the initiation, timing, progress, results, and cost of our research and development programs and our current and future preclinical studies and clinical trials, including statements regarding the timing of initiation and completion of studies or trials and related preparatory work, the period during which the results of the trials will become available and our research and development programs;
- the timing of and our ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval for our product candidates;
- the ability and willingness of our third-party collaborators to continue research and development activities relating to our product candidates and cost associated with cancellation of manufacture and supply agreements in the event of termination of our research and development programs;
- the exercise by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation of withdrawal rights;
- our and our collaborators’ ability to obtain, maintain, defend and enforce our intellectual property protection for our proprietary and collaborative product candidates, and the scope of such protection;
- the rate and degree of market acceptance of our products;
- our ability to commercialize our product candidates, if approved;
- our ability and the potential to successfully manufacture our drug substances and delivery vehicles for preclinical use, for clinical trials and on a larger scale for commercial use, if approved;
- general economic, political, demographic and business conditions in the United States and Europe;
- fluctuations in inflation and exchange rates in Europe;
- our ability to implement our growth strategy;
- our ability to compete and conduct our business in the future;
- our ability to enroll patients for our clinical trials;
- the availability of qualified personnel and the ability to retain such personnel;
- regulatory developments and changes in the United States, Europe and countries outside of Europe including tax matters;
- our ability to overcome the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the conduct of our business;

- other factors that may affect our financial condition, liquidity and results of operations; and
- other risk factors discussed under “Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors.”

You should read this Annual Report carefully with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from and worse than what we expect. If our forward-looking statements prove to be inaccurate, the inaccuracy may be material. Other sections of this Annual Report include additional factors which could adversely impact our business and financial performance. In light of the significant uncertainties in these forward-looking statements, you should not regard these statements as a representation or warranty by us or any other person that we will achieve our objectives and plans in any specified time frame or at all. Moreover, we operate in an evolving environment. Thus, new risk factors and uncertainties emerge from time to time and it is not possible for our management to predict all risk factors and uncertainties, nor can we assess the impact of all factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we do not undertake any obligation to update them in light of new information or future developments or to release publicly any revisions to these statements in order to reflect later events or circumstances or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events or otherwise, except as required by law.

PART I

ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION

A. [Reserved]

B. Capitalization and Indebtedness

Not applicable.

C. Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

D. Risk Factors

Summary of Risk Factors

The following is a summary of the risk factors our business faces. The list below is not exhaustive, and investors should read this “Risk Factors” section in full. Some of the risks we face include:

- Interim, “top-line,” and preliminary data from our clinical trials that we announce or publish from time to time may change as more patient data becomes available and are subject to audit and verification procedures that could result in material changes in the final data.
- We may face continued business disruption and related risks resulting from of the COVID-19 pandemic, which could have a material adverse effect on our business plan or clinical trials.
- We depend on strategic partnerships with other companies to assist in the research, development and commercialization of our platform and product candidates. If our existing or future partners do not perform as expected, if we fail to maintain any of these collaborations or if these collaborations are not successful, our ability to commercialize our product candidates successfully and to generate revenues through technology licensing or otherwise may be materially adversely affected.
- Clinical drug development involves a lengthy and expensive process with uncertain timelines and uncertain outcomes, and results of earlier studies and trials may not be predictive of future trial results. If clinical trials of our product candidates or production of our product candidates are prolonged or delayed, we may be unable to obtain required regulatory approvals, and therefore be unable to commercialize our product candidates on a timely basis or at all.
- Our proprietary product candidates are still in preclinical or clinical development. We cannot give any assurance that any of our product candidates will receive regulatory approval, and if we are unable to obtain regulatory approval and ultimately commercialize our product candidates or experience significant delays in doing so, our business will be materially harmed.

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- We have no history of commercializing pharmaceutical products, which may make it difficult to evaluate the prospects for our future viability.
- Our product candidates may cause undesirable side effects that could delay or prevent their regulatory approval, limit the commercial profile of an approved label or result in significant negative consequences following regulatory approval, if any. Significant adverse events may occur during our clinical trials or even after receiving regulatory approval, which could delay or terminate clinical trials, delay or prevent regulatory approval or market acceptance of any of our product candidates.
- To date, a limited number of products that utilize mRNA as a prophylactic vaccine against COVID-19 have been approved in the United States, Europe and other countries, subject to certain limitations. In addition, no product that utilizes mRNA as a therapeutic vaccine has been approved in the United States or Europe. As such, mRNA drug development has substantial clinical development and regulatory risks due to the novel and unprecedented nature of this new category of medicines.
- The regulatory approval processes of the FDA and comparable foreign authorities are lengthy, time consuming and inherently unpredictable and if we fail to obtain regulatory approval in any jurisdiction, we will not be able to commercialize our products in that jurisdiction and our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects, may be materially adversely affected.
- A breakthrough therapy designation by the FDA for a product candidate may not lead to a faster development or regulatory review or approval process, and it would not increase the likelihood that the product candidate will receive marketing approval.
- The manufacture of mRNA-based medicines is complex and manufacturers often encounter difficulties in production, especially in the field of biologics. If we or any of our third-party manufacturers encounter difficulties, our ability to provide product candidates for clinical trials or products, if approved, to patients or future customers could be delayed or halted.
- Undetected errors or defects in our production could harm our reputation or expose us to product liability claims.
- We rely on third parties to conduct our nonclinical and clinical trials and perform other tasks for us. If these third parties do not successfully carry out their contractual duties, meet expected deadlines, or comply with regulatory requirements, we may not be able to obtain regulatory approval for or commercialize our product candidates and our business could be substantially harmed.
- If we or any third-party manufacturer of our product candidates is unable to increase the scale of production of our product candidates, and/or increase the product yield of manufacturing, then our costs to manufacture the product may increase and commercialization may be delayed.
- If we fail to comply with our obligations under any license, collaboration or other intellectual property agreements, disagree over contract interpretation, or otherwise experience disruptions to our business relationships with our collaborators or licensors, we could lose intellectual property rights that are necessary to our business.
- Even if we, or any future collaborators, are able to commercialize any product candidate that we, or they, develop, the successful commercialization of our product candidates will depend in part on the extent to which governmental authorities, private health insurers and other third-party payors provide coverage and adequate reimbursement levels and implement pricing policies favorable for our product candidates. Failure to obtain or maintain coverage and adequate reimbursement for our product candidates, if approved, could limit our ability to market those products and decrease our ability to generate revenue.
- Some of our product candidates are classified as gene therapies by the FDA and the EMA, and the FDA has indicated that products similar to our product candidates will be reviewed within its Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, or CBER. Even though our mRNA product candidates are designed to have a different mechanism of action from gene therapies, the association of our product candidates with gene therapies could result in increased regulatory burdens, impair the reputation of our product candidates, or negatively impact our platform or our business.

Risks Related to Our Financial Position and Need for Additional Capital

We cannot assure you of the adequacy of our capital resources to successfully complete the development and commercialization of our product candidates, and a failure to obtain additional capital, if needed, could force us to delay, limit, reduce or terminate one or more of our product development programs or commercialization efforts.

As of December 31, 2021, we had cash and cash equivalents amounting to €811 million. We believe that we will continue to expend substantial resources for the foreseeable future developing our proprietary product candidates. These expenditures will include costs associated with research and development, conducting preclinical studies and clinical trials, seeking regulatory approvals, as well as launching and commercializing products approved for sale, if any, costs associated with manufacturing products and maintaining manufacturing facilities. In addition, other unanticipated costs may arise. Because the outcomes of our anticipated clinical trials are highly uncertain, we cannot reasonably estimate the actual amounts necessary to successfully complete the development and commercialization of our proprietary product candidates.

Our future funding requirements will depend on many factors, including but not limited to:

- the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with developing product candidates and maintaining our mRNA technology platform;
- the number and characteristics of product candidates that we pursue;
- the rate of enrollment, progress, cost and outcomes of our clinical trials, which may or may not meet their primary endpoints;
- the timing of, and cost involved in, conducting nonclinical studies that are regulatory prerequisites to conducting clinical trials of sufficient duration for successful product registration;
- the cost of manufacturing clinical supply and establishing commercial supply of our product candidates;
- the costs and timing of preparing, filing and prosecuting patent applications, maintaining and enforcing our intellectual property rights and defending any intellectual property-related claims;
- the timing of, and the costs involved in, obtaining regulatory approvals for our product candidates if clinical trials are successful;
- the timing of, and costs involved in, conducting post-approval studies that may be required by regulatory authorities;
- the cost of commercialization activities for our product candidates, if any of our product candidates are approved for sale, including product manufacturing, marketing and distribution of product candidates generated from our mRNA technology platform and any other product opportunity for which we receive marketing approval in the future;
- the terms and timing of any collaborative, licensing and other arrangements that we are currently party to or may establish, including any required milestone and royalty payments thereunder and any nondilutive funding that we may receive;
- the costs involved in preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining, defending and enforcing patent claims, including litigation costs, if any, and the outcome of any such litigation;
- the timing, receipt, and amount of sales of, or royalties or milestones on, our future products, if any;
- the costs to recruit and build the organization including key executives needed to transform to a commercial organization; and
- the costs of operating as a public company, including hiring additional personnel.

In addition, our operating plan may change as a result of many factors currently unknown to us. As a result of these factors, we may need additional funds sooner than planned. We expect to finance future cash needs primarily through a combination of public or private equity offerings, strategic collaborations, revenues from future product sales and debt financing. If sufficient funds on acceptable terms are not available when needed, or at all, we could be forced to significantly reduce operating expenses and delay, limit, reduce or terminate one or more of our product development programs or commercialization efforts, which would have a negative impact on our business, prospects, operating results and financial condition.

We have incurred significant losses since our inception. We expect to incur losses for the foreseeable future and may never achieve or maintain profitability.

We have incurred significant losses since our inception. Our consolidated net loss for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 were €411.7 million and €129.1 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2021, our accumulated deficit was €1,056.8 million. We expect to continue to incur losses in the future as we continue our research and development of, and seek regulatory approvals for, our product candidates and maintain and develop new technology platforms, prepare for and begin to commercialize any approved product candidates and add infrastructure and personnel to support our product development efforts and operations as a public company in the United States. We have devoted substantially all of our financial resources and efforts to research and development, including preclinical studies and clinical trials and development of our manufacturing technology. The net losses and negative cash flows from operations incurred to date, together with expected future losses, have had, and likely will continue to have, an adverse effect on our working capital. The amount of future net losses will depend, in part, on the rate of future growth of our expenses and our ability to generate revenue.

Because of the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with biopharmaceutical product development, we are unable to accurately predict the timing or amount of increased expenses or when, or if, we will be able to achieve profitability. For example, our expenses could increase if we are required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, the European Medicines Agency, or EMA, or other regulatory agencies to perform trials in addition to those that we currently expect to perform, or if there are any delays in completing our currently planned clinical trials, the partnering process for our proprietary product candidates or in the development of any of our proprietary product candidates. As an example, fiscal year 2021 was impacted by nonrecurring increased spending related to the COVID-19 pandemic and by income from the European Commission and the German government, which may not recur.

Our revenue to date has been primarily revenue from the license of our technology platform and from milestone payments for the development of product candidates against targets provided by our collaborators. Our ability to generate revenue and achieve profitability in the future depends in large part on our ability, alone or with our collaborators, to achieve milestones and to successfully complete the development of, obtain the necessary regulatory approvals for, and commercialize, our product candidates and technology platform. This will require us to be successful in a range of challenging activities, including developing product candidates, obtaining regulatory approval for such product candidates, and manufacturing, marketing and selling those product candidates for which we may obtain regulatory approval. We may never succeed in these activities and may never generate revenue from product sales that is significant enough to achieve profitability. Even if we achieve profitability in the future, we may not be able to sustain profitability in subsequent periods. Our failure to become or remain profitable could depress our market value and could impair our ability to raise capital, expand our business, develop other product candidates or continue our operations. A decline in the value of our company could also cause you to lose all or part of your investment.

We require substantial financing, which may not be available on acceptable terms, or at all. Raising capital may cause dilution to our shareholders, restrict our operations or require us to relinquish rights to our technology or product candidates.

To the extent that we raise capital through the sale of common shares, convertible securities or other equity securities, the ownership interests of our shareholders may be diluted, and the terms of these securities could include liquidation or other preferences and anti-dilution protections that could adversely affect rights of our common shareholders. In addition, debt financing, if available, may result in fixed payment obligations and may involve agreements that include restrictive covenants that limit our ability to take specific actions, such as incurring debt, making capital expenditures, creating liens, redeeming shares or declaring dividends, that could adversely impact our ability to conduct our business. In addition, securing financing could require a substantial amount of time and attention from our management and may divert a disproportionate amount of their attention away from day-to-day activities, which may adversely affect our management's ability to oversee the development of our product candidates.

If we raise funds through collaborations or marketing, distribution or licensing arrangements with third parties, we may have to relinquish valuable rights to our technologies, future revenue streams or product candidates or grant licenses on terms that may not be favorable to us. If we are unable to raise funds when needed, we may be required to delay, limit, reduce or terminate our product development or future commercialization efforts or grant rights to develop and market product candidates that we would otherwise prefer to develop and market ourselves.

We cannot be certain that funding will be available on acceptable terms, or at all. If we are unable to raise capital in sufficient amounts or on terms acceptable to us, we may have to significantly delay, scale back or discontinue the development or commercialization of our product candidates or other research and development initiatives. Our current or future license agreements may also be terminated if we are unable to meet the payment or other obligations under the agreements.

We may expend our limited resources to pursue a particular product candidate or indication and fail to capitalize on product candidates or indications that may be more profitable or for which there is a greater likelihood of success.

We have limited financial and managerial resources, and therefore we intend to focus on developing product candidates for specific indications that we believe are most likely to succeed, in terms of both their potential for marketing approval and potential for successful commercialization, if approved. As a result, we may forego or delay pursuit of opportunities with other product candidates or for other indications that may prove to have greater commercial potential. Our resource allocation decisions may cause us to fail to capitalize on viable commercial products or profitable market opportunities. Our spending on current and future research and development programs and product candidates for specific indications may not yield any commercially viable product candidates. If we do not accurately evaluate the commercial potential or target market for a particular product candidate, we may relinquish valuable rights to that product candidate through collaboration, licensing or other royalty arrangements in cases in which it would have been more advantageous for us to retain sole development and commercialization rights to the product candidate.

We depend on strategic partnerships with other companies to assist in the research, development and commercialization of our platform and product candidates. If our existing or future partners do not perform as expected, if we fail to maintain any of these collaborations or if these collaborations are not successful, our ability to commercialize our product candidates successfully and to generate revenues through technology licensing or otherwise may be materially adversely affected.

We have established strategic partnerships and intend to continue to establish strategic partnerships with third parties to research, develop and commercialize our platform and existing and future product candidates. We have entered into strategic partnerships with Genmab, Arcturus, Acuitas, CRISPR Therapeutics, GSK, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CEPI and Tesla Grohmann, among others. For certain of these programs, including our collaborations with Genmab, CRISPR Therapeutics and GSK, we will depend on our partners to design and conduct their clinical studies. As a result, we may not be able to conduct these programs in the manner or on the time schedule we currently contemplate, which may negatively impact our business operations. While we have certain contractual rights to information about preclinical and clinical developments and results under certain of our collaboration agreements, including our agreements with Genmab, CRISPR Therapeutics and GSK, we cannot be certain that clinical trials conducted in connection with such collaboration programs will be conducted in a manner consistent with the best interests of our business. In addition, if any of these partners withdraw support for these programs or proposed products or otherwise impair their development, our business could be negatively affected. Also, our inability to find a partner for any of our product candidates, may result in our termination of that specific product candidate program or evaluation of a product candidate in a particular indication. Even if we found a partner for one or more of our product candidates, there is no assurance that upon the approval of one or more of such product candidates we will be able to successfully co-commercialize such products.

In addition, our existing licenses and collaboration agreements, including our agreements with Genmab, Arcturus, Acuritas, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CRISPR Therapeutics, GSK and CEPI, impose, and any future licenses, collaborations or other intellectual property agreements we enter into are likely to impose, various development, commercialization, funding, milestone, royalty, diligence, sublicensing, insurance, patent prosecution and enforcement or other obligations on us. Furthermore, our licenses and collaboration agreements impose, and any future agreement we enter into may also impose, restrictions on our ability to license certain of our intellectual property to third parties or to develop or commercialize certain product candidates or technologies. In spite of our best efforts, our collaborators may conclude that we have breached our obligations under our agreements, in which case, we may be required to pay damages and the collaborator may have the right to terminate the agreement. Any of the foregoing could result in us being unable to develop, manufacture and sell products that are covered by the licensed technology, enable a competitor to gain access to the licensed technology or disrupt our right to receive funding or milestone or royalty payments. See “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations.”

In the future, we may enter into additional collaborations to fund our development programs or to gain access to sales, marketing or distribution capabilities. Under certain of our collaboration agreements, including our collaborations with Genmab, CRISPR Therapeutics and GSK, we grant our partners an exclusive license to develop and commercialize certain classes of products containing our mRNA technology for specific targets and receive license fees, research and development funding, milestone payments and/or, if a product is approved for marketing, sales royalties in return. Following the discovery and preclinical testing phase, in certain cases, our partners are solely responsible for the further development of the product candidate and therefore exercise full control over its further development and potential commercialization. In certain cases, including under our collaboration with Genmab, we have a limited right to co-commercialize collaboration products. While certain of our existing licenses and collaboration agreements, including our agreements with Genmab, CRISPR Therapeutics and GSK, impose development or commercialization obligations on our collaborators, we cannot be certain that our collaboration partners will allocate sufficient resources or attention to our collaboration programs or that they will progress our collaboration programs consistent with the best interests of our business. Our existing collaborations, and any future collaborations we enter into, therefore may pose a number of risks, including the following:

- collaborators may have significant discretion in determining the efforts and resources that they will apply to these collaborations;
- collaborators may not perform their obligations as expected by us or by health authorities, such as the FDA, the EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities;
- collaborators may dissolve, merge, be bought or may otherwise become unwilling to fulfill the initial terms of the collaboration with us;
- collaborators may fail to perform their obligations under the collaboration agreements or may be slow in performing their obligations;
- collaborations may be terminated for the convenience of the collaborator and, if terminated, we could be required to raise additional capital to pursue further development or commercialization of the applicable product candidates;
- collaborators may not pursue development and commercialization of any product candidates that achieve regulatory approval or may elect not to continue or renew development or commercialization programs based on clinical trial results, changes in the collaborators’ strategic focus or available funding, or external factors, such as an acquisition, that divert resources or create competing priorities or the actual or perceived competitive situation in a specific indication;
- collaborators may delay clinical trials, provide insufficient funding for a clinical trial program, stop a clinical trial or abandon a product candidate, repeat or conduct new clinical trials or may require a new formulation of a product candidate for clinical testing;
- collaborators could independently develop, or develop with third parties, products that compete directly or indirectly with our products or product candidates if the collaborators believe that competitive products are more likely to be successfully developed or can be commercialized under terms that are more economically attractive than ours;

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- product candidates discovered in collaboration with us may be viewed by our collaborators as competitive with their own product candidates or products, which may cause collaborators to cease to devote resources to the commercialization of our product candidates;
- a collaborator with marketing and distribution rights to one or more of our product candidates that achieve regulatory approval may not commit sufficient resources to the marketing and distribution of such product or products;
- disagreements with collaborators, licensors or licensees, including disagreements over proprietary rights, contract interpretation and breach of contract claims, payment obligations or the preferred course of development, might cause delays or termination of the research, development or commercialization of products or product candidates, might lead to additional responsibilities, including financial obligations for us with respect to products or product candidates, or delays or withholding of any payments due or might result in litigation or arbitration, any of which would be time consuming and expensive, and could limit our ability to execute on our strategies;
- collaborators may not properly obtain, maintain, enforce or defend our intellectual property or may use our proprietary information in such a way that could jeopardize or invalidate our intellectual property or proprietary information or expose us to potential litigation; and
- collaborators may infringe, misappropriate or otherwise violate the intellectual property of third parties, which may expose us to litigation and potential liability.

If our collaborations on research and development candidates do not result in the successful development and commercialization of products or if one of our collaborators terminates its agreement with us, we may not receive any future research funding or milestone or royalty payments under the collaboration. If we do not receive the funding we expect under these agreements, our development of our product candidates could be delayed and we may need additional resources to develop our proprietary product candidates. Moreover, our relationships with our partners may divert significant time and effort of our scientific staff and management team and require effective allocation of our resources to multiple internal and collaborative projects. All of the risks relating to product development, regulatory approval and commercialization described in this Annual Report also apply to the activities of our program collaborators.

Additionally, subject to its contractual obligations to us, if one of our collaborators is involved in a business combination, the collaborator might deemphasize or terminate the development or commercialization of any product candidate licensed to it by us. If one of our collaborators terminates its agreement with us, we may find it more difficult to attract new collaborators in a timely manner. For more information on our current collaboration agreements, see “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations.”

Risks Related to the Development, Clinical Testing and Commercialization of Our Product Candidates

Our approach to the discovery and development of product candidates based on mRNA is unproven, and we do not know whether we will be able to successfully develop any products.

We focus on delivering mRNA encoding functional versions of proteins into cells without altering the underlying DNA. Our future success depends on the successful development of this novel therapeutic or vaccine approach. Relatively few mRNA-based product candidates have been tested in animals or humans, and the data underlying the feasibility of developing mRNA-based products are both preliminary and limited. To date, a limited number of products that utilize mRNA as a prophylactic vaccine against COVID-19 have been approved in the United States and Europe, subject to certain limitations. In addition, no product that utilizes mRNA as a therapeutic vaccine has been approved in the United States or Europe. We have not yet succeeded and may not succeed in demonstrating to the FDA or EMA the efficacy and safety of any of our product candidates in clinical trials or in obtaining marketing approval thereafter. We completed Phase 1, Phase 2a and Phase 2b/3 clinical trials for our COVID-19 product candidate, CVnCoV, which has completed recruitment and dosing, but we are still monitoring patients. However, we decided in early October 2021 to withdraw CVnCoV from the regulatory approval process and focus our efforts on second-generation mRNA vaccines. We have also completed an interim data readout of safety and immunogenicity in an ongoing Phase 1 clinical trial for our CV7202 (Rabies vaccine) product candidate and have ongoing Phase 1 clinical trials for our CV8102 (cMEL, ACC, SCC and HNSCC), Phase 1/2 clinical trials for BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) (Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer, or NSCLC). Overall, there may be adverse effects from treatment with any of our current or future product candidates that we cannot predict at this time.

As a result of these factors, it is more difficult for us to predict the time and cost of product candidate development, and we cannot predict whether the application of our technology platform, or any similar or competitive mRNA platforms, will result in the development and regulatory approval of any products. There can be no assurance that any development problems we experience in the future related to our technology platform or any of our research programs will not cause significant delays or unanticipated costs, or that such development problems can be solved. Any of these factors may prevent us from completing our preclinical studies or any clinical trials that we may initiate or commercializing any product candidates we may develop on a timely or profitable basis, if at all.

Clinical drug development involves a lengthy and expensive process with uncertain timelines and uncertain outcomes, and results of earlier studies and trials may not be predictive of future trial results. If clinical trials of our product candidates or production of our product candidates are prolonged or delayed, we may be unable to obtain required regulatory approvals, and therefore be unable to commercialize our product candidates on a timely basis or at all.

Our business is dependent on the successful development, regulatory approval and commercialization of product candidates based on our technology platform. If we and our collaborators are unable to obtain approval for and effectively commercialize our product candidates, our business would be significantly harmed. Even if we complete the necessary preclinical studies and clinical trials, the marketing approval process is expensive, time consuming and uncertain, and we may not be able to obtain approvals for the commercialization of any product candidates we may develop.

To obtain the requisite regulatory approvals to market and sell any of our product candidates, we must demonstrate through extensive preclinical studies and clinical trials that our products are safe and effective in humans. Clinical testing is expensive and can take many years to complete, and its outcome is inherently uncertain. Failure can occur at any time during the clinical trial process. The results of preclinical studies and early clinical trials of our product candidates may not be predictive of the results of later-stage clinical trials. For example, our Phase 2b clinical trial with CV9104, one of our first-generation vaccines based on protamine formulation, that was designed to evaluate the investigational mRNA-based cancer vaccine in patients with asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer, failed to meet the primary endpoint of improving overall survival despite proceeding through preclinical and Phase 1 studies. Progression-free survival was similar in both arms of the clinical trial. In addition, our past programs with protamine-based vaccines (CV9201, CV9103, CV9104 and CV7201) were discontinued because the level of immunogenicity achieved in clinical trials was considered insufficient. BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202), the only protamine-based vaccine formulation was discontinued as well. While we have assessed the results of past trials and these have informed our approach going forward, we can provide no assurance that future clinical trials will not be discontinued or fail to meet their specified endpoints. Product candidates in later stages of clinical trials may fail to show the desired safety and efficacy traits despite having progressed through preclinical studies and initial clinical trials. A number of companies in the biopharmaceutical industry have suffered significant setbacks in advanced clinical trials due to lack of efficacy or adverse safety profiles, notwithstanding promising results in earlier trials. Our future clinical trial results may not be successful.

We are subject to significant regulatory oversight with respect to manufacturing our product candidates. Our manufacturing facilities or the manufacturing facilities of our third-party manufacturers or suppliers may not meet regulatory requirements. Failure to meet GMP requirements set forth in regulations promulgated by the FDA, the EMA and other comparable regulatory authorities could result in significant delays in and costs of our products.

Clinical trials must be conducted in accordance with the FDA, EMA and comparable foreign regulatory authorities' legal requirements, regulations or guidelines and are subject to oversight by these governmental agencies and Institutional Review Boards, or IRBs, at the medical institutions where the clinical trials are conducted. In addition, clinical trials must be conducted with supplies of our product candidates produced in accordance with current good manufacturing practices, or cGMP, and other requirements. We depend on medical institutions and clinical research organizations, or CROs, to conduct our clinical trials in compliance with good clinical practice, or GCP, standards. Failure to follow and document adherence to such regulations or other regulatory requirements may lead to significant delays in the availability of product for our clinical trials, result in the termination of, or a clinical hold being placed on, one or more of our clinical trials, or delay or prevent submission or approval of marketing applications for our product candidates.

To the extent our CROs fail to enroll participants for our clinical trials, fail to conduct the trial in accordance with GCP requirements or are delayed for a significant time in the execution of trials, including achieving full enrollment, we may be affected by increased costs, program delays or both, which may harm our business. To date, we have reached the final analysis of our most advanced candidate, CVnCoV, but we announced the strategic decision to withdraw CVnCoV from the approval process with the EMA. Our other product candidates, CV2CoV (SARS-CoV-2), CVSQIV (multivalent seasonal influenza), CV7202 (Rabies), CV8102 (Melanoma, Adenocarcinoma, Squamous Cell Cancer of Skin and Head and Neck), are in early clinical development. All other of our research programs are in the preclinical development stage.

The completion of clinical trials for our clinical product candidates may be delayed, suspended or terminated as a result of many factors, including but not limited to:

- the delay or refusal of regulators or IRBs to authorize us to commence a clinical trial at a prospective trial site and changes in regulatory requirements, policies and guidelines;
- delays or failure to reach agreement on acceptable terms with prospective CROs and clinical trial sites, the terms of which can be subject to extensive negotiation and may vary significantly among different CROs and trial sites;
- delays in patient enrollment and variability in the number and types of patients available for clinical trials, including as a result of COVID-19;
- the inability to enroll a sufficient number of patients in trials to ensure adequate statistical power to detect statistically significant treatment effects;
- negative or inconclusive results, which may require us to conduct additional preclinical or clinical trials or to abandon projects that we expect to be promising;
- shortage of materials required for the production of our product candidates including due to events surrounding COVID-19;
- safety or tolerability concerns causing us to suspend or terminate a trial if it is determined that the participants are being exposed to unacceptable health risks;
- regulators or IRBs requiring that we or our investigators suspend or terminate clinical research for various reasons, including noncompliance with regulatory requirements or safety concerns, among others;
- lower than anticipated retention rates of patients and volunteers in clinical trials;
- our CROs or clinical trial sites failing to comply with regulatory requirements or meet their contractual obligations to us in a timely manner, or at all, deviating from the protocol or dropping out of a trial;

- delays relating to adding new clinical trial sites;
- difficulty in maintaining contact with patients after treatment, resulting in incomplete data;
- delays in establishing the appropriate dosage levels;
- the quality or stability of the product candidate falling below acceptable standards;
- the inability to produce or obtain sufficient quantities of the product candidate to complete clinical trials on time, or delays in sufficiently developing, characterizing or controlling a manufacturing process suitable for clinical trials;
- exceeding budgeted costs due to difficulty in accurately predicting costs associated with clinical trials;
- lack of adequate funding to continue the clinical trial;
- developments observed in trials conducted by competitors for related technology that raises general FDA or foreign regulatory authority concerns about risk to patients of gene therapy technology;
- determination that the product will not be producible at the manufacturing stage; and
- transfer of manufacturing processes to larger-scale facilities operated by a CMO or by us, and delays or failure by our CMOs or us to make any necessary changes to such manufacturing process.

Disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic may increase the likelihood that we encounter such difficulties or delays in initiating, enrolling, conducting or completing our planned and ongoing clinical trials. We could also encounter delays if a clinical trial is suspended or terminated by us, by the IRBs of the institutions in which such trials are being conducted, by a Data Safety Monitoring Board for such trial or by the FDA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities. Such authorities may impose such a suspension or termination due to a number of factors, including failure to conduct the clinical trial in accordance with regulatory requirements or our clinical protocols, inspection of the clinical trial operations or trial site by the FDA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities resulting in the imposition of a clinical hold, unforeseen safety issues or adverse side effects, failure to demonstrate a benefit from using a drug, changes in governmental regulations or administrative actions or lack of adequate funding to continue the clinical trial. In addition, changes in regulatory requirements and policies may occur, and we may need to amend clinical trial protocols to comply with these changes. Amendments may require us to resubmit our clinical trial protocols to IRBs for reexamination, which may impact the costs, timing or successful completion of a clinical trial.

In addition, preclinical and clinical data are often susceptible to varying interpretations and analyses. Many companies that believed their product candidates performed satisfactorily in preclinical studies and clinical trials have nonetheless failed to obtain marketing approval for the product candidates. The FDA, the EMA and comparable foreign regulatory authorities have substantial discretion in the approval process and in determining when or whether regulatory approval will be obtained for any of our product candidates. Even if we believe the data collected from clinical trials of our product candidates are promising, such data may not be sufficient to support approval by the FDA, the EMA or any other regulatory authority.

In some instances, there can be significant variability in safety and/or efficacy results between different trials of the same product candidate due to numerous factors, including changes in trial procedures set forth in protocols, differences in the size and type of the patient populations, adherence to the dosing regimen and other trial protocols and the rate of dropout among clinical trial participants.

If we are required to conduct additional clinical trials or other testing of our product candidates that we develop beyond the trials and testing that we contemplate, if we are unable to successfully complete clinical trials of our product candidates or other testing, if the results of these trials or tests are unfavorable or are only modestly favorable, or if there are safety concerns associated with our other product candidates, we may:

- be delayed in obtaining marketing approval for our product candidates;
- not obtain marketing approval at all;
- obtain approval for indications or patient populations that are not as broad as intended or desired;
- obtain approval with labeling that includes significant use or distribution restrictions or significant safety warnings, including boxed warnings;
- be subject to additional post-marketing testing or other requirements; or
- remove the product from the market after obtaining marketing approval.

Our product development costs will also increase if we experience delays in testing or receiving marketing approvals and we may be required to obtain additional funds to complete clinical trials. We cannot assure you that our clinical trials will begin as planned or be completed on schedule, if at all, or that we will not need to restructure our trials after they have begun. Significant clinical trial delays also could shorten any periods during which we may have the exclusive right to commercialize our product candidates or allow our competitors to bring products to market before we do, which may harm our business and results of operations. In addition, some of the factors that cause, or lead to, clinical trial delays may ultimately lead to the denial of regulatory approval of our product candidates.

Interim, “top-line,” and preliminary data from our clinical trials that we announce or publish from time to time may change as more patient data becomes available and are subject to audit and verification procedures that could result in material changes in the final data.

From time to time, we may publicly disclose preliminary or top-line data from our preclinical studies and clinical trials, which is based on a preliminary analysis of then-available data, and the results and related findings and conclusions are subject to change following a more comprehensive review of the data related to the particular study or trial. We also make assumptions, estimations, calculations and conclusions as part of our analyses of data, and we may not have received or had the opportunity to fully and carefully evaluate all data. As a result, the top-line or preliminary results that we report may differ from future results of the same studies, or different conclusions or considerations may qualify such results, once additional data have been received and fully evaluated. Top-line data also remain subject to audit and verification procedures that may result in the final data being materially different from the preliminary data we previously published. As a result, top-line data should be viewed with caution until the final data are available.

From time to time, we may also disclose interim data from our preclinical studies and clinical trials. Interim data from clinical trials that we may complete are subject to the risk that one or more of the clinical outcomes may materially change as patient enrollment continues and more patient data becomes available or as patients from our clinical trials continue other treatments for their disease. Adverse differences between preliminary or interim data and final data could significantly harm our business prospects. Further, disclosure of interim data by us or by our competitors could result in volatility in the price of our common stock.

Further, others, including regulatory agencies, may not accept or agree with our assumptions, estimates, calculations, conclusions or analyses or may interpret or weigh the importance of data differently, which could impact the value of the particular program, the approvability or commercialization of the particular product candidate or product and our company in general. In addition, the information we choose to publicly disclose regarding a particular study or clinical trial is based on what is typically extensive information, and you or others may not agree with what we determine is material or otherwise appropriate information to include in our disclosure.

If we encounter difficulties enrolling patients in our clinical trials, our clinical development activities could be delayed and result in increased costs and longer development periods or otherwise be adversely affected.

We will be required to identify and enroll a sufficient number of patients for our planned clinical trials. Trial participant enrollment could be limited in future trials given that many potential participants may be ineligible because of preexisting conditions, medical treatments or other reasons. We may not be able to initiate or continue clinical trials required by the FDA, EMA or other foreign regulatory agencies or any of our other product candidates that we pursue if we are unable to locate and enroll a sufficient number of eligible patients or volunteers to participate in these clinical trials.

Patient enrollment is affected by other factors, including:

- severity of the disease under investigation;
- design of the clinical trial protocol;
- size and nature of the patient population;
- eligibility criteria for the trial in question;
- perceived risks and benefits of the product candidate under trial;
- perceived safety and tolerability of the product candidate;
- proximity and availability of clinical trial sites for prospective patients;
- availability of competing therapies and clinical trials;
- clinicians' and patients' perceptions as to the potential advantages of the drug being studied in relation to other available therapies, including standard-of-care and any new drugs that may be approved for the indications we are investigating;
- efforts to facilitate timely enrollment in clinical trials;
- effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our clinical trial sites;
- patient referral practices of physicians; and
- our ability to monitor patients adequately during and after treatment.

We also may encounter difficulties in identifying and enrolling such patients with a stage of disease appropriate for our ongoing or future clinical trials. In addition, the process of finding and diagnosing patients may prove costly. Our inability to enroll a sufficient number of patients for any of our clinical trials would result in significant delays or may require us to abandon one or more clinical trials.

We may face continued business disruption and related risks resulting from of the COVID-19 pandemic, which could have a material adverse effect on our business plan or clinical trials.

The development of our product candidates could be disrupted and materially adversely affected by the COVID-19 global pandemic. The extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic impacts our business will depend on future developments that are highly uncertain and cannot be accurately predicted, including new information that may emerge concerning COVID-19 and the evolving actions to contain COVID-19 or treat its impact, among others. Site initiation, participant recruitment and enrollment, participant dosing, distribution of clinical trial materials, study monitoring and data analysis may be paused or delayed (or continue to be paused or delayed) due to changes in hospital or university policies, federal, state or local regulations or restrictions, prioritization of hospital resources toward pandemic efforts, travel restrictions, concerns for patient safety in a pandemic environment, or other reasons related to the pandemic. Patient recruitment for our product candidates may be adversely impacted. For example, our ongoing trials for CV8102 may be delayed as a result of new oncology sites being inaccessible in Europe. In addition, while we have not had any participants withdraw from our clinical trials or be prevented from accessing the clinical testing sites due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we can provide no assurance that patients will not withdraw from our trials in the future, which could delay our clinical development efforts for the relevant product candidates. Over the period from February to May 2020, sites in France, Italy and Spain were not available for trials. While these sites have resumed screening participants in June 2020, we can provide no assurance that sites will not be inaccessible again. In addition, participants enrolled in our CV7202 clinical trial could not access clinical sites for three months for blood draw samples, resulting in the need for us to adapt our clinical protocol to address the timing of site visits. We closely monitor the situation with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

We are currently devoting significant resources to the development of vaccines against COVID-19. Although there is no assurance that we will be able to complete development of the vaccine successfully or in a timely manner, such development may impair our ability to timely progress other product candidates in clinical trials and increases our costs. Upon the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we determined to make the development of a vaccine candidate against COVID-19 a priority and to use our large-scale GMP III facility to provide required material for a potential vaccine product candidate. This prioritization could impact clinical development of our other product candidates if such a production need arises. Our research personnel dedicated to infectious diseases initially focused its efforts on optimizing vaccine constructs in preparation of a Phase 1 clinical trial for our COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, and such team is currently focused on our expanding COVID-19 clinical programs focusing on our second-generation backbone, being jointly developed with GSK. This focus may delay development of other potential infectious disease product candidates. We also postponed initially planned preclinical work on an influenza vaccine with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and we are assessing the path forward. We can provide no assurances that our focus on clinical development of vaccine candidates against COVID-19 will not adversely impact clinical development of our other product candidates.

Some of our clinical trial sites are located in countries, which have experienced a shortage of medical staff due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the event that clinical trial sites are adversely impacted or closed to enrollment in our trials, such impacts or closures could have a material adverse effect on our clinical trial plans and timelines. We may face difficulties enrolling or retaining patients in our ongoing and planned clinical trials if patients are affected by the virus or are fearful of visiting or traveling to our clinical trial sites because of the pandemic. In addition, due to the disruption of the pandemic to the global business outlook, we may face a shortage in the supply of materials that are necessary for the production of our product candidates. We cannot predict whether we will be able to continue to enroll new patients in our clinical trials, whether the clinical sites will continue to operate in a reduced capacity for the long term and whether strict restrictions on social distancing and mobility will resume due to the next wave of COVID-19.

Moreover, if COVID-19 continues to spread, we may experience ongoing disruptions that could severely impact our business, preclinical studies and clinical trials, including:

- delays in receiving authorization from local regulatory authorities to initiate our planned clinical trials;
- changes in local regulations as part of a response to the COVID-19 pandemic which may require us to change the ways in which our clinical trials are conducted, which may result in unexpected costs, or to discontinue the clinical trials altogether;
- diversion of healthcare resources away from the conduct of clinical trials, including the diversion of hospitals serving as our clinical trial sites and hospital staff supporting the conduct of our clinical trials;

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- interruption of key clinical trial activities, such as clinical trial site monitoring, due to limitations on travel imposed or recommended by federal or state governments, employers and others, or interruption of clinical trial subject visits and study procedures, the occurrence of which could affect the integrity of clinical trial data;
- risk that participants enrolled in our clinical trials will acquire COVID-19 while the clinical trial is ongoing, which could impact the results of the clinical trial, including by increasing the number of observed adverse events;
- interruptions in preclinical studies due to restricted or limited operations at our research and development laboratory facility;
- delays in necessary interactions with local regulators, ethics committees and other important agencies and contractors due to limitations in employee resources or forced furlough of government employees;
- limitations in employee resources that would otherwise be focused on the conduct of our clinical trials, including because of sickness of employees or their families or the desire of employees to avoid contact with large groups of people;
- refusal of the FDA to accept data from clinical trials in affected geographies; and
- interruption or delays to our sourced discovery and clinical activities.

These and other disruptions in our operations and the global economy could negatively impact our business, operating results and financial condition.

In addition, quarantines, travel restrictions, shelter-in-place and similar government orders, or the perception that such orders, shutdowns or other restrictions on the conduct of business operations could occur, related to COVID-19 or other infectious diseases could impact personnel at third-party manufacturing facilities upon which we rely, or the availability or cost of materials, which could disrupt the supply chain for our product candidates. We have taken a series of actions aimed at safeguarding our employees and business associates, including regular PCR-based COVID-19 testing, implementing a work-from-home policy for employees except for those related to our production and laboratory operations, and these arrangements may cause reduced productivity of our employees and/or delays or disruptions of our business operations.

Our suppliers, licensors or collaborators could also be disrupted by conditions related to COVID-19, possibly resulting in disruption to our supply chain, clinical trials, partnerships or operations. If our suppliers, licensors, CMOs, CROs or collaborators are unable or fail to fulfill their obligations to us for any reason, our ability to continue meeting clinical supply demand for our product candidates or otherwise advancing development of our product candidates may become impaired.

The spread of COVID-19 and actions taken to reduce its spread may also materially affect us economically. While the potential economic impact brought by, and during the duration of, COVID-19 may be difficult to assess or predict, there could be a significant disruption of global financial markets, reducing our ability to access capital, which could in the future negatively affect our liquidity and financial position. COVID-19 and actions taken to reduce its spread continue to rapidly evolve. We continue to assess the impact COVID-19 may have on our clinical trial timelines, our ability to enroll candidates for clinical trials and obtain the materials that are required for the production of our product candidates, but there can be no assurance that this assessment will enable us to avoid part or all of any impact from the spread of COVID-19 or its consequences. The extent to which COVID-19 and global efforts to contain its spread may impede the development of our product candidates, reduce the productivity of our employees, disrupt our supply chains, delay our clinical trials, reduce our access to capital or limit our business development activities, will depend on future developments, which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted with confidence.

To the extent the COVID-19 pandemic adversely affects our business and financial results, it may also have the effect of heightening many of the other risks described in this “Risk Factors” section, such as those relating to the timing and results of our clinical trials, our ability to obtain materials that are required for the production of our product candidates, and our financing needs.

Our proprietary product candidates are still in preclinical or clinical development. We cannot give any assurance that any of our product candidates will receive regulatory approval, and if we are unable to obtain regulatory approval and ultimately commercialize our product candidates or experience significant delays in doing so, our business will be materially harmed.

Our proprietary product candidates are still in preclinical or clinical development. Although we may receive certain payments from our collaboration partners, including up-front payments, payments for achieving certain development, regulatory or commercial milestones and royalties, our ability to generate revenue from our product candidates' sales is dependent on receipt of regulatory approval for, and successful commercialization of, such product candidates, which may never occur. Our business and future success is in particular dependent on our ability to develop, either alone or in partnership, successfully, receive regulatory approval for and then successfully commercialize our proprietary product candidates. Each of our product candidates will require additional preclinical and/or clinical development, regulatory approval in multiple jurisdictions, manufacturing supply, substantial investment and significant marketing efforts before we generate any revenue from product sales or royalties. We are not permitted to market or promote any of our product candidates before we receive regulatory approval from applicable regulatory authorities. The success of our product candidates will depend on several factors, including the following:

- successful completion of preclinical and/or clinical studies;
- negative or inconclusive results from our clinical trials, the clinical trials of our collaborators or the clinical trials of others for product candidates similar to ours, leading to a decision or requirement to conduct additional preclinical testing or clinical trials or abandon a program;
- successful enrollment of patients in, and completion of, clinical trials;
- strategic commitment to particular product candidates and indications by us and our collaborators;
- receipt of regulatory authorizations from applicable regulatory authorities for future clinical trials;
- receipt of product approvals, including marketing approvals, from applicable regulatory authorities;
- successful completion of all safety studies required to obtain regulatory approval in the United States, the European Union and other jurisdictions for our product candidates;
- obtaining and maintaining patent and trade secret protection or regulatory exclusivity for our product candidates;
- launching commercial sales of our product candidates, if and when approved, whether alone or in collaboration with others;
- acceptance of the product candidates, if and when approved, by patients, the medical community and third-party payors;
- effectively competing with other therapies;
- obtaining and maintaining coverage and adequate reimbursement from third-party payors;
- obtaining, maintaining, enforcing and defending intellectual property and intellectual property-related claims;
- maintaining a continued acceptable safety and quality profile of the product candidates following approval; and
- maintaining a continued, sufficient supply of drug substance in acceptable quality.

If we do not achieve one or more of these factors in a complete and timely manner or at all, we could experience significant delays or an inability to successfully commercialize our product candidates, which would materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects and, in case of product candidates, technologies and licenses we have acquired, may result in a significant impairment of assets.

Although we expect to submit biologics license applications, or BLAs, for our mRNA-based product candidates in the United States, and in the European Union, mRNA-based medicines have been classified as gene therapy medicinal products, other jurisdictions may consider our mRNA-based product candidates to be new drugs, not biologics or gene therapy medicinal products, and require different marketing applications. In addition, we have not previously submitted a BLA, to the FDA or similar regulatory approval filings to comparable foreign authorities, for any product candidate, and we cannot be certain that any of our product candidates will be successful in clinical trials or receive regulatory approval. Further, our product candidates may not receive regulatory approval even if they are successful in clinical trials. If we do not receive regulatory approvals for our product candidates, we may not be able to continue our operations. Even if we successfully obtain regulatory approvals to market one or more of our product candidates, our revenues will be dependent, in part, upon the size of the markets in the territories for which we gain regulatory approval and have commercial rights. If the markets for patient subsets that we are targeting are not as significant as we estimate, we may not generate significant revenues from sales of such products, if approved.

We plan to seek regulatory approval to commercialize our product candidates both in the United States and the EU, and potentially in additional foreign countries. While the scope of regulatory approval is similar in other countries, to obtain separate regulatory approval in many other countries, we must comply with numerous and varying regulatory requirements of such countries regarding safety and efficacy and governing, among other things, clinical trials and commercial sales, pricing and distribution of our product candidates, and we cannot predict success in these jurisdictions.

We have no history of commercializing pharmaceutical products, which may make it difficult to evaluate the prospects for our future viability.

We commenced operations in 2000 and have a long track record of performing clinical trials with multiple product candidates since 2008. Our operations to date have been limited to establishing our company, raising capital, developing our proprietary mRNA technology platform, identifying and testing potential product candidates and conducting clinical trials. We have not yet demonstrated an ability to obtain marketing approvals, manufacture a commercial-scale product, or arrange for a third-party to do so on our behalf, or conduct sales and marketing activities necessary for successful product commercialization. Accordingly, you should consider our prospects in light of the costs, uncertainties, delays and difficulties frequently encountered by companies in the early stages of development, especially clinical-stage biopharmaceutical companies such as ours. Any predictions you make about our future success or viability may not be as accurate as they could be if we had a longer operating history or a history of successfully developing and commercializing pharmaceutical products.

We may encounter unforeseen expenses, difficulties, complications, delays and other known or unknown factors in achieving our business objectives. We will eventually need to transition from a company with a development focus to a company capable of supporting commercial activities. We may not be successful in such a transition.

We expect our financial condition and operating results to continue to fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter and year to year due to a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control. Accordingly, you should not rely upon the results of any quarterly or annual periods as indications of future operating performance.

Our product candidates may cause undesirable side effects that could delay or prevent their regulatory approval, limit the commercial profile of an approved label or result in significant negative consequences following regulatory approval, if any. Significant adverse events may occur during our clinical trials or even after receiving regulatory approval, which could delay or terminate clinical trials, delay or prevent regulatory approval or market acceptance of any of our product candidates.

Undesirable side effects that may be caused by our product candidates could cause us, our collaboration partners or the regulatory authorities to interrupt, delay or halt clinical trials and could result in a more restrictive label or the delay or denial of regulatory approval by the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities. Results of our trials could reveal a high and unacceptable severity and prevalence of side effects. In such an event, our trials could be suspended or terminated and the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities could order us to cease further development of or deny approval of our product candidates for any or all targeted indications. The product-related side effects could affect patient recruitment or the ability of enrolled patients to complete the trial or result in potential product liability claims. Any of these occurrences may harm our business, financial condition and prospects significantly.

Clinical trials assess a sample of the potential patient population. With a limited number of patients and duration of exposure, rare and severe side effects of our product candidates may only be uncovered with a significantly larger number of patients exposed to the product candidate. If our product candidates receive regulatory approval and we or others identify undesirable side effects caused by such product candidates (or any other similar products) after such approval, a number of potentially significant negative consequences could result, including:

- regulatory authorities may withdraw or limit their approval of such product candidates and require us to take our approved product(s) off the market;
- regulatory authorities may require the addition of labeling statements, such as a “boxed” warning or a contraindication, or submission of field alerts to physicians and pharmacies;
- we may be required to create a medication guide outlining the risks of such side effects for distribution to patients;
- we may be required to change the way such product candidates are distributed or administered, conduct additional clinical trials or change the labeling of the product candidates;
- actual or potential drug-related side effects could negatively affect patient recruitment or the ability of enrolled patients to complete a trial for our products or product candidates;
- market acceptance of our products by patients and physicians may be reduced and sales of the product may decrease significantly;
- regulatory authorities may require a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy, or REMS, plan to mitigate risks, which could include medication guides, physician communication plans, or elements to assure safe use, such as restricted distribution methods, patient registries and other risk minimization tools;
- we may be subject to regulatory investigations and government enforcement actions;
- we may decide or be required to remove such product candidates from the marketplace;
- we could be sued and potentially held liable for injury caused to individuals exposed to or taking our product candidates;
- sales of the product(s) may decrease substantially; and
- our reputation may suffer.

Any of these events could prevent us from achieving or maintaining market acceptance of the affected product candidates and could substantially increase the costs of commercializing our product candidates, if approved, and therefore could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

To date, a limited number of products that utilize mRNA as a prophylactic vaccine against COVID-19 have been approved in the United States, Europe and other countries, subject to certain limitations. In addition, no product that utilizes mRNA as a therapeutic vaccine has been approved in the United States or Europe. As such, mRNA drug development has substantial clinical development and regulatory risks due to the novel and unprecedented nature of this new category of medicines.

No product that utilizes mRNA as a therapeutic vaccine has been approved in the United States or Europe. In addition, a limited number of products that utilize mRNA as a prophylactic vaccine against COVID-19 have been approved by the FDA, EMA and other regulatory agencies. Such approvals were provided after parallelized clinical trials, and certain of the products may be subject to ongoing review by the FDA, EMA or other regulatory agencies, and in some cases may be canceled, expire or subject to lengthy renewal. Successful discovery, development and continued market presence of mRNA-based (and other) products by either us or our collaborators is highly uncertain and depends on numerous factors, many of which are beyond our or their control. Our product candidates that appear promising in the early phases of development may fail to advance, experience delays in the clinic or clinical holds, fail to reach the market or stay in the market for many reasons, including:

- discovery efforts aimed at identifying potential immunotherapies may not be successful;
- nonclinical or preclinical study results may show product candidates to be less effective than desired or have harmful or problematic side effects;
- clinical trial results may show the product candidates to be less effective than expected, including a failure to meet one or more endpoints or have unacceptable side effects or toxicities;
- manufacturing failures or insufficient supply of GMP materials for clinical trials, or higher than expected cost could delay or set back clinical trials, or make our product candidates commercially unattractive;
- our improvements in the manufacturing processes may not be sufficient to satisfy the clinical or commercial demand of our product candidates or regulatory requirements for clinical trials;
- changes that we make to optimize our manufacturing, testing or formulating of GMP materials could impact the safety, tolerability and efficacy of our product candidates;
- pricing or reimbursement issues or other factors could delay clinical trials or make any immunotherapy uneconomical or noncompetitive with other therapies;
- the failure to timely advance our programs or receive the necessary regulatory approvals, or a delay in receiving such approvals, due to, among other reasons, slow or failure to complete enrollment in clinical trials, withdrawal by trial participants from trials, failure to achieve trial endpoints, additional time requirements for data analysis, data integrity issues, BLA, MAA or the equivalent application, discussions with the FDA or the EMA, a regulatory request for additional nonclinical or clinical data, or safety formulation or manufacturing issues may lead to our inability to obtain sufficient funding; and
- the proprietary rights, products and technologies of our competitors may prevent our immunotherapies from being commercialized.

Although we expect to submit biologics license applications, or BLAs, for our mRNA-based product candidates in the United States and in the European Union, mRNA-based medicines have been classified as gene therapy medicinal products. Unlike certain gene therapies that irreversibly alter cell DNA and may cause certain side effects, mRNA-based medicines are designed not to irreversibly change cell DNA. Side effects observed in other gene therapies, however, could negatively impact the perception of immunotherapies despite the differences in mechanism. Due to the circumstances surrounding the approval of mRNA-based vaccines against COVID-19, the regulatory pathway for future mRNA products in the United States and other jurisdictions for approval is uncertain. The length of time necessary to complete clinical trials and submit an application for marketing approval by a regulatory authority varies significantly from one pharmaceutical product to the next and may be difficult to predict.

The regulatory approval processes of the FDA and comparable foreign authorities are lengthy, time consuming and inherently unpredictable and if we fail to obtain regulatory approval in any jurisdiction, we will not be able to commercialize our products in that jurisdiction and our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects, may be materially adversely affected.

The time required to obtain approval by the FDA, EMA and comparable foreign authorities is unpredictable but typically takes many years following the commencement of clinical trials and depends upon numerous factors, including the substantial discretion of the regulatory authorities. In addition, approval laws, regulations, policies or the type and amount of clinical data or other information necessary to gain approval may change during the course of a product candidate's clinical development and may vary among jurisdictions. We have not obtained regulatory approval for any product candidate, and it is possible that none of our existing product candidates or any product candidates we may seek to develop in the future will ever obtain regulatory approval.

Our product candidates could fail to receive regulatory approval for many reasons, including the following:

- the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities may disagree with the design or implementation of our clinical trials;
- we may be unable to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities that a product candidate is safe and effective for its proposed indication;
- the designs or our execution of clinical trials might not be considered adequate, or the results of clinical trials may not meet the level of statistical significance required, by the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities for approval;
- we may be unable to demonstrate that a product candidate's clinical and other benefits outweigh its safety risks;
- the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities may disagree with our interpretation of data from preclinical studies or clinical trials;
- the data collected may not be sufficient to support the submission of a BLA or other submission, or to obtain regulatory approval in the United States, the European Union or elsewhere;
- the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities may fail to approve our manufacturing processes or facilities or those of third-party manufacturers with which we contract for clinical and commercial supplies; and
- the laws, regulations or policies of the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory authorities may significantly change in a manner rendering our clinical data or other regulatory submissions insufficient for approval.

This lengthy approval process as well as the unpredictability of future clinical trial results may result in our failing to obtain regulatory approval to market any of our product candidates, which would significantly harm our business, results of operations and prospects. The FDA, the EMA and other regulatory authorities have substantial discretion in the approval process and determining when or whether regulatory approval will be obtained for any of our product candidates. Even if we believe the data collected from clinical trials of our product candidates are promising, such data may not be sufficient to support approval by the FDA, the EMA or any other regulatory authority. For example, we initiated a rolling submission with the EMA in February 2021 and later submitted the formal market authorization application for our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. However, later in 2021, the EMA informed us that it would not start reviewing the file before 2022. As a result, we estimated that the earliest possible approval of CVnCoV would come in the second quarter of 2022. By this time, we expected candidates from the second-generation vaccine program to be progressing through clinical development, and therefore, we announced the strategic decision to withdraw our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, from the approval process with the EMA and to focus our COVID-19 vaccine program on the development of second-generation mRNA vaccine candidates in collaboration with GSK.

In order to commercialize our products in more than one jurisdiction, we will be required to obtain separate regulatory approvals in each market and to comply with numerous and varying regulatory requirements. The approval procedures vary from country to country and may require additional testing, administrative review periods, agreements with pricing authorities or other steps. Satisfying these and other regulatory requirements is costly, time consuming, uncertain and subject to unanticipated delays. In addition, in many countries outside the United States and in particular in many of the Member States of the European Union, a product must undergo health economic assessments to agree on pricing and/or be approved for reimbursement before it can be approved for sale in that country, or before it becomes commercially viable. The FDA and the EMA may come to different conclusions regarding approval of a marketing application. Approval by the FDA or EMA does not ensure approval by regulatory authorities in other countries or jurisdictions, and approval by one foreign regulatory authority does not ensure approval by regulatory authorities in other foreign countries or by the FDA or EMA. In addition, our failure to obtain regulatory approval in any country may delay or have negative effects on the process for regulatory approval in other countries. Clinical trials conducted in one country may not be accepted by regulatory authorities in other countries. We may not obtain regulatory approvals on a timely basis, if at all. We may not be able to submit applications for regulatory approvals and may not receive necessary approvals to commercialize our products in any market. We may be required to conduct additional preclinical studies or clinical trials, which would be costly and time consuming. If we or any future partner are unable to obtain regulatory approval for our product candidates in one or more significant jurisdictions, then the commercial opportunity for our product candidates, and our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects, may be materially adversely affected.

The regulatory landscape that will govern our product candidates is uncertain. Regulations relating to more established gene therapy and cell therapy products are still developing, and changes in regulatory requirements could result in delays or discontinuation of development of our product candidates or unexpected costs in obtaining regulatory approval.

The regulatory requirements to which our product candidates will be subject are not entirely clear. Even with respect to more established products that fit into the categories of gene therapies or cell therapies, the regulatory landscape is still developing. For example, regulatory requirements governing gene therapy products and cell therapy products have changed frequently and may continue to change in the future. Moreover, there is substantial, and sometimes uncoordinated, overlap in those responsible for regulation of existing gene therapy products and cell therapy products. Although the FDA decides whether individual gene therapy protocols may proceed, the review process and determinations of other reviewing bodies can impede or delay the initiation of a clinical study, even if the FDA has reviewed the study and authorizes its initiation. Conversely, the FDA can place an Investigational New Drug Application, or IND, on clinical hold even if such other entities have provided a favorable review. Furthermore, gene therapy clinical trials may also require evaluation and assessment by an institutional biosafety committee, or IBC, a local institutional committee that reviews and oversees basic and clinical research conducted at the institution participating in the clinical trial. The IBC assesses the safety of the research and identifies any potential risk to the public health or the environment, and such assessment may result in some delay before initiation of a clinical trial. In addition, adverse developments in clinical trials of gene therapy products conducted by others may cause the FDA or other regulatory bodies to change the requirements for approval of any of our product candidates.

Complex regulatory environments exist in other jurisdictions in which we might consider seeking regulatory approvals for our product candidates, further complicating the regulatory landscape. For example, in the European Union a special committee called the Committee for Advanced Therapies, or CAT, was established within the EMA in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1394/2007 on advanced-therapy medicinal products, or ATMPs, to assess the quality, safety and efficacy of ATMPs, and to follow scientific developments in the field. ATMPs include gene therapy products as well as somatic cell therapy products and tissue engineered products.

These various regulatory review committees and advisory groups and new or revised guidelines that they promulgate from time to time may lengthen the regulatory review process, require us to perform additional studies, increase our development costs, lead to changes in regulatory positions and interpretations, delay or prevent approval and commercialization of our product candidates or lead to significant post-approval limitations or restrictions. As the regulatory landscape for our product candidates is new, we may face even more cumbersome and complex regulations than those emerging for gene therapy products and cell therapy products. Furthermore, even if our product candidates obtain required regulatory approvals, such approvals may later be withdrawn as a result of changes in regulations or the interpretation of regulations by applicable regulatory agencies.

Delay or failure to obtain, or unexpected costs in obtaining, the regulatory approval necessary to bring a potential product to market could decrease our ability to generate sufficient product sales revenue to maintain our business.

Even if we receive regulatory approval for any of our product candidates, we will be subject to ongoing obligations and continued regulatory review, which may materially adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations. We have not previously submitted a BLA, to the FDA, or similar regulatory approval filings to comparable foreign authorities, for any product candidate and never received regulatory approval for any of our product candidates. Even if the FDA, EMA or a comparable foreign regulatory authority approves any of our product candidates, the manufacturing processes, labeling, packaging, distribution, product sampling, adverse event reporting, storage, advertising, marketing, promotion and recordkeeping for the product will be subject to extensive and ongoing regulatory requirements. These requirements include submissions of safety and other post-marketing information and reports, registration, as well as continued compliance with cGMPs and GCPs for any clinical trials that we conduct post-approval, all of which may result in significant expense and limit our ability to commercialize such products. There also are continuing, annual program user fees for any marketed products. Biologic manufacturers and their subcontractors are required to register their establishments with the FDA and certain state agencies, and are subject to periodic unannounced inspections by the FDA and certain state agencies for compliance with cGMP, which impose certain procedural and documentation requirements upon us and our third-party manufacturers. Changes to the manufacturing process are strictly regulated, and, depending on the significance of the change, may require prior FDA approval before being implemented. FDA regulations also require investigation and correction of any deviations from cGMP and impose reporting requirements upon us and any third-party manufacturers that we may decide to use. Accordingly, manufacturers must continue to expend time, money and effort in the area of production and quality control to maintain compliance with cGMP and other aspects of regulatory compliance.

Any regulatory approvals that we receive for our product candidates may also be subject to limitations on the approved indicated uses for which the product may be marketed or to the conditions of approval, or contain requirements for potentially costly post-marketing testing and surveillance to monitor the safety and efficacy of the product. For example, the FDA has the authority to require a REMS as part of a BLA or after approval, which may impose further requirements or restrictions on the distribution or use of an approved product, such as limiting prescribing to certain physicians or medical centers that have undergone specialized training, limiting treatment to patients who meet certain safe-use criteria and requiring treated patients to enroll in a registry. Later discovery of previously unknown problems with a product, including adverse events of unanticipated severity or frequency, or with our third-party manufacturers or manufacturing processes, or failure to comply with regulatory requirements may result in, among other things:

- restrictions on the marketing or manufacturing of the product, withdrawal of the product from the market, or voluntary or mandatory;
- product recalls;
- fines, warning letters, untitled letters or holds on clinical trials;
- refusal by the FDA, EMA or a comparable foreign regulatory authority to approve pending applications or supplements to approved applications, or suspension or revocation of product approvals;
- requirements to conduct additional clinical trials, change our product labeling or submit additional applications or application supplements;
- product seizure or detention, or refusal to permit the import or export of products;
- mandated modification of promotional materials and labeling and the issuance of corrective information;
- consent decrees, corporate integrity agreements, debarment or exclusion from federal healthcare programs;
- the issuance of safety alerts, Dear Healthcare Provider letters, press releases and other communications containing warnings or other safety information about the product; or
- injunctions or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

In addition, regulatory policies may change or additional government regulations or legislation may be enacted that could prevent, limit or delay regulatory approval of our product candidates. If we fail to comply with existing requirements, are slow or unable to adapt to changes in existing requirements or the adoption of new requirements or policies, or if we are not able to maintain regulatory compliance, we may lose any regulatory approval that we may have obtained or face regulatory or enforcement actions, which may materially adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, if any of our product candidates is approved, our product labeling, advertising and promotion will be subject to regulatory requirements and continuing regulatory review. The FDA strictly regulates the promotional claims that may be made about prescription products. In particular, a product may not be promoted for uses that are not approved by the FDA as reflected in the product's approved labeling. If we receive marketing approval for a product candidate, physicians may nevertheless prescribe it to their patients in a manner that is inconsistent with the approved label. If we are found to have promoted such off-label uses, we may become subject to significant liability. The FDA and other agencies actively enforce the laws and regulations prohibiting the promotion of off-label uses, and a company that is found to have improperly promoted off-label uses may be subject to significant sanctions. The federal government has levied large civil and criminal fines against companies for alleged improper promotion and has enjoined several companies from engaging in off-label promotion. The FDA has also requested that companies enter into consent decrees or permanent injunctions under which specified promotional conduct is changed or curtailed.

Any government investigation of alleged violations of law could require us to expend significant time and resources in response, and could generate negative publicity. Any failure to comply with ongoing regulatory requirements may significantly and adversely affect our ability to commercialize our product candidates.

Further, the policies of FDA, EMA and other comparable regulatory authorities may change and additional government regulations may be enacted that could prevent, limit or delay regulatory approval of our product candidates. If we are slow or unable to adapt to changes in existing requirements or to adopt new requirements or policies, or if we are not able to maintain regulatory compliance, we may lose any marketing approval that we may have obtained, which would adversely affect our business, prospects and ability to achieve or sustain profitability.

We also cannot predict the likelihood, nature or extent of government regulation that may arise from future legislation or administrative or executive action, either in the United States or abroad. It is difficult to predict how current and future legislation, executive actions, and litigation, including the executive orders, will be implemented, and the extent to which they will impact our business, our clinical development, and the FDA's and other agencies' ability to exercise their regulatory authority, including FDA's pre-approval inspections and timely review of any regulatory filings or applications we submit to the FDA. To the extent any executive actions impose constraints on FDA's ability to engage in oversight and implementation activities in the normal course, our business may be negatively impacted.

A breakthrough therapy designation by the FDA for a product candidate may not lead to a faster development or regulatory review or approval process, and it would not increase the likelihood that the product candidate will receive marketing approval.

We may in the future seek a breakthrough therapy designation for one or more product candidates. A breakthrough therapy is defined as a product candidate that is intended, alone or in combination with one or more other drugs, to treat a serious or life-threatening disease or condition, and preliminary clinical evidence indicates that the product candidate may demonstrate substantial improvement over existing therapies on one or more clinically significant endpoints, such as substantial treatment effects observed early in clinical development. For product candidates that have been designated as breakthrough therapies, interaction and communication between the FDA and the sponsor of the trial can help to identify the most efficient path for clinical development while minimizing the number of patients placed in ineffective control regimens. Product candidates designated as breakthrough therapies by the FDA are also eligible for priority review if supported by clinical data at the time of the submission of the BLA.

Designation as a breakthrough therapy is within the discretion of the FDA. Accordingly, even if we believe that one of our product candidates meets the criteria for designation as a breakthrough therapy, the FDA may disagree and instead determine not to make such designation. In any event, the receipt of a breakthrough therapy designation for a product candidate may not result in a faster development process, review or approval compared to product candidates considered for approval under conventional FDA procedures and it would not assure ultimate approval by the FDA. In addition, even if one or more of our product candidates qualify as breakthrough therapies, the FDA may later decide that the product candidate no longer meets the conditions for qualification or it may decide that the time period for FDA review or approval will not be shortened.

Because we are developing product candidates for the treatment or prevention of diseases in which there is little clinical experience using new technologies, there is increased risk that the FDA, the EMA or other regulatory authorities may not consider the endpoints of our clinical trials to provide clinically meaningful results and that these results may be difficult to analyze.

As we are developing novel treatments and preventative measures for diseases in which we believe there is limited clinical experience with new endpoints and methodologies, there is heightened risk that the FDA, EMA or comparable foreign regulatory bodies may not consider the clinical trial endpoints to provide clinically meaningful results, and the resulting clinical data and results may be more difficult to analyze. It is difficult to determine how long it will take or how much it will cost to obtain regulatory approvals for our product candidates in the United States, the European Union or other jurisdictions, if ever. Further, approvals by one regulatory agency may not be indicative of what other regulatory agencies may require for approval.

During the regulatory review process, we will need to identify success criteria and endpoints such that the FDA, the EMA or other regulatory authorities will be able to determine the clinical efficacy and safety profile of any product candidates we may develop. Because our initial focus is to identify and develop product candidates to treat or prevent diseases in which there is little clinical experience using new technologies, there is heightened risk that the FDA, the EMA or other regulatory authorities may not consider the clinical trial endpoints that we propose to provide clinically meaningful results. In addition, the resulting clinical data and results may be difficult to analyze. Even if the FDA determines that our success criteria is sufficiently validated and clinically meaningful, we may not achieve the prespecified endpoints to a sufficient degree of statistical significance.

This may be a particularly significant risk for many of the genetically defined diseases for which we plan to develop product candidates because many of these diseases have small patient populations, and designing and executing a rigorous clinical trial with appropriate statistical power is more difficult than with diseases that have larger patient populations. Further, even if we do achieve the prespecified criteria, the results may be unpredictable or inconsistent with the results of the non-primary endpoints or other relevant data. The FDA also weighs the benefits of a product against its risks, and the FDA may view the efficacy results in the context of safety as not being supportive of regulatory approval. The EMA and other regulatory authorities may make similar comments with respect to these endpoints and data. Any product candidate we may develop will be based on a novel technology that makes it difficult to predict the time and cost of development and of subsequently obtaining regulatory approval.

We and our collaboration partners have conducted and intend to conduct additional clinical trials for selected product candidates at sites outside the United States, and the FDA may not accept data from trials conducted in such locations or may require additional U.S.-based trials.

We and our collaboration partners have conducted, currently are conducting and intend in the future to conduct, clinical trials outside the United States, particularly in the European Union where we are headquartered. In addition, in February 2022, we and our partner GSK, initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial for our multivalent second-generation seasonal influenza vaccine candidate, CVSQIV, in Panama.

Although the FDA may accept data from clinical trials conducted outside the United States, acceptance of this data is subject to certain conditions imposed by the FDA. For example, the clinical trial must be conducted by qualified investigators in accordance with GCPs, and the FDA must be able to validate the trial data through an on-site inspection, if necessary. Generally, the patient population for any clinical trial conducted outside of the United States must be representative of the population for which we intend to seek approval in the United States. There can be no assurance that the FDA will accept data from trials conducted outside of the United States. If the FDA does not accept the data from any clinical trials that we or our collaboration partners conduct outside the United States, it would likely result in the need for additional clinical trials, which would be costly and time consuming and delay or permanently halt our ability to develop and market these or other product candidates in the United States. In other jurisdictions, for instance, in Japan, there is a similar risk regarding the acceptability of clinical trial data conducted outside of that jurisdiction.

In addition, there are risks inherent in conducting clinical trials in multiple jurisdictions, inside and outside of the United States, such as:

- regulatory and administrative requirements of the jurisdiction where the trial is conducted that could burden or limit our ability to conduct our clinical trials;
- foreign exchange fluctuations;

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- manufacturing, customs, shipment and storage requirements;
- cultural differences in medical practice and clinical research; and
- the risk that the patient populations in such trials are not considered representative as compared to the patient population in the target markets where approval is being sought.

If any of our product candidates receive regulatory approval, the approved products may not achieve broad market acceptance among physicians, patients, the medical community and third-party payors, in which case revenue generated from their sales would be limited.

The commercial success of our product candidates will depend upon their acceptance among physicians, patients and the medical community. The degree of market acceptance of our product candidates will depend on a number of factors, including:

- limitations or warnings contained in the approved labeling for a product candidate;
- changes in the standard of care for the targeted indications for any of our product candidates;
- limitations in the approved clinical indications for our product candidates;
- demonstrated clinical safety and efficacy compared to other products;
- lack of significant adverse side effects;
- sales, marketing and distribution support;
- availability of coverage and extent of reimbursement from managed care plans and other third-party payors;
- timing of market introduction and perceived effectiveness of competitive products;
- the degree of cost-effectiveness of our product candidates;
- availability of alternative therapies at similar or lower cost, including generic and over-the-counter products;
- whether the product is designated under physician treatment guidelines as a first-line therapy or as a second-or third-line therapy for particular diseases;
- whether the product can be used effectively with other therapies to achieve higher response rates;
- adverse publicity about our product candidates or favorable publicity about competitive products;
- convenience and ease of administration of our products; and
- potential product liability claims.

If any of our product candidates are approved, but do not achieve an adequate level of acceptance by physicians, patients and the medical community, we may not generate sufficient revenue from these products, and we may not become or remain profitable. In addition, efforts to educate the medical community and third-party payors on the benefits of our product candidates may require significant resources and may never be successful.

The United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union, or Brexit, could result in increased regulatory and legal complexity, and impose additional challenges in securing regulatory approval of our product candidates in the European Union and the rest of Europe.

We could face heightened risks with respect to seeking marketing approval in the United Kingdom as a result of the recent withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union, commonly referred to as Brexit. Pursuant to the formal withdrawal arrangements agreed between the United Kingdom and the European Union, the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union, effective December 31, 2020. On December 24, 2020, the United Kingdom and the European Union entered into a Trade and Cooperation Agreement. The agreement sets out certain procedures for approval and recognition of medical products in each jurisdiction. We cannot predict whether or not the United Kingdom will significantly alter its current laws and regulations in respect of the pharmaceutical industry or how the Trade and Cooperation Agreement will be interpreted and, if so, what impact any such alteration or interpretation would have on us or our business. Moreover, we cannot predict the impact that Brexit will have on (i) the marketing of pharmaceutical products, (ii) the process to obtain regulatory approval in the United Kingdom for product candidates or (iii) the award of exclusivities that are normally part of the European Union legal framework.

Brexit may also result in a reduction of funding to the EMA if the United Kingdom no longer makes financial contributions to European institutions, such as the EMA. If the United Kingdom funding is so reduced, it could create delays in the EMA issuing regulatory approvals for our products and product candidates and, accordingly, have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, results of operations and future growth prospects.

As a result of Brexit, other European countries may seek to conduct referenda with respect to their continuing membership with the European Union. Given these possibilities and others we may not anticipate, as well as the absence of comparable precedent, it is unclear what financial, regulatory and legal implications the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union would have and how such withdrawal would affect us, and the full extent to which our business could be adversely affected.

In addition, following the Brexit vote, the European Union decided to move the headquarters of the EMA from the United Kingdom to the Netherlands. The EMA is currently finishing its relocation process to the Netherlands. However, as a result of the move, the EMA has lost a significant percentage of its employees and was not able to hire at least the same amount of employees that left the EMA upon the movement of its headquarters from the United Kingdom to the Netherlands. This raises the possibility that new drug approvals in the European Union could be delayed as a result of such employee shortage.

Our product candidates for which we may seek approval as biologic products may face competition sooner than anticipated.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, or collectively, the Affordable Care Act, signed into law on March 23, 2010, includes a subtitle called the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009, or BPCIA, which created an abbreviated approval pathway for biological products that are biosimilar to or interchangeable with an FDA-licensed reference biological product. Under the BPCIA, an application for a biosimilar product may not be submitted to the FDA until four years following the date that the reference product was first licensed by the FDA. In addition, the approval of a biosimilar product may not be made effective by the FDA until 12 years from the date on which the reference product was first licensed. During this 12-year period of exclusivity, another company may still market a competing version of the reference product if the FDA approves a full BLA for the competing product containing the sponsor's own preclinical data and data from adequate and well-controlled clinical trials to demonstrate the safety, purity and potency of their product.

To the extent any of our product candidates approved as a biological product under a BLA qualifies for a 12-year period of exclusivity, for which we make no assurances, there is a risk that such exclusivity could be shortened due to congressional action or otherwise, or that the FDA will not consider our product candidates to be reference products for competing products, potentially creating the opportunity for generic competition sooner than anticipated. Other aspects of the BPCIA, some of which may impact the BPCIA exclusivity provisions, have also been the subject of recent litigation. Moreover, the extent to which a biosimilar, once approved, will be substituted for any one of our reference products in a way that is similar to traditional generic substitution for nonbiological products is not yet clear, and will depend on a number of marketplace and regulatory factors that are still developing.

If any approved products are subject to biosimilar competition sooner than we expect, we will face significant pricing pressure and our commercial opportunity will be limited.

Disruptions at the FDA and other government agencies caused by funding shortages or global health concerns could hinder their ability to hire, retain or deploy key leadership and other personnel, or otherwise prevent new or modified products from being developed, or approved or commercialized in a timely manner or at all, which could negatively impact our business.

The ability of the FDA to review and approve new products can be affected by a variety of factors, including government budget and funding levels, statutory, regulatory, and policy changes, the FDA's ability to hire and retain key personnel and accept the payment of user fees, and other events that may otherwise affect the FDA's ability to perform routine functions. Average review times at the FDA have fluctuated in recent years as a result. In addition, government funding of other government agencies that fund research and development activities is subject to the political process, which is inherently fluid and unpredictable. Disruptions at the FDA and other agencies may also slow the time necessary for our product candidates to be reviewed and/or approved by necessary government agencies, which would adversely affect our business. For example, over the last several years, including for 35 days beginning on December 22, 2018, the U.S. government has shut down several times and certain regulatory agencies, such as the FDA, have had to furlough critical FDA employees and stop critical activities.

Separately, in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, on March 10, 2020, the FDA announced its intention to postpone most inspections of foreign manufacturing facilities and products and subsequently, on March 18, 2020, the FDA temporarily postponed routine surveillance inspections of domestic manufacturing facilities. Subsequently, on July 10, 2020, the FDA announced its intention to resume certain on-site inspections of domestic manufacturing facilities subject to a risk-based prioritization system. The FDA intends to use this risk-based assessment system to identify the categories of regulatory activity that can occur within a given geographic area, ranging from mission critical inspections to resumption of all regulatory activities. Regulatory authorities outside the United States may adopt similar restrictions or other policy measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If a prolonged government shutdown occurs, or if global health concerns continue to prevent the FDA or other regulatory authorities from conducting their regular inspections, reviews, or other regulatory activities, it could significantly impact the ability of the FDA or other regulatory authorities to timely review and process our regulatory submissions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Related to the Manufacturing of Our Product Candidates

The manufacture of mRNA-based medicines is complex and manufacturers often encounter difficulties in production, especially in the field of biologics. If we or any of our third-party manufacturers encounter difficulties, our ability to provide product candidates for clinical trials or products, if approved, to patients or future customers could be delayed or halted.

The manufacture of mRNA-based medicines is complex and requires significant expertise and capital investment, including the development of advanced manufacturing techniques and analytics. We and our third-party manufacturers must comply with cGMP, regulations and guidelines for the manufacturing of our product candidates used in preclinical studies and clinical trials and, if approved, marketed products. Manufacturers of biotechnology products often encounter difficulties in production, particularly in scaling up and validating initial production.

Before 2020, the mRNA quantities produced globally were very limited compared to the quantities produced since mRNA vaccines were approved as prophylactic vaccines to protect from SARS-CoV-2. Large-scale mRNA vaccine production requires a high level of (i) equipment to build and run new facilities and (ii) raw materials to produce mRNA and to formulate the drug substance in the required volumes. The current demand for mRNA vaccines is unprecedented and bears the risk of overloading and hence delaying regular supply chains. This risk is further extended by export restrictions imposed by countries to protect their own supplies, some of which can only be resolved on a political level.

Furthermore, if microbial, viral or other contaminations are discovered in our product candidates or in the manufacturing facilities where our product candidates are made, such manufacturing facilities may be closed for an extended period of time to investigate and remedy the contamination. Shortages of raw materials may also extend the period of time required to develop our product candidates.

Manufacturing these products requires facilities specifically designed for and validated for this purpose and sophisticated quality assurance and quality control procedures are necessary. Slight deviations anywhere in the manufacturing process, including filling, labeling, packaging, storage and shipping and quality control and testing, may result in lot failures, product recalls or spoilage. When changes are made to the manufacturing process, we may be required to provide preclinical and clinical data showing the comparable identity, strength, quality, purity or potency of the products before and after such changes. The use of biologically derived ingredients can also lead to allegations of harm, including infections or allergic reactions, or closure of product facilities due to possible contamination.

In addition, there are risks associated with large-scale manufacturing for clinical trials or commercial-scale including, among others, cost overruns, potential problems with process scale-up, process reproducibility, stability issues, compliance with good manufacturing practices, lot consistency and timely availability of raw materials. Even if we obtain marketing approval for any of our product candidates, there is no assurance that we or our manufacturers will be able to manufacture the approved product to specifications acceptable to the FDA or other comparable foreign regulatory authorities, to produce it in sufficient quantities to meet the requirements for the potential commercial launch of the product or to meet potential future demand. If we or our manufacturers are unable to produce sufficient quantities for clinical trials or for commercialization, our development and commercialization efforts would be impaired, which would have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and growth prospects.

We cannot assure you that any disruptions or other issues relating to the manufacture of any of our product candidates will not occur in the future. Any delay or interruption in the supply of clinical trial supplies could delay the completion of planned clinical trials, increase the costs associated with maintaining clinical trial programs and, depending upon the period of delay, require us to commence new clinical trials at additional expense or terminate clinical trials completely. Any adverse developments affecting clinical or commercial manufacturing of our product candidates or products may result in shipment delays, inventory shortages, lot failures, product withdrawals or recalls or other interruptions in the supply of our product candidates or products. We may also have to take inventory write-offs and incur other charges and expenses for product candidates or products that fail to meet specifications, undertake costly remediation efforts or seek more costly manufacturing alternatives. Accordingly, failures or difficulties faced at any level of our supply chain could delay or impede the development and commercialization of any of our product candidates or products and could have an adverse effect on our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations.

We and our third-party manufacturers and suppliers could be subject to liabilities, fines, penalties or other sanctions under federal, state, local and foreign environmental, health and safety laws and regulations if we or they fail to comply with such laws or regulations or otherwise incur costs that could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We manufacture and produce mRNA-based active ingredients for our product pipeline. We also currently rely on and expect to continue to rely on third parties for the manufacturing and supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients, or API, and drug products of our product candidates. We and these third parties are subject to various federal, state, local and foreign environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, including those governing laboratory procedures and the generation, handling, labeling, transportation, use, manufacture, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes and worker health and safety. We do not have control over a manufacturer's or supplier's compliance with environmental, health and safety laws and regulations. Liabilities they incur pursuant to these laws and regulations could result in significant costs or in certain circumstances, an interruption in operations, any of which could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

With respect to any hazardous materials or waste which we are currently, or in the future will be, generating, handling, transporting, using, manufacturing, storing, treating or disposing of, we cannot eliminate the risk of contamination or injury from these materials or waste, including at third-party disposal sites. In the event of such contamination or injury, we could be held liable for any resulting damages and liability. We also could be subject to significant civil or criminal fines and penalties, cessation of operations, investigation or remedial costs or other sanctions for failure to comply with applicable environmental, health and safety laws. In addition, we may incur substantial costs in order to comply with current or future environmental, health and safety laws and regulations. These current or future laws and regulations may impair our research, development or production efforts or otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business.

Undetected errors or defects in our production could harm our reputation or expose us to product liability claims.

Defects in the cGMP materials we produce may damage the third parties' businesses we work with and could harm their and our reputation. If that occurs, we may incur significant costs, the attention of our key personnel could be diverted, or other significant problems may arise. We may also be subject to warranty and liability claims for damages related to errors or defects in products made with our cGMP materials. In addition, if we do not meet industry or quality standards, if applicable, such products may be subject to recall. A material liability claim, recall or other occurrence that harms our reputation or decreases market acceptance of such products could harm our business and operating results.

Risks Related to Our Reliance on Collaborators and Other Third Parties

We rely on third parties to conduct our nonclinical and clinical trials and perform other tasks for us. If these third parties do not successfully carry out their contractual duties, meet expected deadlines, or comply with regulatory requirements, we may not be able to obtain regulatory approval for or commercialize our product candidates and our business could be substantially harmed.

We have relied upon and plan to continue to rely upon third-party CROs to monitor and manage data for our ongoing nonclinical and clinical programs. We rely on these parties for execution of our nonclinical and clinical studies and control only certain aspects of their activities. Nevertheless, we are responsible for ensuring that each of our trials is conducted in accordance with the applicable protocol, legal, regulatory and scientific standards and our reliance on the CROs does not relieve us of our regulatory responsibilities. We and our CROs and other vendors are required to comply with cGMP, GCP, Good Laboratory Practice, or GLP, and other regulations and guidelines enforced by the FDA, the Competent Authorities of the Member States of the European Union and comparable foreign regulatory authorities for all of our product candidates in nonclinical and clinical development. Regulatory authorities enforce these regulations through periodic inspections of study sponsors, principal investigators, trial sites and other contractors. If we or any of our CROs or vendors fail to comply with applicable regulations, the data generated in our nonclinical and clinical trials may be deemed unreliable and the EMA, FDA, or other regulatory authorities may require us to perform additional nonclinical and clinical trials before approving our marketing applications. In addition, even if, for example, the EMA finds our data generated in our nonclinical and clinical trials reliable for approving a marketing application, there is no assurance that other regulatory authorities like the FDA will find such data reliable and sufficient for approving a similar market application. We cannot assure you that upon inspection by a given regulatory authority, such regulatory authority will determine that all of our clinical trials comply with cGCP regulations. In addition, our clinical trials must be conducted with product produced under cGMP regulations. Our failure to comply with these regulations may require us to repeat clinical trials, which would delay the regulatory approval process.

If any of our relationships with these third-party CROs terminates, we may not be able to enter into arrangements with alternative CROs or do so on commercially reasonable terms. In addition, our CROs are not our employees, and except for remedies available to us under our agreements with such CROs, we cannot control whether or not they devote sufficient time and resources to our ongoing nonclinical and clinical programs. If CROs do not successfully carry out their contractual duties or obligations, meet expected deadlines, conduct our studies in accordance with regulatory requirements or our stated study plans and protocols, if they need to be replaced or if the quality or accuracy of the data they obtain is compromised due to the failure to adhere to our protocols, regulatory requirements, or for other reasons, our clinical trials may be extended, delayed, or terminated and we may not be able to obtain regulatory approval for or successfully commercialize our product candidates. CROs may also generate higher costs than anticipated. As a result, our results of operations and the commercial prospects for our product candidates would be harmed, our costs could increase, and our ability to generate revenue could be delayed.

Switching or adding additional CROs involves additional cost and requires management time and focus. In addition, there is a natural transition period when a new CRO commences work. As a result, delays occur, which can materially impact our ability to meet our desired clinical development timelines. Though we carefully manage our relationships with our CROs, there can be no assurance that we will not encounter similar challenges or delays in the future or that these delays or challenges will not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition, and prospects.

If we or any third-party manufacturer of our product candidates is unable to increase the scale of production of our product candidates, and/or increase the product yield of manufacturing, then our costs to manufacture the product may increase and commercialization may be delayed.

In order to produce sufficient quantities to meet the demand for clinical trials and, if approved, subsequent commercialization of our product candidates in our pipeline or that we may develop, our third-party manufacturers will be required to increase their production and optimize their manufacturing processes while maintaining the quality of the product. The transition to larger scale and more robust production could prove difficult or costly. Further, any claims in our manufacturing process as a result of scaling up or optimization of the manufacturing, supply and fill and finish process may result in the need to obtain regulatory approvals. If we or our third-party manufacturers are not able to optimize manufacturing process to increase the product yield for our product candidates or cGMP production requirement for clinical studies, or are unable to produce increased amounts of our product candidates while maintaining the quality of the product or generally unable to produce the right quality, then we may not be able to meet the demands of clinical trials or market demands, which could decrease our ability to generate profits. Difficulty in achieving commercial-scale-up production or production optimization or the need for additional regulatory approvals as a result could have a material adverse impact on our business and results of operations.

Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property Rights

If we are unable to obtain, maintain and enforce intellectual property protection for our products or product candidates, or if the scope of our intellectual property protection is not sufficiently broad, our ability to commercialize our product candidates successfully and to compete effectively may be materially adversely affected.

Our success depends on our ability to obtain and maintain patent and other intellectual property protection in the United States and other countries with respect to our current and future proprietary product candidates. We rely upon a combination of patents, trade secret protection and confidentiality agreements to protect the intellectual property related to our technology, manufacturing processes, products and product candidates. We and our collaborators have primarily sought to protect our proprietary positions by filing patent applications in the United States and abroad related to our proprietary technology, manufacturing processes, and product candidates that are important to our business. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may be able to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary.

The patent prosecution process is expensive and time consuming, and we may not be able to file and prosecute all necessary or desirable patent applications at a reasonable cost or in a timely manner or in all jurisdictions where protection may be commercially advantageous. It is also possible that we may fail to identify patentable aspects of our research and development output before it is too late to obtain patent protection. In addition, we or our collaborators, may only pursue, obtain or maintain patent protection in a limited number of countries. There is no assurance that all potentially relevant prior art relating to our patents and patent applications has been found. We may be unaware of prior art that could be used to invalidate or narrow the scope of an issued patent or prevent our pending patent applications from issuing as patents. Because patent applications in the United States, Europe and many other non-U.S. jurisdictions are typically not published until 18 months after filing, or in some cases not at all, and because publications of discoveries in scientific literature lag behind actual discoveries, we cannot be certain that we or our licensors were the first to make the inventions claimed in any of our owned or any in-licensed issued patents or pending patent applications, or that we or our licensors were the first to file for protection of the inventions set forth in our patents or patent applications. As a result, we may not be able to obtain or maintain protection for certain inventions. Even if patents do successfully issue, our owned or in-licensed patents may not adequately protect our intellectual property, provide exclusivity for our products or product candidates, prevent others from designing around our claims or otherwise provide us with a competitive advantage. We cannot offer any assurances about which, if any, patents will issue, the breadth of any such patents or whether any issued patents will be found invalid or unenforceable or will be threatened by third parties. In addition, third parties may challenge the validity, enforceability, ownership, inventorship or scope of any of our patents. Any successful challenge to any of our patents could deprive us of rights necessary for the successful commercialization of any product candidate that we may develop and could impair or eliminate our ability to collect future revenues and royalties with respect to such products or product candidates. If any of our patent applications with respect to our product candidates fail to issue as patents, if their breadth or strength of protection is narrowed or threatened, or if they fail to provide meaningful exclusivity or competitive position, it could dissuade companies from collaborating with us or otherwise adversely affect our competitive position.

The patent position of pharmaceutical companies is generally uncertain because it involves complex legal, scientific and factual considerations for which legal principles remain unsolved. The standards applied by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, or USPTO, and foreign patent offices in granting patents are not always applied uniformly or predictably, and can change. Additionally, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States, and many companies have encountered significant problems in protecting and defending such rights in foreign jurisdictions. The legal systems of certain countries, particularly certain developing countries, do not favor the enforcement of patents and other intellectual property rights, particularly those relating to biotechnology, which could make it difficult for us to stop the infringement, misappropriation, or other violation of our patents or other intellectual property, including the unauthorized reproduction of our manufacturing or other know-how or the marketing of competing products in violation of our intellectual property rights generally. Any of these outcomes could impair our ability to prevent competition from third parties, which may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Further, the existence of issued patents does not guarantee our right to practice the patented technology or commercialize the patented product candidate. Third parties may have or obtain rights to patents which they may use to prevent or attempt to prevent us from practicing our patented technology or commercializing any of our patented product candidates. If any of these other parties are successful in obtaining valid and enforceable patents, and establishing our infringement of those patents, we could be prevented from selling our products unless we were able to obtain a license under such third-party patents, which may not be available on commercially reasonable terms or at all. In addition, third parties may seek approval to market their own products similar to or otherwise competitive with our products. In these circumstances, we may need to defend or assert our patents, including by filing lawsuits alleging patent infringement. In any of these types of proceedings, a court or agency of competent jurisdiction may find our patents invalid or unenforceable. Our competitors and other third parties may also be able to circumvent our patents by developing similar or alternative product candidates in a non-infringing manner. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

In addition, competitors may use our technologies in jurisdictions where we have not obtained or are unable to adequately enforce patent protection to develop their own products and further, may export otherwise infringing products to territories where we have patent protection, but enforcement is not as strong as that in the United States and Europe. These products may compete with our products, and our patents or other intellectual property rights may not be effective or sufficient to prevent them from competing with us. Proceedings to enforce our patent rights, whether or not successful, could result in substantial costs and divert our efforts and attention from other aspects of our business, could put our patents at risk of being invalidated or held unenforceable, or interpreted narrowly and our patent applications at risk of not issuing, and could provoke third parties to assert claims against us. We may not prevail in any lawsuits that we initiate and the damages or other remedies awarded, if any, may not be commercially meaningful. Accordingly, our efforts to enforce our intellectual property rights around the world may be inadequate to obtain a significant commercial advantage from the intellectual property that we develop, acquire or license.

Our owned and in-licensed patents may be subject to a reservation of rights by one or more third parties. For example, the research resulting in certain of our patents and technology, including patents and technology relating to our yellow fever product candidate, was funded in part by the U.S. government. As a result, the U.S. government has certain rights to such patent rights and technology, which include march-in rights. When new technologies are developed with government funding, in order to secure ownership of such patent rights, the recipient of such funding is required to comply with certain government regulations, including timely disclosing the inventions claimed in such patent rights to the U.S. government and timely electing title to such inventions. Additionally, the U.S. government generally obtains certain rights in any resulting patents, including a nonexclusive license authorizing the government to use the invention or to have others use the invention on its behalf. Accordingly, we have granted the U.S. government a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice or have practiced for or on behalf of the United States, the inventions described in the patents and patent applications relating to our technology or one or more of our product candidates. If the U.S. government decides to exercise these rights, it is not required to engage us as its contractor in connection with doing so. The government's rights may also permit it to disclose our confidential information to third parties and to exercise march-in rights to use or allow third parties to use such government-funded technology. The government can exercise its march-in rights if it determines that action is necessary because we fail to achieve practical application of the government-funded technology, or because action is necessary to alleviate health or safety needs, to meet requirements of federal regulations, or to give preference to U.S. industry. In addition, our rights in such inventions may be subject to certain requirements to manufacture products embodying such inventions in the United States. If we fail to comply with those requirements, we could lose our ownership of, or other rights to, any patents subject to such regulations. Furthermore, in May 2021 and November 2021, the Biden administration expressed support for waiving intellectual property protections for COVID-19 vaccines amid concerns about vaccine access in foreign nations. Such waiver, if implemented, could extend to our product candidates, including CV2CoV. Any waiver of intellectual exercise by the government of any of the foregoing rights or by any third-party of its reserved rights could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position, business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

In Germany, the German federal government, and the Federal Ministry of Health and downstream authorities in the event of a national epidemic, have the right to order the use of our owned and in-licensed patents in the interest of the public welfare or the security of the Federal Republic. The German government may issue such an order with respect to our owned or in-licensed patents and we may lose exclusivity with respect to the technologies and product candidates covered by such patents. For example, if the German government determines that we are unable to develop our COVID-19 vaccine candidates on a timeline or at a scale that is necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, it may issue a use order for the patents covering our development of COVID-19 vaccines. We would be entitled to compensation in the event a use order is issued with respect to our owned or in-licensed patents; however, such compensation may be less than what we could otherwise receive and any such use order could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position, business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

In Russia, the United States and foreign government actions related to Russia's invasion of Ukraine may limit or prevent filing, prosecution and maintenance of patent applications in Russia. Government actions may also prevent maintenance of issued patents in Russia. These actions could result in abandonment or lapse of our patents or patent applications in Russia, resulting in partial or complete loss of patent rights in Russia. In addition, a decree was adopted by the Russian government in March 2022, allowing Russian companies and individuals to exploit, without consent or compensation, inventions owned by patentees that have citizenship or nationality in, are registered in, or have predominately primary place of business or profit-making activities in countries that Russia has deemed unfriendly. Consequently, we would not be able to prevent third parties from practicing our inventions in Russia or from selling or importing products made using our inventions in and into Russia. Accordingly, our competitive position may be impaired, and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may be materially adversely affected.

In addition, it is uncertain whether the World Trade Organization, or the WTO, will waive certain intellectual property protections now or in the future on certain technologies related to COVID-19. We cannot be certain that any of our current or future product candidates or technologies would not be subject to an intellectual property waiver by the WTO. We also cannot be certain that any of our current or future intellectual property rights, whether patents, trade secrets, or other confidential information would be eliminated, narrowed, or weakened by such a waiver. Given the uncertain future actions by the WTO and other countries and jurisdictions around the world, including the United States, it is unpredictable how our current or future intellectual property rights or how our current or future business would be impacted.

Additionally, the research resulting in certain of our patents and technology, including patents and technology relating to our CV8102 and RSV product candidates, was funded in part by the German Ministry of Education and Research, or the BMBF. Results of such government funded research projects must, subject to certain conditions, be made available free of charge for academic research and teaching in Germany and must be published in half-yearly interim reports and a final report following completion of the funded work. Information relating to intellectual property generated, commercial expectations, scientific chances of success and next steps and certain additional information must be disclosed to the German government and must be disclosed to third parties for academic research and teaching upon request under a written confidentiality agreement. The BMBF additionally has, in the case of a special public interest, a nonexclusive and transferable right to use intellectual property generated as part of the funded work. Contracts with third parties relating to the exploitation of the results of the funded work must be disclosed to the BMBF and any such contracts with parties outside of the European Union require the prior consent of the BMBF to the extent they deviate from an exploitation plan previously approved by the BMBF. Additionally, if we fail to use or commercialize the results of the funded work we may be required to grant third parties licenses to use such results. In certain scenarios, including if we come under the decisive influence of foreign investors, the funded results are exclusively or predominantly used outside Germany without the prior consent of the BMBF or if we are in breach of our obligations under the grant, the grant funding, including funding already received, can be revoked.

Furthermore, certain of our patents and technology, including patents and technology relating to our rotavirus, malaria, Lassa virus and SARS-CoV-2 product candidates, were funded in part by grants from nonprofit third parties, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CEPI. We are required to fulfill certain contractual obligations with respect to products created using such grant funding, including making certain products available at an affordable price in a list of clearly defined low and lower-middle income countries and ensuring that certain products are available in geographic regions where there has been an outbreak of an infectious disease at certain reduced economic rates. See “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations.”

Furthermore, patents have a limited lifespan. In the United States, the natural expiration of a patent is generally 20 years after its effective filing date. Various extensions may be available, however, the life of a patent and the protection it affords is limited. Given the amount of time required for the development, testing, regulatory review and approval of new product candidates, our patents protecting such candidates might expire before or shortly after such candidates are commercialized. If we encounter delays in obtaining regulatory approvals, the period of time during which we could market a product under patent protection could be further reduced. Even if patents covering our product candidates are obtained, once such patents expire, we may be vulnerable to competition from similar or biosimilar products. The launch of a similar or biosimilar version of one of our products would likely result in an immediate and substantial reduction in the demand for our product, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we fail to comply with our obligations under any license, collaboration or other intellectual property agreements, disagree over contract interpretation, or otherwise experience disruptions to our business relationships with our collaborators or licensors, we could lose intellectual property rights that are necessary to our business.

We rely, in part, on license, collaboration and other intellectual property agreements. These may not provide exclusive rights to use such intellectual property and technology in all relevant fields of use and in all territories in which we may wish to develop or commercialize our product candidates in the future.

In addition, our existing licenses and collaboration agreements, including our agreements with Genmab, Arcturus, Acuris, GSK, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CRISPR Therapeutics and CEPI, impose, and any future licenses, collaborations or other intellectual property agreements we enter into are likely to impose, various development, commercialization, funding, milestone, royalty, diligence, sublicensing, insurance, patent prosecution and enforcement or other obligations on us. Our licenses and collaboration agreements, including our agreement with Genmab, impose, and any future agreement we enter into may also impose, restrictions on our ability to license certain of our intellectual property to third parties or to develop or commercialize certain product candidates or technologies. In spite of our best efforts, our licensors, licensees and collaborators may conclude that we have breached our obligations under our agreements, or that we have used the intellectual property licensed to us in an unauthorized manner, in which case, we may be required to pay damages and the licensor, licensee or collaborator may have the right to terminate the agreement. Any of the foregoing could result in us being unable to develop, manufacture and sell products that are covered by the licensed technology, enable a competitor to gain access to the licensed technology or disrupt our right to milestone or royalty payments. We might not have the necessary rights or the financial resources to develop, manufacture or market our current or future product candidates without the rights granted under our licenses, and the loss of sales or potential sales in such product candidates could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Disputes may arise regarding intellectual property subject to licensing, collaboration or other intellectual property agreements, including:

- the scope of rights granted under the license agreement and other interpretation related issues;
- the extent to which our technology and processes infringe on intellectual property of the licensor that is not subject to the license agreement;
- the sublicensing of patent and other rights under our collaborative development relationships;
- our diligence obligations under the license agreement and what activities satisfy those diligence obligations;
- our financial obligations under the license agreement;
- the inventorship and ownership of inventions and know-how resulting from the joint creation or use of intellectual property by our licensors and us and our partners; and
- the priority of invention of patented technology.

In addition, the agreements under which we currently license intellectual property or technology to or from third parties are complex, and certain provisions in such agreements may be susceptible to multiple interpretations. The resolution of any contract interpretation disagreement that may arise could narrow what we believe to be the scope of our rights to the relevant intellectual property or technology, or increase what we believe to be our financial or other obligations under the relevant agreement, either of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Moreover, if disputes over intellectual property that we have licensed prevent or impair our ability to maintain our current licensing arrangements on commercially acceptable terms, we may be unable to successfully develop and commercialize the affected product candidates.

In some circumstances, we may not have the right to control the preparation, filing, prosecution, maintenance, enforcement, and defense of patents and patent applications covering the technology that we license from third parties. We cannot be certain that these patents and applications will be prepared, filed, prosecuted, maintained, enforced, and defended in a manner consistent with the best interests of our business. If our licensors fail to prosecute, maintain, enforce, and defend such intellectual property, or lose rights to such intellectual property, the rights we have licensed and our exclusivity may be reduced or eliminated and our right to develop and commercialize any of our products that are subject to such licensed rights could be adversely affected.

Moreover, our rights to our in-licensed patents and patent applications may depend, in part, on inter-institutional or other operating agreements between the joint owners of such in-licensed patents and patent applications. If one or more of such joint owners breaches such inter-institutional or operating agreements, our rights to such in-licensed patents and patent applications may be adversely affected. In addition, while we cannot currently determine the amount of the royalty obligations we would be required to pay on sales of future products, if any, the amounts may be significant. The amount of our future royalty obligations will depend on the technology and intellectual property we use in products that we successfully develop and commercialize, if any. Therefore, even if we successfully develop and commercialize products, we may be unable to achieve or maintain profitability. In addition, the development of certain of our product candidates is funded by grants that impose certain pricing limitations on such product candidates and limit our ability to commercialize such product candidates and to achieve or maintain profitability. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position, business, financial conditions, results of operations and prospects.

If we are unable to successfully obtain rights to required third-party intellectual property rights or maintain the existing intellectual property rights we have on reasonable terms or at all, we may have to abandon development of the relevant program or product candidate and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could suffer.

We may become involved in lawsuits to protect or enforce our patents, which could be expensive, time consuming and unsuccessful and could result in a court or administrative body finding our patents to be invalid or unenforceable.

Even if the patent applications we own or license are issued, third parties may infringe our patents. To counter infringement, we may be required to file infringement claims, which can be expensive and time consuming. If we initiate legal proceedings against a third-party to enforce a patent covering any of our product candidates, the defendant could counterclaim that the patent covering our product candidate is invalid or unenforceable. In patent litigation in the United States, defendant counterclaims alleging invalidity or unenforceability are commonplace. Grounds for a validity challenge could be an alleged failure to meet any of several statutory requirements, including novelty, nonobviousness (or inventive step), written description or enablement. In addition, patent validity challenges may, under certain circumstances, be based upon nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting, which, if successful, could result in a finding that the claims are invalid for obviousness-type double patenting or the loss of patent term if a terminal disclaimer is filed to obviate a finding of obviousness-type double patenting. Grounds for an unenforceability assertion could be an allegation that someone connected with prosecution of the patent withheld information material to patentability from the USPTO, or made a misleading statement, during prosecution. In an infringement proceeding, a court may decide that one or more of our patents is not valid, is unenforceable or is not infringed, or may refuse to stop the other party from using the technology at issue on the grounds that our patents do not cover the technology in question. Third parties also may raise similar claims before administrative bodies in the United States or abroad, even outside the context of litigation. Such mechanisms include reexamination, post-grant review, *inter partes* review, interference proceedings, derivation proceedings, and equivalent proceedings in foreign jurisdictions (e.g., opposition proceedings). Such proceedings could result in the revocation or cancellation of or amendment to our patents in such a way that they no longer cover our product candidates or provide any competitive advantage. For example, one of our manufacturing related U.S. patents was invalidated in an *inter partes* review proceeding and certain of our European patents relating to RNA-based adjuvants/immunostimulants, RNA-coded antibodies, mRNA vaccination of the elderly, and intratumoral (m)RNA treatment have been revoked in European opposition proceedings. Further European patents have been amended after opposition proceedings. For example, European patents related to mRNA vaccination of newborns and infants, combination of an mRNA vaccine and an anti-PD1 antibody, combination of mRNA-based vaccination and agonistic OX40 antibodies and method of RNA analysis have been amended. One further European patent has been maintained after opposition proceedings. Some of these decisions are currently on appeal and continuation or divisional applications of certain of the maintained, revoked and amended patents have been filed and are currently under examination, although there can be no assurance that any such appeal will be successful or that any such patent applications will issue as patents that provide us with any competitive advantage. Additionally, several of our European and Australian patents relating to sequence optimization of mRNA, prime-boost regimens, combination of mRNA-based vaccination and inhibition of the PD-1 pathway, intratumoral (m)RNA treatment, and production of mRNA cocktails are currently subject to opposition proceedings. The outcome following legal assertions of invalidity and unenforceability is unpredictable. If a third-party were to prevail on a legal assertion of invalidity or unenforceability, we could lose part or all of the patent protection on one or more of our product candidates, which could result in our competitors and other third parties using our technology to compete with us. Such a loss of patent protection could have a material adverse impact on our business.

Interference proceedings, or other similar enforcement and revocation proceedings, provoked by third parties or brought by us may be necessary to determine the priority of inventions with respect to our patents or patent applications. An unfavorable outcome could require us to cease using the related technology or to attempt to license rights to it from the prevailing party. Our business could be harmed if the prevailing party does not offer us a license on commercially reasonable terms. Our defense of litigation or interference proceedings may fail and, even if successful, may result in substantial costs and distract our management and other employees. We may not be able to prevent, alone or with our licensors, infringement, misappropriation or other violation of our intellectual property rights, particularly in countries where the laws may not protect those rights as fully as in the United States.

An adverse outcome in a litigation or proceeding involving our patents could limit our ability to assert our patents against competitors, affect our ability to receive royalties or other licensing consideration from our licensees, and may curtail or preclude our ability to exclude third parties from making, using and selling similar or competitive products. Any of these occurrences could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we are sued for infringing, misappropriating, or otherwise violating intellectual property rights of third parties, such litigation could be costly and time consuming and could prevent or delay us from developing or commercializing our product candidates.

Our commercial success depends, in part, on our ability to develop, manufacture, market and sell our product candidates without infringing, misappropriating, or otherwise violating the intellectual property and other proprietary rights of third parties.

There is a substantial amount of intellectual property litigation in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, and we may become party to, or threatened with, litigation or other adversarial proceedings regarding intellectual property rights of third parties with respect to our product candidates, including interference and post-grant proceedings before the USPTO. There may be third-party patents or patent applications with claims to materials, formulations, methods of manufacture or methods for treatment related to the composition, formulation, use or manufacture of our product candidates. Because patent applications can take many years to issue, there may be currently pending patent applications that we may or may not be aware of which may later result in issued patents that our product candidates may be accused of infringing. Additionally, pending patent applications that have been published can, subject to certain limitations, be later amended in a manner that could cover our product candidates or the use of our product candidates. After issuance, the scope of patent claims remains subject to construction based on interpretation of the law, the written disclosure in a patent and the patent's prosecution history. Our interpretation of the relevance or the scope of a patent or a pending application may be incorrect. In addition, third parties may obtain patents in the future and claim that use of our technologies infringes upon these patents. Accordingly, third parties may assert infringement claims against us based on intellectual property rights that exist now or arise in the future. The outcome of intellectual property litigation is subject to uncertainties that cannot be adequately quantified in advance. The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries have produced a significant number of patents, and it may not always be clear to industry participants, including us, which patents cover various types of products or methods of use or manufacture. The scope of protection afforded by a patent is subject to interpretation by the courts, and the interpretation is not always uniform. If we are sued for patent infringement, we would need to demonstrate that our product candidates, products or methods either do not infringe the patent claims of the relevant patent or that the patent claims at issue are invalid or unenforceable, and we may not be able to do this. Proving invalidity is difficult. For example, in the United States, proving invalidity requires a showing of clear and convincing evidence to overcome the presumption of validity enjoyed by issued patents. Even if we are successful in these proceedings, we may incur substantial costs and the time and attention of our management and scientific personnel could be diverted in pursuing these proceedings, which could significantly harm our business and operating results. In addition, we may not have sufficient resources to bring these actions to a successful conclusion. Some claimants may have substantially greater resources than we do and may be able to sustain the costs of complex intellectual property litigation to a greater degree and for longer periods of time than we could. In addition, patent holding companies that focus solely on extracting royalties and settlements by enforcing patent rights may target us, especially as we gain greater visibility and market exposure as a public company.

Third parties have, and may in the future have, U.S. and non-U.S. issued patents and pending patent applications relating to compounds, methods of manufacturing compounds or methods of use for the treatment of the disease indications for which we are developing our product candidates that may cover our product candidates. For example, we are aware of certain third-party U.S. and non-U.S. issued patents and patent applications, including those of our competitors, that relate to mRNA production, mRNA optimization, chemical modification of mRNA, LNP technology, RNA-based tumor vaccination, LNP-based mRNA delivery to the eye, lung or liver, mRNA encoding gene-editing enzymes, RNA-encoded antibodies or antigens in LNPs and LNP-formulated RNA that may be construed to cover the LNP-formulated RNA technology used in our vaccines and protein and antibody therapies. We are also aware of certain third-party U.S. and non-U.S. patents and patent applications, including those of our competitors, that relate to coronavirus vaccines, influenza virus vaccines, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines and treatments and vaccines against other infectious diseases and we expect such third parties to have filed additional patent applications, which have not yet been published and to file additional patent applications in the future.

In the event that any of these patent rights were asserted against us, we believe that we have defenses against any such action, including that such patents would not be infringed by our product candidates and/or that such patents are not valid. However, if any such patent rights were to be asserted against us and our defenses to such assertion were unsuccessful, unless we obtain a license to such patents, we could be liable for damages, which could be significant and include treble damages and attorneys' fees if we are found to willfully infringe such patents, and we could be precluded from commercializing any product candidates that were ultimately held to infringe such patents, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we are required to obtain a license from any third-party in order to use the infringing technology and continue developing, manufacturing or marketing the infringing product candidate, we may not be able to obtain such required license on commercially reasonable terms or at all. In particular, any of our competitors that control intellectual property that we are found to infringe may be unwilling to provide us a license under any terms. Even if we were able to obtain a license, it could be nonexclusive, thereby giving our competitors access to the same technologies licensed to us; alternatively or additionally it could include terms that impede or destroy our ability to compete successfully in the commercial marketplace. In addition, we could be found liable for monetary damages, including treble damages and attorneys' fees if we are found to have willfully infringed a patent. Further, if a patent infringement suit is brought against us or our third-party service providers and if we are unable to successfully obtain rights to required third-party intellectual property, we may be required to expend significant time and resources to redesign our product candidates, or to develop or license replacement technology, all of which may not be feasible on a technical or commercial basis, and may delay or require us to abandon our development, manufacturing or sales activities relating to our product candidates. A finding of infringement could prevent us from commercializing our product candidates or force us to cease some of our business operations, which could harm our business. Claims that we have misappropriated the confidential information or trade secrets of third parties could have a similar negative impact on our business. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Intellectual property litigation and other proceedings could cause us to spend substantial resources and distract our personnel from their normal responsibilities.

Even if resolved in our favor, intellectual property litigation or other legal proceedings relating to our, our licensor's or other third parties' intellectual property claims may cause us to incur significant expenses and could distract our personnel from their normal responsibilities. Patent litigation and other proceedings may also absorb significant management time. If not resolved in our favor, litigation may require us to pay any portion of our opponents' legal fees. Such litigation or proceedings could substantially increase our operating losses and reduce the resources available for development activities or any future sales, marketing, or distribution activities. We may not have sufficient financial or other resources to conduct such litigation or proceedings adequately. Our competitors or other third parties may be able to sustain the cost of such litigation and proceedings more effectively than we can because of their substantially greater resources. Uncertainties resulting from our participation in patent litigation or other proceedings could have a material adverse effect on our ability to compete in the marketplace. Furthermore, because of the substantial amount of discovery required in certain jurisdictions in connection with intellectual property litigation, there is a risk that some of our confidential information could be compromised by disclosure during this type of litigation. There could also be public announcements of the results of hearings, motions or other interim proceedings or developments. If securities analysts or investors perceive these results to be negative, the perceived value of our product candidates or intellectual property could be diminished. Accordingly, the market price of our common shares may decline. Uncertainties resulting from the initiation and continuation of patent litigation or other proceedings could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Changes to the patent law in the United States and other jurisdictions could increase the uncertainties and costs surrounding the prosecution of our patent applications and the enforcement or defense of our issued patents, thereby impairing our ability to protect our technologies and product candidates.

As is the case with other biopharmaceutical companies, our success is heavily dependent on intellectual property, particularly patents. Obtaining and enforcing patents in the biopharmaceutical industry involves both technological and legal complexity and is therefore costly, time consuming and inherently uncertain. Changes in either the patent laws or interpretation of the patent laws in the United States could increase the uncertainties and costs surrounding the prosecution of patent applications and the enforcement or defense of issued patents. For example, the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, or the America Invents Act, was signed into law on September 16, 2011, and many of the substantive changes became effective on March 16, 2013. The America Invents Act and its implementation could increase the uncertainties and costs surrounding the prosecution of our patent applications and the enforcement or defense of our issued patents, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Specifically, the America Invents Act reforms United States patent law in part by changing the U.S. patent system from a “first to invent” system to a “first inventor to file” system. Under a “first inventor to file” system, assuming the other requirements for patentability are met, the first inventor to file a patent application generally will be entitled to the patent on an invention regardless of whether another inventor was the first to invent the invention. This will require us to be cognizant going forward of the time from invention to filing of a patent application and be diligent in filing patent applications. Circumstances may arise that could prevent us from promptly filing patent applications on our inventions and allow third parties to file patents claiming our inventions before we are able to do so. The America Invents Act also includes a number of significant changes that affect the way patent applications will be prosecuted and may also affect patent litigation. These include allowing third-party submission of prior art to the USPTO during patent prosecution and additional procedures to attack the validity of a patent by the USPTO administered post grant proceedings, including reexamination proceedings, *inter partes* review, post grant review and derivation proceedings. These adversarial proceedings at the USPTO review patent claims without the presumption of validity afforded to U.S. patents in lawsuits in U.S. federal courts, and use a lower burden of proof than used in litigation in U.S. federal courts. Therefore, it is generally considered easier for a competitor or third-party to have a U.S. patent invalidated in a USPTO post-grant review or *inter partes* review proceeding than in a litigation in a U.S. federal court. One of our manufacturing related patents has been invalidated in an *inter partes* proceeding and if any of our other patents are challenged by a third-party in a USPTO proceeding, there is no guarantee that we or our licensors or collaborators will be successful in defending the patent, which would result in a loss or narrowing of the challenged patent right to us.

In addition, the patent positions of companies in the development and commercialization of biologics and pharmaceuticals are particularly uncertain. Recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings have narrowed the scope of patent protection available in certain circumstances and weakened the rights of patent owners in certain situations. This combination of events has created uncertainty with respect to the validity and enforceability of patents, once obtained. Depending on future actions by the U.S. Congress, the federal courts, and the USPTO, the laws and regulations governing patents could change in unpredictable ways. In addition, the complexity and uncertainty of European patent laws have also increased in recent years. Complying with these laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on our existing patent portfolio and our ability to protect and enforce our intellectual property in the future.

We may be subject to claims by third parties asserting that our employees, consultants, independent contractors or we have misappropriated their intellectual property, or claiming ownership of what we regard as our own intellectual property and proprietary technology.

Many of our current and former employees, consultants, and independent contractors including our senior management, were previously employed at universities or at other biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies, including some which may be competitors or potential competitors. Although we try to ensure that our employees, consultants and independent contractors do not use the proprietary information or know-how of others in their work for us, we may be subject to claims that we or these employees, consultants or independent contractors have used or disclosed intellectual property, including trade secrets or other proprietary information, of such individual’s current or former employers, or that patents and applications we have filed to protect inventions of these individuals, even those related to one or more of our product candidates, are rightfully owned by their former or concurrent employer. Litigation may be necessary to defend against such claims. If we fail in defending any such claims, in addition to paying monetary damages, we may lose valuable intellectual property rights or personnel or sustain damages. Such intellectual property rights could be awarded to a third-party, and we could be required to obtain a license from such third-party to commercialize our technology or products. Such a license may not be available on an exclusive basis or on commercially reasonable terms, or at all. Even if we are successful in defending against such claims, litigation could result in substantial costs and be a distraction to management.

In addition, while we typically require our employees, consultants and independent contractors who may be involved in the development of intellectual property to execute agreements assigning such intellectual property to us, we may be unsuccessful in executing such an agreement with each party who in fact develops intellectual property that we regard as our own, or such agreements may be breached or alleged to be ineffective, and the assignment may not be self-executing, which may result in claims by or against us related to the ownership of such intellectual property or may result in such intellectual property becoming assigned to third parties. If we fail in enforcing or defending any such claims, in addition to paying monetary damages, we may lose valuable intellectual property rights. Even if we are successful in prosecuting or defending against such claims, litigation could result in substantial costs and be a distraction to our senior management and scientific personnel. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Obtaining and maintaining our patent protection, including patents licensed from third parties, depends on compliance with various procedural, documentary, fee payment and other requirements imposed by governmental patent agencies, and our patent protection could be reduced or eliminated for noncompliance with these requirements.

Periodic maintenance fees, renewal fees, annuity fees and various other governmental fees on patents and patent applications will be due to be paid to the USPTO and various government patent agencies outside the United States over the lifetime of our patents and patent applications and any patent rights we may own or license in the future. Additionally, the USPTO and various government patent agencies outside the United States require compliance with a number of procedural, documentary, fee payment and other similar provisions during the patent application process. In certain cases, an inadvertent lapse can be cured by payment of a late fee or by other means in accordance with rules applicable to the particular jurisdiction. However, there are situations in which noncompliance can result in abandonment or lapse of the patent or patent application, resulting in partial or complete loss of patent rights in the relevant jurisdiction. If we or our licensors fail to maintain the patents and patent applications covering or otherwise protecting our product candidates, it could have a material adverse effect on our business. In addition, to the extent that we have responsibility for taking any action related to the prosecution or maintenance of patents or patent applications in-licensed from a third-party, any failure on our part to maintain the in-licensed intellectual property could jeopardize our rights under the relevant license and may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we do not obtain patent term extensions and data exclusivity for each of our product candidates, our business may be materially harmed.

Depending upon the timing, duration and specifics of any FDA marketing approval of any product candidates we may develop, one or more of our U.S. patents may be eligible for limited patent term extension under the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Action of 1984, or Hatch-Waxman Amendments. The Hatch-Waxman Amendments permit a patent extension term of up to five years as compensation for patent term lost during the FDA regulatory review process. A patent term extension cannot extend the remaining term of a patent beyond a total of 14 years from the date of product approval, only one patent may be extended and only those claims covering the approved drug, a method for using it, or a method for manufacturing it may be extended. In the European Union, a maximum of five and a half years of supplementary protection can be achieved for an active ingredient or combinations of active ingredients of a medicinal product protected by a basic patent, if a valid marketing authorization exists (which must be the first authorization to place the product on the market as a medicinal product) and if the product has not already been the subject of supplementary protection. However, we may not receive an extension because of, for example, failing to exercise due diligence during the testing phase or regulatory review process, failing to apply within applicable deadlines, failing to apply prior to expiration of relevant patents, or otherwise failing to satisfy applicable requirements. Moreover, the length of the extension could be less than we request. If we are unable to obtain patent term extension or if the term of any such extension is less than we request, our competitors may obtain approval of competing products following our patent expiration, and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could be materially harmed.

Certain employees and patents are subject to German law.

A significant number of our personnel work in Germany and are subject to German employment law. Inventions which may be the subject of a patent or of protection as a utility model as well as technical improvement proposals for other technical innovations that may not be the subject of a patent or of protection as a utility model made by such employees are subject to the provisions of the German Act on Employees' Inventions (*Gesetz über Arbeitnehmererfindungen*), which regulates the ownership of, and compensation for, inventions made by employees. We face the risk that disputes may occur between us and our current or former employees pertaining to the sufficiency of compensation paid by us, allocation of rights to inventions under this act, or alleged non-adherence to the provisions of this act, any of which may be costly to resolve and take up our management's time and efforts whether we prevail or fail in such dispute. In addition, under the German Act on Employees' Inventions, certain employees retain rights to patents they invented or co-invented and disclosed to us prior to October 1, 2009 if the employee inventions were not actively claimed by us after notification by the employee inventors. While we believe that all of our current and past German employee inventors have assigned to us their interest in inventions and patents they invented or co-invented, there can be no assurance that all such assignments are fully effective. Therefore, there can be no assurance that present or former employees do not hold rights to intellectual property used by us or that such employees will not demand the registration of intellectual property rights in their name or demand damages pursuant to the German Act on Employees' Inventions or other applicable laws. Even if we lawfully own all inventions of our employee inventors who are subject to the German Act on Employees' Inventions, we are required under German law to reasonably compensate such employees for the use of the inventions. If we are required to pay increased compensation or face other disputes under the German Act on Employees' Inventions, our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could be adversely affected.

The German Act on Employees' Inventions does not generally apply to managing directors, supervisory directors, freelancers or agents who are not employees under German labor law. Unless the German Act on Employees' Inventions has been referred to in the respective services agreements, inventions and intellectual property rights created by such inventors must be assigned to us by contract. While we believe that all of our managing directors, supervisory directors, freelancers or agents which are not employees have assigned to us their interest in inventions and patents required for our course of business, there can be no assurance that all such assignments are fully effective. If any of our current or past employees, managing directors, supervisory directors, freelancers or agents obtain or retain ownership of any inventions or related intellectual property rights that we believe we own, we may lose valuable intellectual property rights and be required to obtain and maintain licenses from such persons to such inventions or intellectual property rights, which may not be available on commercially reasonable terms or at all, or may be nonexclusive. If we are unable to obtain and maintain a license to any such person's interest in such inventions or intellectual property rights, we may need to cease the development, manufacture, and commercialization of one or more of our product candidates or the product candidates we may develop. In addition, any loss of exclusivity of our intellectual property rights could limit our ability to stop others from using or commercializing similar or identical technologies and products. Any of the foregoing events could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we are unable to protect the confidentiality of our proprietary information, the value of our technology and products could be materially adversely affected.

In addition to patent protection, we also rely on trade secrets and confidentiality agreements to protect other proprietary information that is not patentable or that we elect not to patent. To maintain the confidentiality of trade secrets and proprietary information, we enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants, independent contractors, collaborators, CMOs, CROs and others upon the commencement of their relationships with us. These agreements require that all confidential information developed by the individual or entity or made known to the individual or entity by us during the course of the individual's or entity's relationship with us be kept confidential and not disclosed to third parties. Our agreements with employees as well as our personnel policies also generally provide that any inventions conceived by the individual in the course of rendering services to us shall be our exclusive property (to the extent not covered by the German Act on Employees' Inventions) or that we may obtain full rights to such inventions at our election. However, we cannot guarantee that we have entered into such agreements with each party that may have or has had access to our trade secrets or proprietary technology and processes and cannot guarantee that individuals with whom we have these agreements will comply with their terms. We also face the risk that present or former employees could continue to hold rights to intellectual property used by us, may demand the registration of intellectual property rights in their name and demand damages pursuant to the Patent Act. In addition, present or former employees may demand damages due to violation of obligations under the German Act on Employees' Invention. In the event of unauthorized use or disclosure of our trade secrets or proprietary information, these agreements, even if obtained, may not provide meaningful protection, particularly for our trade secrets.

We may not have adequate remedies in the event of unauthorized use or disclosure of our proprietary information in the case of a breach of any such agreements and our trade secrets and other proprietary information could be disclosed to third parties, including our competitors. Many of our partners also collaborate with our competitors and other third parties. The disclosure of our trade secrets to our competitors, or more broadly, would impair our competitive position and may materially harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Costly and time consuming litigation could be necessary to enforce and determine the scope of our proprietary rights, and failure to maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive business position. The enforceability of confidentiality agreements may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Courts outside the United States are sometimes less willing to protect proprietary information, technology and know-how. In addition, others may independently discover or develop substantially equivalent or superior proprietary information and techniques, and the existence of our own trade secrets affords no protection against such independent discovery.

We may not be successful in obtaining necessary intellectual property rights to product candidates for our development pipeline through acquisitions and in-licenses.

Although we intend to develop product candidates through our own internal research, we may need to obtain additional licenses from others to advance our research or allow commercialization of our product candidates and it is possible that we may be unable to obtain additional licenses at a reasonable cost or on reasonable terms, if at all. However, we may be unable to acquire or in-license intellectual property rights relating to, or necessary for, any product candidates from third parties on an exclusive basis or commercially reasonable terms or at all. In that event, we may be unable to develop or commercialize such product candidates. We may also be unable to identify product candidates that we believe are an appropriate strategic fit for our company and intellectual property relating to, or necessary for, such product candidates.

The in-licensing and acquisition of third-party intellectual property is a competitive area, and a number of more established companies are also pursuing strategies to in-license or acquire third-party intellectual property rights that we may consider attractive or necessary. These established companies may have a competitive advantage over us due to their size, cash resources and greater clinical development and commercialization capabilities. Furthermore, companies that perceive us to be a competitor may be unwilling to assign or license rights to us. In addition, we expect that competition for the in-licensing or acquisition of third-party intellectual property rights for product candidates that are attractive to us may increase in the future, which may mean fewer suitable opportunities for us as well as higher acquisition or licensing costs. We may be unable to in-license or acquire the third-party intellectual property rights for product candidates on terms that would allow us to make an appropriate return on our investment. If we are unable to successfully obtain rights to suitable product candidates, our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects for growth could suffer.

We may not be able to protect our intellectual property and proprietary rights throughout the world.

Filing, prosecuting, and defending patents on product candidates in all countries throughout the world would be prohibitively expensive, and the laws of foreign countries may not protect our rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States. Consequently, we may not be able to prevent third parties from practicing our inventions in all countries outside the United States, or from selling or importing products made using our inventions in and into the United States or other jurisdictions. Third parties may use our technologies in jurisdictions where we have not obtained or are unable to adequately enforce patent protection to develop their own products and, further, may export otherwise infringing products to territories where we have patent protection but enforcement is not as strong as that in the United States. These products may compete with our products, and our patents or other intellectual property rights may not be effective or sufficient to prevent them from competing.

Many companies have encountered significant problems in protecting and defending intellectual property rights in foreign jurisdictions. The legal systems of certain countries, particularly certain developing countries, do not favor the enforcement of patents, trade secrets, and other intellectual property protection, particularly those relating to biotechnology products, which could make it difficult for us to stop the infringement of our patents or marketing of competing products in violation of our intellectual property and proprietary rights generally. Proceedings to enforce our intellectual property and proprietary rights in foreign jurisdictions could result in substantial costs and divert our efforts and attention from other aspects of our business, could put our patents at risk of being invalidated or interpreted narrowly, could put our patent applications at risk of not issuing, and could provoke third parties to assert claims against us. We may not prevail in any lawsuits that we initiate, and the damages or other remedies awarded, if any, may not be commercially meaningful. Accordingly, our efforts to enforce our intellectual property and proprietary rights around the world may be inadequate to obtain a significant commercial advantage from the intellectual property that we develop or license.

Many countries have compulsory licensing laws under which a patent owner may be compelled to grant licenses to third parties. In addition, many countries limit the enforceability of patents against government agencies or government contractors. In these countries, the patent owner may have limited remedies, which could materially diminish the value of such patent. If we or any of our licensors is forced to grant a license to third parties with respect to any patents relevant to our business, our competitive position may be impaired, and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may be adversely affected.

If our trademarks and trade names are not adequately protected, we may not be able to build name recognition in our markets of interest and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may be adversely affected.

Our trademarks or trade names may be challenged, infringed, circumvented or declared generic or determined to be infringing on other marks. We may not be able to protect our rights to these trademarks and trade names or may be forced to stop using these names or marks which we need for name recognition by potential partners or customers in our markets of interest. During trademark registration proceedings, we may receive rejections. Although we would be given an opportunity to respond to those rejections, we may be unable to overcome such rejections. In addition, in the USPTO and in comparable agencies in many foreign jurisdictions, third parties are given an opportunity to oppose pending trademark applications and to seek to cancel registered trademarks. Opposition or cancellation proceedings may be filed against our trademarks, and our trademarks may not survive such proceedings. If we are unable to establish name recognition based on our trademarks and trade names, we may not be able to compete effectively and our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may be adversely affected.

Intellectual property rights do not necessarily address all potential threats.

The degree of future protection afforded by our proprietary and intellectual property rights is uncertain because such rights offer only limited protection and may not adequately protect our rights or permit us to gain or keep our competitive advantage. For example:

- others may be able to develop products that are similar to, or better than, our product candidates in a way that is not covered by the claims of the patents we license or may own currently or in the future;
- we, or our licensing partners or current or future collaborators, might not have been the first to make the inventions covered by issued patents or pending patent applications that we license or may own currently or in the future;
- we, or our licensing partners or current or future collaborators, might not have been the first to file patent applications for certain of our or their inventions;
- our pending owned or in-licensed patent applications may not lead to issued patents;
- we may choose not to file a patent for certain trade secrets or know-how, and a third-party may subsequently file a patent covering such intellectual property;
- our competitors or other third parties might conduct research and development activities in countries where we do not have patent rights and then use the information learned from such activities to develop competitive products for sale in our major commercial markets;
- it is possible that there are prior public disclosures that could invalidate our or our licensors' patents;
- the patents of third parties or pending or future applications of third parties, if issued, may have an adverse effect on our business;
- any patents that we obtain may not provide us with any competitive advantages or may ultimately be found not to be owned by us, invalid or unenforceable; or
- we may not develop additional proprietary technologies that are patentable.

Should any of these events occur, they could significantly harm our business, financial conditions, results of operations and prospects.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Our current and future relationships with third-party payors, healthcare professionals and customers in the United States and elsewhere may be subject, directly or indirectly, to applicable anti-kickback, fraud and abuse, false claims, physician payment transparency and other healthcare laws and regulations, which could expose us to significant penalties.

Healthcare providers, physicians and third-party payors in the United States and elsewhere will play a primary role in the recommendation and prescription of any product candidates for which we obtain marketing approval. Our current and future arrangements with healthcare professionals, third-party payors and customers may expose us to broadly applicable fraud and abuse and other healthcare laws and regulations, including, without limitation, the federal Anti-Kickback Statute and the federal civil False Claims Act, that may constrain the business or financial arrangements and relationships through which we conduct clinical research, sell, market and distribute any products for which we obtain marketing approval. In addition, we may be subject to physician payment transparency laws and patient privacy regulation by the federal government and by the U.S. states and foreign jurisdictions in which we conduct our business. The applicable federal, state and foreign healthcare laws and regulations that may affect our ability to operate include the following:

- the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, which prohibits, among other things, persons and entities from knowingly and willfully soliciting, offering, receiving or providing remuneration, directly or indirectly, in cash or in kind, to induce or reward, or in return for, either the referral of an individual for, or the purchase, order or recommendation of, any good or service, for which payment may be made under federal and state healthcare programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid. A person or entity does not need to have actual knowledge of the statute or specific intent to violate it to have committed a violation. Further, several courts have interpreted the statute's intent requirement to mean that if any one purpose of an arrangement involving remuneration is to induce referrals of federal healthcare covered business, the Anti-Kickback Statute has been violated;
- federal civil and criminal false claims laws, including, without limitation, the federal civil False Claims Act (that can be enforced through civil whistleblower or qui tam actions), and the civil monetary penalties law, which impose criminal and civil penalties against individuals or entities for knowingly presenting, or causing to be presented, to the federal government, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs, claims for payment that are false or fraudulent or making a false statement to avoid, decrease or conceal an obligation to pay money to the federal government. Moreover, the government may assert that a claim including items or services resulting from a violation of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute constitutes a false or fraudulent claim for purposes of the False Claims Act;
- the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, which imposes criminal and civil liability for, among other things, executing a scheme to defraud any healthcare benefit program or making false statements relating to healthcare matters. Similar to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, a person or entity does not need to have actual knowledge of the statute or specific intent to violate it to have committed a violation;
- the U.S. Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, which prohibits, among other things, the adulteration or misbranding of drugs, biologics and medical devices;
- the U.S. Public Health Service Act, or PHSA, which prohibits, among other things, the introduction into interstate commerce of a biological product unless a biologics license is in effect for that product;
- the Physician Payments Sunshine Act, created under Section 6002 of the Affordable Care Act, and its implementing regulations, which requires specified manufacturers of drugs, devices, biologics and medical supplies for which payment is available under Medicare, Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program, with specific exceptions, to report annually to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS, information related to payments or other "transfers of value" made to physicians, which is defined to include doctors, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists and chiropractors, certain other healthcare providers beginning in 2022, and teaching hospitals and applicable manufacturers to report annually to CMS ownership and investment interests held by physicians and their immediate family members by the 90th day of each calendar year. All such reported information is publicly available; and

- analogous state and foreign laws and regulations, such as state anti-kickback and false claims laws, which may apply to sales or marketing arrangements and claims involving healthcare items or services reimbursed by non-governmental third-party payors, including private insurers; state and foreign laws that require pharmaceutical companies to comply with the pharmaceutical industry's voluntary compliance guidelines and the relevant compliance guidance promulgated by the federal government or otherwise restrict payments that may be made to healthcare providers; and state and foreign laws that require drug manufacturers to report information related to payments and other transfers of value to physicians and other healthcare providers or marketing expenditures.

Efforts to ensure that our business arrangements with third parties will comply with applicable healthcare laws and regulations may involve substantial costs. It is possible that governmental authorities will conclude that our business practices, including our relationships with physicians and other healthcare providers, some of whom may recommend, purchase or prescribe our product candidate, if approved, may not comply with current or future statutes, regulations or case law involving applicable fraud and abuse or other healthcare laws and regulations.

If our operations are found to be in violation of any of these laws or any other governmental regulations that may apply to us, we may be subject to significant civil, criminal and administrative penalties, including, without limitation, damages, fines, disgorgement, individual imprisonment, exclusion from participation in government healthcare programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid, additional reporting requirements and oversight if we become subject to a corporate integrity agreement or similar agreement to resolve allegations of noncompliance with these laws and the curtailment or restructuring of our operations, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. If any of the physicians or other healthcare providers or entities with whom we expect to do business is found not to be in compliance with applicable laws, they may be subject to criminal, civil or administrative sanctions, including exclusions from participation in government healthcare programs, which could also materially affect our business.

Even if we, or any future collaborators, are able to commercialize any product candidate that we, or they, develop, the successful commercialization of our product candidates will depend in part on the extent to which governmental authorities, private health insurers and other third-party payors provide coverage and adequate reimbursement levels and implement pricing policies favorable for our product candidates. Failure to obtain or maintain coverage and adequate reimbursement for our product candidates, if approved, could limit our ability to market those products and decrease our ability to generate revenue.

The healthcare industry is acutely focused on cost containment, both in the United States and elsewhere. Government authorities and third-party payors have attempted to control costs by limiting coverage and the amount of reimbursement. The insurance coverage and reimbursement status of newly approved products for orphan diseases is particularly uncertain and failure to obtain or maintain adequate coverage and reimbursement for our product candidates could limit our ability to generate revenue. Third-party payors may not view our product candidates, if approved, as cost-effective, and coverage and reimbursement may not be available to our customers or may not be sufficient to allow our products, if any, to be marketed on a competitive basis. If coverage and reimbursement are not available, or reimbursement is available only to limited levels, we, or any future collaborators, may not be able to successfully commercialize our product candidates. Even if coverage is provided, the approved reimbursement amount may not be high enough to allow us, or any future collaborators, to establish or maintain pricing sufficient to realize a sufficient return on our or their investments. Cost-control initiatives could also cause us to decrease any price we might establish for our product candidates, which could result in lower than anticipated product revenues. Moreover, eligibility for reimbursement does not imply that any product will be paid for in all cases or at a rate that covers our costs, including our costs related to research, development, manufacture, sale and distribution. Reimbursement rates may vary, by way of example, according to the use of the product and the clinical setting in which it is used. For products administered under the supervision of a physician, obtaining coverage and adequate reimbursement may be particularly difficult because of the higher prices often associated with such drugs. If the prices for our product candidates, if approved, decrease or if governmental and other third-party payors do not provide adequate coverage or reimbursement, our business, prospects, operating results and financial condition will suffer, perhaps materially.

There is significant uncertainty related to the insurance coverage and reimbursement of newly approved products, including genetic treatments. In the United States, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS, the federal agency responsible for administering the Medicare program, make the principal decisions about coverage and reimbursement for new treatments under Medicare. Private payors tend to follow CMS to a substantial degree. It is difficult to predict what CMS will decide with respect to reimbursement for novel products such as ours. In addition, certain Affordable Care Act marketplace and other private payor plans are required to include coverage for certain preventative services, including vaccinations recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control's, or CDC's, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or ACIP, without cost share obligations (i.e., co-payments, deductibles or co-insurance) for plan members. For Medicare beneficiaries, vaccines may be covered for reimbursement under either the Part B program or Part D depending on several criteria, including the type of vaccine and the beneficiary's coverage eligibility. If our vaccine candidates, once approved, are reimbursed only under the Part D program, physicians may be less willing to use our products because of the claims adjudication costs and time related to the claims adjudication process and collection of co-payment associated with the Part D program.

Outside the United States, certain countries, including a number of Member States of the European Union, set prices and reimbursement for pharmaceutical products, with limited participation from the marketing authorization holders. We cannot be sure that such prices and reimbursement will be acceptable to us or our collaborators. If the regulatory authorities in these jurisdictions set prices or reimbursement levels that are not commercially attractive for us or our collaborators, our revenues from sales by us or our collaborators, and the potential profitability of our product candidates, in those countries would be negatively affected. Additionally, some countries require approval of the sale price of a product before it can be marketed. In many countries, the pricing review period begins after marketing or product licensing approval is granted. As a result, we might obtain marketing approval for a product in a particular country, but then may experience delays in the reimbursement approval of our product or be subject to price regulations that would delay our commercial launch of the product, possibly for lengthy time periods, which could negatively impact the revenues we are able to generate from the sale of the product in that particular country.

Moreover, an increasing number of countries are taking initiatives to attempt to reduce large budget deficits by focusing cost-cutting efforts on pharmaceuticals for their state-run healthcare systems. These international price control efforts have impacted all regions of the world, but have been most drastic in the European Union. In some countries, in particular, in many Member States of the European Union, we may be required to conduct a clinical trial or other studies that compare the cost-effectiveness of our product candidates to other available therapies in order to obtain or maintain reimbursement or pricing approval. In addition, publication of discounts by third-party payors or authorities may lead to further pressure on the prices or reimbursement levels within the country of publication and other countries.

If reimbursement of our products is unavailable or limited in scope or amount, or if pricing is set at unsatisfactory levels, our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially adversely affected. Cost-control initiatives could cause us, or any future collaborators, to decrease the price we, or they, might establish for products, which could result in lower than anticipated product revenues. An inability to promptly obtain coverage and adequate payment rates from both government-funded and private payors for any of our product candidates for which we, or any future collaborator, obtain marketing approval could significantly harm our operating results, our ability to raise capital needed to commercialize products and our overall financial condition.

Price controls may be imposed in certain markets, which may adversely affect our future profitability.

In some countries, particularly Member States of the European Union, the pricing of prescription drugs is subject to governmental control or control by associations of health insurers. In these countries, pricing negotiations with governmental authorities can take considerable time after receipt of marketing approval for a product. In addition, there can be considerable pressure by governments and other stakeholders on prices and reimbursement levels, including as part of cost containment measures. Political, economic and regulatory developments may further complicate pricing negotiations, and pricing negotiations may continue after reimbursement has been obtained. Reference pricing used by various countries and parallel distribution, or arbitrage between low-priced and high-priced countries, can further reduce prices. In some countries, in particular, in many Member States of the European Union, we may be required to conduct a clinical trial or other studies that compare the cost-effectiveness of our product candidates to other available therapies in order to obtain or maintain reimbursement or pricing approval. Publication of discounts by third-party payors or authorities may lead to further pressure on the prices or reimbursement levels within the country of publication and other countries. If reimbursement of our products is unavailable or limited in scope or amount, or if pricing is set at unsatisfactory levels, our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects could be materially adversely affected.

Exchange rate fluctuations or abandonment of the euro currency may materially affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Potential future expense and revenue may be incurred or derived from outside the European Union, particularly the United States. As a result, our business and share price may be affected by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates between the euro and other currencies, particularly the U.S. dollar, which may also have a significant impact on our reported results of operations and cash flows from period to period. In addition, the abandonment of the euro by one or more members of the European Union could lead to the re-introduction of individual currencies in one or more European Union Member States, or in more extreme circumstances, the dissolution of the European Union. The effects on our business of the abandonment of the euro as a currency, the exit of one or more European Union Member States from the European Union (such as Brexit) or a potential dissolution of the European Union, are impossible to predict with certainty, and any such events could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

More generally, shifts in geopolitical balance, political crisis or wars, may affect foreign exchange rates between the euro and other currencies which may also have a significant impact on our reported results of operations and cash flows from period to period.

We could be subject to strict restrictions on the movement of cash and the exchange of foreign currencies.

In some countries, we could be subject to strict restrictions on the movement of cash and the exchange of foreign currencies, which would limit our ability to use this cash across our global operations. This risk could increase as we continue our geographic expansion, and in particular if we seek to expand into emerging markets, which are more likely to impose these restrictions than more established markets.

Current and future legislation may increase the difficulty and cost for us and any collaborators to obtain marketing approval of and commercialize our product candidates and affect the prices we, or they, may obtain.

In the United States and foreign jurisdictions, there have been a number of legislative and regulatory changes and proposed changes regarding the healthcare system that could prevent or delay marketing approval of our product candidates, restrict or regulate post-approval activities and affect our ability to profitably sell any product candidates for which we obtain marketing approval. We expect that current laws, as well as other healthcare reform measures that may be adopted in the future, may result in additional reductions in Medicare and other healthcare funding, more rigorous coverage criteria, new payment methodologies and in additional downward pressure on the price that we, or any collaborators, may receive for any approved products.

In March 2010, President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law. Among the provisions of the Affordable Care Act of potential importance to our business and our product candidates are the following:

- an annual, nondeductible fee on any entity that manufactures or imports specified branded prescription products and biologic products;
- an increase in the statutory minimum rebates a manufacturer must pay under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program;
- a new methodology by which rebates owed by manufacturers under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program are calculated for products that are inhaled, infused, instilled, implanted or injected;
- extension of manufacturers' Medicaid rebate liability to individuals enrolled in Medicaid managed care organizations;
- expansion of the entities eligible for discounts under the Public Health Service pharmaceutical pricing program;
- a requirement that certain Affordable Care Act marketplace and other private payor plans include coverage for preventative services, including vaccinations recommended by the ACIP without cost share obligations (i.e., co-payments, deductibles or co-insurance) for plan members;

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- a new Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to oversee, identify priorities in, and conduct comparative clinical effectiveness research, along with funding for such research;
- a new Independent Payment Advisory Board, or IPAB, which has authority to recommend certain changes to the Medicare program to reduce expenditures by the program that could result in reduced payments for prescription products; and
- established the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation within CMS to test innovative payment and service delivery models.

Since its enactment, there have been judicial and congressional challenges to numerous aspects of the Affordable Care Act. By way of example, the 2017 Tax Reform Act included a provision repealing the individual mandate, effective January 1, 2019. On December 14, 2018, a U.S. District Court judge in the Northern District of Texas ruled that the individual mandate portion of the Affordable Care Act is an essential and inseparable feature of the Affordable Care Act, and therefore because the mandate was repealed, the remaining provisions of the Affordable Care Act are invalid as well. On December 18, 2019, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit upheld the District Court ruling that the individual mandate was unconstitutional, but remanded the case back to the District Court to determine whether the remaining provisions of the Affordable Care Act are invalid as well. On March 2, 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court granted the petitions for writs of certiorari to review the case. On June 17, 2021, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Affordable Care Act. However, there may be other efforts to challenge, repeal or replace the Affordable Care Act. Additionally, on January 28, 2021, President Biden issued an executive order to initiate a special enrollment period from February 15, 2021 through May 15, 2021 for purposes of obtaining health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act marketplace. The executive order also instructs certain governmental agencies to review and reconsider their existing policies and rules that limit access to healthcare, including among others, re-examining policies that create unnecessary barriers to obtaining access to health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act. Further, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 into law, which eliminates the statutory Medicaid drug rebate cap, currently set at 100% of a drug's average manufacturer price, for single source and innovator multiple source drugs, beginning January 1, 2024. We are continuing to monitor any changes to the Affordable Care Act that, in turn, may potentially impact our business in the future.

Other legislative changes have been proposed and adopted since the Affordable Care Act was enacted. These changes include aggregate reductions to Medicare payments to providers of 2% per fiscal year pursuant to the Budget Control Act of 2011 and subsequent laws, which began in 2013 and will remain in effect through 2030, with the exception of a temporary suspension from May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. In addition, in January 2013, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 was signed into law, which, among other things, further reduced Medicare payments to several types of providers, including hospitals, imaging centers and cancer treatment centers, and increased the statute of limitations period for the government to recover overpayments to providers from three to five years. New laws may result in additional reductions in Medicare and other healthcare funding, which may materially adversely affect customer demand and affordability for our product candidates, if approved, and, accordingly, the results of our financial operations.

Also, there has been heightened governmental scrutiny recently over the manner in which pharmaceutical companies set prices for their marketed products, which has resulted in several congressional inquiries and proposed federal legislation, as well as state efforts, designed to, among other things, bring more transparency to product pricing, reduce the cost of prescription drugs under Medicare, review the relationship between pricing and manufacturer patient programs, and reform government program reimbursement methodologies for drug products. On November 20, 2020, CMS issued an Interim Final Rule implementing the Most Favored Nation, or MFN, Model under which Medicare Part B reimbursement rates will be calculated for certain drugs and biologicals based on the lowest price drug manufacturers receive in Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries with a similar gross domestic product per capita. However, on August 6, 2021 CMS announced a proposed rule to rescind the Most Favored Nations rule. Additionally, on November 20, 2020, HHS finalized a regulation removing safe harbor protection for price reductions from pharmaceutical manufacturers to plan sponsors under Part D, either directly or through pharmacy benefit managers, unless the price reduction is required by law. The rule also creates a new safe harbor for price reductions reflected at the point of sale, as well as a safe harbor for certain fixed fee arrangements between pharmacy benefit managers and manufacturers. Although a number of these and other proposed measures may require authorization through additional legislation to become effective, and the Biden administration may reverse or otherwise change these measures, Congress has indicated that it will continue to seek new legislative measures to control drug costs.

The policies of the FDA or similar regulatory authorities may change and additional government regulations may be enacted that could prevent, limit or delay regulatory approval of our product candidates. For example, in December 2016, the 21st Century Cures Act, or Cures Act, was signed into law. The Cures Act, among other things, is intended to modernize the regulation of drugs and biologics and spur innovation, but its ultimate implementation is unclear. If we or our collaborators are slow or unable to adapt to changes in existing requirements or the adoption of new requirements or policies, or if we or our collaborators are not able to maintain regulatory compliance, our product candidates may lose any regulatory approval that may have been obtained and we may not achieve or sustain profitability, which would adversely affect our business.

We cannot predict the likelihood, nature or extent of government regulation that may arise from future legislation or administrative action, either in the United States or abroad. It is difficult to predict how current and future legislation, executive actions, and litigation, including the executive orders, will be implemented, and the extent to which they will impact our business, our clinical development, and the FDA's and other agencies' ability to exercise their regulatory authority, including FDA's pre-approval inspections and timely review of any regulatory filings or applications we submit to the FDA. To the extent any executive actions impose constraints on FDA's ability to engage in oversight and implementation activities in the normal course, our business may be negatively impacted.

We cannot predict whether future healthcare legislative or policy changes will be implemented at the federal or state level or in countries outside the United States in which we may do business, or the effect any future legislation or regulation will have on us, but we expect there will continue to be legislative and regulatory proposals at the federal and state levels directed at containing or lowering the cost of healthcare.

Cyberattacks or other failures in our or our third-party vendors', contractors' or consultants' telecommunications or information technology systems could result in information theft, data corruption and significant disruption of our business operations.

We utilize information technology, or IT, systems and networks and cloud computing services to process, transmit and store electronic information in connection with our business activities. We manage and maintain our applications and data utilizing a combination of on-site systems, managed data centers and cloud-based data centers. We utilize external security and infrastructure vendors to manage our information technology systems and data centers. These applications and data encompass a wide variety of business-critical information, including research and development information, commercial information, and business and financial information. We face a number of risks relative to protecting this critical information, including loss of access risk, inappropriate use or disclosure, inappropriate modification, and the risk of our being unable to adequately monitor, audit and modify our controls over our critical information. This risk extends to the third-party vendors and subcontractors we use to manage this sensitive data. Despite the implementation of security measures, given the size and complexity of our internal IT systems and those of our third-party vendors, contractors and consultants, and the increasing amounts of confidential information that they maintain, such IT systems are potentially vulnerable to breakdown or other damage or interruption from service interruptions, system malfunction, natural disasters, terrorism, war, and telecommunication and electrical failures. Such IT systems are additionally vulnerable to security breaches from inadvertent or intentional actions by our employees, third-party vendors, contractors, consultants, business partners, and/or other third parties, or from cyberattacks by malicious third parties (including the deployment of harmful malware, ransomware, denial-of-service attacks, social engineering, and other means to affect service reliability and threaten the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information). These threats pose a risk to the security of our systems and networks, the confidentiality and the availability and integrity of our data and these risks apply both to us, and to third parties on whose systems we rely for the conduct of our business.

Cyber threats are persistent and constantly evolving. Such threats have increased in frequency, scope and potential impact in recent years, which increase the difficulty of detecting and successfully defending against them. We may not be able to anticipate all types of security threats, and we may not be able to implement preventive measures effective against all such security threats. The techniques used by cyber criminals change frequently, may not be recognized until launched, and can originate from a wide variety of sources, including outside groups such as external service providers, organized crime affiliates, terrorist organizations, or hostile foreign governments or agencies. There can be no assurance that we or our third-party service providers, contractors or consultants will be successful in preventing cyberattacks or successfully mitigating their effects. Similarly, there can be no assurance that such third-party service providers, contractors or consultants will be successful in protecting our clinical and other data that is stored on their systems. If the IT systems of our third-party vendors and other contractors and consultants become subject to disruptions or security breaches, we may have insufficient recourse against such third parties and we may have to expend significant resources to mitigate the impact of such an event, and to develop and implement protections to prevent future events of this nature from occurring. Any cyberattack or destruction or loss of data could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. For example, if such an event were to occur and cause interruptions in our operations, or those of our third-party vendors and other contractors and consultants, it could result in a material disruption or delay of the development of our product candidates. In addition, we may suffer reputational harm or face litigation or adverse regulatory action as a result of cyberattacks or other data security breaches and may incur significant additional expense to implement further data protection measures. As cyber threats continue to evolve, we may be required to incur material additional expenses in order to enhance our protective measures or to remediate any information security vulnerability.

Our business continuity and disaster recovery plans may not adequately protect us from a serious disaster.

We are in the early stages of developing disaster recovery, business continuity plans and document retention plans designed to allow us to be operational despite unforeseen events, including natural disasters such as an earthquake, fire, hurricane, tornado, flood or significant power outage; political crises, such as terrorist attacks, war and other political instability, including the ongoing geopolitical tensions related to Russia's actions in Ukraine and associated international sanctions in response to such sanctions; or other catastrophic events. Without disaster recovery, business continuity and document retention plans, if we encounter difficulties or disasters with our manufacturing facilities, affiliates, corporate headquarters or those of third parties we rely on, our critical systems, operations and information may not be restored in a timely manner, or at all, and our business activities could be materially disrupted. We may incur substantial expenses as a result of the limited nature of our disaster recovery and business continuity plans, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We expect to expand our organization, and as a result, we may encounter difficulties in managing our growth, which could disrupt our operations.

We expect to experience significant growth in the number of our employees and the scope of our operations, particularly in the areas of clinical development and regulatory affairs, as well as to support our public company operations. We are currently constructing a new facility, designed for the development of a cGMP production process on a large industrial-scale for market supply. To manage these growth activities, we must continue to implement and improve our managerial, operational and financial systems, expand our facilities and continue to recruit and train additional qualified personnel. Our management may need to devote a significant amount of its attention to managing these growth activities. Moreover, our expected growth could require us to relocate to a different geographic area of the country. Due to our limited financial resources and the limited experience of our management team in managing a company with such anticipated growth, we may not be able to effectively manage the expansion or relocation of our operations, retain key employees, or identify, recruit and train additional qualified personnel. Our inability to manage the expansion or relocation of our operations effectively may result in weaknesses in our infrastructure, give rise to operational mistakes, loss of business opportunities, loss of employees and reduced productivity among remaining employees. Our expected growth could also require significant capital expenditures and may divert financial resources from other projects, such as the development of additional product candidates. If we are unable to effectively manage our expected growth, our expenses may increase more than expected, our ability to generate revenues could be reduced and we may not be able to implement our business strategy, including the successful development and commercialization of our product candidates. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

If we engage in future acquisitions, joint ventures or collaborations, it may increase our capital requirements, dilute our shareholders, cause us to incur debt or assume contingent liabilities, and subject us to other risks. We may not realize the benefits of these acquisitions, joint ventures or collaborations.

We may evaluate various acquisitions and collaborations, including licensing or acquiring complementary products, intellectual property rights, technologies or businesses. Any potential acquisition, joint venture or collaboration may entail numerous risks, including:

- increased operating expenses and cash requirements;
- the assumption of additional indebtedness or contingent liabilities;
- assimilation of operations, intellectual property and products of an acquired company, including difficulties associated with integrating new personnel;
- the diversion of our management's attention from our existing product programs and initiatives in pursuing such a strategic merger or acquisition;
- retention of key employees, the loss of key personnel, and uncertainties in our ability to maintain key business relationships;
- risks and uncertainties associated with the other party to such a transaction, including the prospects of that party and their existing products or product candidates and regulatory approvals; and
- our inability to generate revenue from acquired technology or products sufficient to meet our objectives in undertaking the acquisition or even to offset the associated acquisition and maintenance costs.

In addition, if we undertake acquisitions, we may utilize our cash, issue dilutive securities, assume or incur debt obligations, incur large one-time expenses and acquire intangible assets that could result in significant future amortization expense. Moreover, we may not be able to locate suitable acquisition or collaboration opportunities and this inability could impair our ability to grow or obtain access to technology or products that may be important to the development of our business.

Our employees, principal investigators and consultants may engage in misconduct or other improper activities, including noncompliance with regulatory standards and requirements and insider trading, which could have an adverse effect on the results of our operations.

We are exposed to the risk of fraud or other misconduct by our employees, principal investigators and consultants, despite our robust efforts to prevent such misconduct through sponsor oversight. Misconduct by these parties could include intentional failures to comply with FDA regulations or the regulations applicable in the European Union and other jurisdictions, provide accurate information to the FDA, the EMA and other regulatory authorities, comply with healthcare fraud and abuse laws and regulations in the United States and abroad, report financial information or data accurately or disclose unauthorized activities to us. Such misconduct also could involve the improper use of information obtained in the course of clinical trials or interactions with the FDA or other regulatory authorities, which could result in regulatory sanctions and cause serious harm to our reputation. We have adopted a code of conduct applicable to all of our employees, but it is not always possible to identify and deter employee misconduct, and the precautions we take to detect and prevent this activity may not be effective in controlling unknown or unmanaged risks or losses or in protecting us from government investigations or other actions or lawsuits stemming from a failure to comply with laws or regulations. If any such actions are instituted against us and we are not successful in defending ourselves or asserting our rights, those actions could have a significant impact on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, including the imposition of significant fines or other sanctions.

We are subject to stringent privacy laws, information security laws, regulations, policies and contractual obligations related to data privacy and security and changes in such laws, regulations, policies and contractual obligations could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

We are subject to data privacy and protection laws and regulations that apply to the collection, transmission, storage and use of personally identifying information, which among other things, impose certain requirements relating to the privacy, security and transmission of personal information. The legislative and regulatory landscape for privacy and data protection continues to evolve in jurisdictions worldwide, and there has been an increasing focus on privacy and data protection issues with the potential to affect our business. Failure to comply with any of these laws and regulations could result in enforcement action against us, including fines, imprisonment of company officials and public censure, claims for damages by affected individuals, damage to our reputation and loss of goodwill, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Additionally, if we are unable to properly protect the privacy and security of personal information, including protected health information, we could be found to have breached our contracts.

There are numerous U.S. federal and state laws and regulations related to the privacy and security of personal information. In particular, HIPAA, as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009, or HITECH, and their respective implementing regulations, establish privacy and security standards that limit the use and disclosure of individually identifiable health information, or protected health information, and require the implementation of administrative, physical and technological safeguards to protect the privacy of protected health information and ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic protected health information. Determining whether protected health information has been handled in compliance with applicable privacy standards and our contractual obligations can be complex and may be subject to changing interpretation. If we fail to comply with applicable privacy laws, including applicable HIPAA privacy and security standards, we could face civil and criminal penalties. The HHS has the discretion to impose penalties without attempting to first resolve violations. HHS enforcement activity can result in financial liability and reputational harm, and responses to such enforcement activity can consume significant internal resources. Even when HIPAA does not apply, failing to take appropriate steps to keep consumers' personal information secure can constitute unfair acts or practices in or affecting commerce and be construed as a violation of Section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, or the FTCA, 15 U.S.C § 45(a). The Federal Trade Commission, or the FTC, expects a company's data security measures to be reasonable and appropriate in light of the sensitivity and volume of consumer information it holds, the size and complexity of its business, and the cost of available tools to improve security and reduce vulnerabilities. Individually identifiable health information is considered sensitive data that merits stronger safeguards and the FTC's guidance for appropriately securing consumers' personal information is similar to what is required by the HIPAA Security Rule. In addition, state attorneys general are authorized to bring civil actions seeking either injunctions or damages in response to violations that threaten the privacy of state residents. We cannot be sure how these regulations will be interpreted, enforced or applied to our operations. In addition to the risks associated with enforcement activities and potential contractual liabilities, our ongoing efforts to comply with evolving laws and regulations at the federal and state level may be costly and require ongoing modifications to our policies, procedures and systems.

In addition, many states in which we operate have laws that protect the privacy and security of personal information. For example, the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018, or CCPA, which increases privacy rights for California residents and imposes obligations on companies that process their personal information, came into effect on January 1, 2020. Among other things, the CCPA requires covered companies to provide new disclosures to California consumers and provide such consumers new data protection and privacy rights, including the ability to opt out of certain sales of personal information. The CCPA provides for civil penalties for violations, as well as a private right of action for certain data breaches that result in the loss of personal information. Additionally, California voters approved a new privacy law, the California Privacy Rights Act, or CPRA, in the November 3, 2020 election. Effective starting on January 1, 2023, the CPRA will significantly modify the CCPA, including by expanding consumers' rights with respect to certain sensitive personal information. The CPRA also creates a new state agency that will be vested with authority to implement and enforce the CCPA and the CPRA. State laws are changing rapidly and there is discussion in Congress of a new federal data protection and privacy law to which we would become subject if it is enacted.

Internationally, laws, regulations and standards in many jurisdictions apply broadly to the collection, use, retention, security, disclosure, transfer and other processing of personal information. For example, in the European Union, the collection and use of personal data is governed by the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation, or the GDPR, in addition to other applicable laws and regulations. The GDPR came into effect in May 2018, repealing and replacing the European Union Data Protection Directive, and imposing revised data privacy and security requirements on companies in relation to the processing of personal data of European Union and United Kingdom data subjects. The GDPR, together with national legislation, regulations and guidelines of the European Union Member States and the United Kingdom governing the processing of personal data, impose strict obligations with respect to, and restrictions on, the collection, use, retention, protection, disclosure, transfer and processing of personal data. The GDPR imposes strict rules on the transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Union, including the United States. For example, in 2016, the European Union and United States agreed to a transfer framework for data transferred from the European Union to the United States, called the Privacy Shield, but the Privacy Shield was invalidated in July 2020 by the Court of Justice of the European Union. The standard contractual clauses issued by the European Commission, or the EC, for the transfer of personal data may be similarly invalidated by the Court of Justice of the European Union. On June 4, 2021, the EC adopted new standard contractual clauses, which impose on companies additional obligations relating to data transfers, including the obligation to conduct a transfer impact assessment and, depending on a party's role in the transfer, to implement additional security measures and to update internal privacy practices. If we elect to rely on the new standard contractual clauses for data transfers, we may be required to incur significant time and resources to update our contractual arrangements and to comply with new obligations. If we are unable to implement a valid mechanism for personal data transfers from the EU, we will face increased exposure to regulatory actions, substantial fines and injunctions against processing personal data from the EU. It remains to be seen whether these standard contractual clauses will remain available and whether additional means for lawful data transfers will become available. The GDPR authorizes fines for certain violations of up to 4% of the total global annual turnover of the preceding financial year or €20 million, whichever is greater. Such fines are in addition to any civil litigation claims by data subjects. Separately, Brexit could also lead to further legislative and regulatory changes and increase our compliance costs. As of January 1, 2021, and the expiry of transitional arrangements agreed to between the United Kingdom and the European Union, data processing in the United Kingdom is governed by a United Kingdom version of the GDPR (combining the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018), exposing us to two parallel regimes, each of which potentially authorizes similar fines and other potentially divergent enforcement actions for certain violations. On June 28, 2021, the European Commission adopted an adequacy decision in favor of the United Kingdom, enabling data transfers from European Union member states to the United Kingdom without additional safeguards. However, the United Kingdom adequacy decision will automatically expire in June 2025 unless the European Commission re-assesses and renews or extends that decision. Other jurisdictions outside the European Union are similarly introducing or enhancing privacy and data security laws, rules and regulations, which could increase our compliance costs and the risks associated with noncompliance. We cannot guarantee that we are, or will be, in compliance with all applicable international regulations as they are enforced now or as they evolve.

It is possible that these laws may be interpreted and applied in a manner that is inconsistent with our practices and our efforts to comply with the evolving data protection rules may be unsuccessful. We must devote significant resources to understanding and complying with this changing landscape. Failure to comply with federal, state and international laws regarding privacy and security of personal information could expose us to penalties under such laws, orders requiring that we change our practices, claims for damages or other liabilities, regulatory investigations and enforcement action, litigation and significant costs for remediation, any of which could adversely affect our business. Even if we are not determined to have violated these laws, government investigations into these issues typically require the expenditure of significant resources and generate negative publicity, which have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

We face substantial competition, which may result in others discovering, developing or commercializing products before or more successfully than we do.

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are characterized by rapidly advancing technologies, intense competition and a strong emphasis on proprietary products. We face and will continue to face competition from third parties that use mRNA, gene editing or gene therapy development platforms and from third parties focused on other therapeutic modalities, such as small molecules, antibodies, biologics and nucleic acid-based therapies. The competition is likely to come from multiple sources, including large and specialty pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, academic research institutions, government agencies and public and private research institutions.

Many of our potential competitors, alone or with their strategic partners, have substantially greater financial, technical and other resources, such as larger research and development, clinical, marketing and manufacturing organizations. Mergers and acquisitions in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries may result in even greater concentration of resources among a smaller number of competitors. Our commercial opportunity could be reduced or eliminated if competitors develop and commercialize products that are safer, more effective, have fewer or less severe side effects, are more convenient or are less expensive than any products that we may develop. Our competitors also may obtain FDA or other regulatory approvals for their products faster or earlier than we may obtain approval for ours, which could result in our competitors establishing a strong market position before we are able to enter the market. For example, some of our competitors have already received approval from the FDA and other regulatory agencies for their mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccines. Additionally, technologies developed by our competitors may render our product candidates uneconomical or obsolete, and we may not be successful in marketing our product candidates against competitors' products. In addition, the availability of our competitors' products could limit the demand and the prices we are able to charge for any products that we may develop and commercialize.

We depend heavily on our executive officers and managing directors, and the loss of their services would materially harm our business.

Our success depends, and will likely continue to depend, upon our ability to retain the services of our current executive officers, managing directors, principal consultants and other service providers, and our ability to hire new highly qualified personnel. We are highly dependent on the management, development, clinical, financial and business development expertise of our executive officers, managing directors, principal consultants and other service providers. In addition, we have established relationships with universities and research institutions which have historically provided, and continue to provide, us with access to research laboratories, clinical trials, facilities and patients. Our ability to compete in the biotechnology and pharmaceuticals industries depends upon our ability to attract and retain highly qualified managerial, scientific and medical personnel.

In most cases, our personnel may only terminate their employment upon first providing notice. A limited number of agreements provide for at-will termination. If we lose one or more of our executive officers or other key employees, our ability to implement our business strategy successfully could be seriously harmed. Furthermore, replacing executive officers or other key employees may be difficult and may take an extended period of time because of the limited number of individuals in our industry with the breadth of skills and experience required to develop, gain marketing approval of and commercialize products successfully.

We may be unable to hire, train, retain or motivate these additional key employees on acceptable terms given the competition among numerous pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for similar personnel. We also experience competition for the hiring of scientific and clinical personnel from universities and research institutions.

Our employees, independent contractors, consultants, collaborators and contract research organizations may engage in misconduct or other improper activities, including noncompliance with regulatory standards and requirements, which could cause significant liability for us and harm our reputation.

We are exposed to the risk that our employees, independent contractors, consultants, collaborators and contract research organizations may engage in fraudulent conduct or other illegal activity. Misconduct by those parties could include intentional, reckless or negligent conduct or disclosure of unauthorized activities to us that violates (i) FDA regulations or similar regulations of comparable non-U.S. regulatory authorities, including those laws requiring the reporting of true, complete and accurate information to such authorities, (ii) manufacturing and clinical trial conduct standards, (iii) federal and state healthcare fraud and abuse laws and regulations and similar laws and regulations established and enforced by comparable non-U.S. regulatory authorities and (iv) laws that require the reporting of financial information or data accurately. Activities subject to these laws also involve the improper use of information obtained in the course of clinical trials, which could result in regulatory sanctions and serious harm to our reputation. It is not always possible to identify and deter misconduct, and the precautions we take to detect and prevent this activity may not be effective in controlling unknown or unmanaged risks or losses or in protecting us from governmental investigations or other actions or lawsuits stemming from a failure to be in compliance with such laws, standards or regulations. If any such actions are instituted against us, and we are not successful in defending ourselves or asserting our rights, those actions could have a significant impact on our business and results of operations, including the imposition of civil, criminal and administrative penalties, damages, monetary fines, possible exclusion from participation in Medicare, Medicaid and other federal healthcare programs, contractual damages, reputational harm, diminished profits and future earnings and curtailment of our operations, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our ability to operate our business and our results of operations.

As a result of our geographically diverse operations, we are more susceptible to certain risks.

We have offices and operations in three cities and in two countries and are in the process of opening an office in an additional European country. If we are unable to manage the risks of our global operations, including fluctuations in foreign exchange and inflation rates, international hostilities, natural disasters, security breaches, failure to maintain compliance with our clients' control requirements and multiple legal and regulatory systems, our results of operations and ability to grow could be materially adversely affected.

Changes in our level of taxes, and audits, investigations and tax proceedings, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Although limited in terms of magnitude due to ongoing losses incurred so far, we are subject to income taxes in Germany and the United States. We calculate and provide for income taxes in each tax jurisdiction in which we operate. Tax accounting often involves complex matters and judgment is required in determining our worldwide provision for income taxes and other tax liabilities. We are subject to ongoing tax audits in Germany. In the future, tax authorities may disagree with our judgments or may take increasingly aggressive positions with respect to the judgments we make. We regularly assess the likely outcomes of these audits in order to determine the appropriateness of our tax liabilities. However, our judgments might not be sustained as a result of these audits, and the amounts ultimately paid could be different from the amounts previously recorded. In addition, our effective tax rate in the future could be adversely affected by changes in the mix of earnings in countries with differing statutory tax rates, changes in the valuation of deferred tax assets and liabilities and changes in tax laws. Tax rates in the jurisdictions in which we operate may change as a result of macroeconomic or other factors outside of our control. Increases in the tax rate in any of the jurisdictions in which we operate could have a negative impact on our profitability. In addition, changes in tax laws, treaties or regulations, or their interpretation or enforcement, may be unpredictable, particularly in less developed markets, and could become more stringent, which could materially adversely affect our tax position. Any of these occurrences could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Changes in U.S. tax law could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

On December 22, 2017, President Trump signed into law the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act," or the TCJA, which significantly amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Subject to the discussion of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, or FFCR Act, and the CARES Act below, the TCJA, among other things, reduces the corporate tax rate from a top marginal rate of 35% to a flat rate of 21%, limits the tax deduction for interest expense to 30% of adjusted taxable income, eliminates net operating loss carrybacks, imposes a one-time tax on offshore earnings at reduced rates regardless of whether they are repatriated, allows immediate deductions for certain new investments instead of deductions for depreciation expense over time, and modifies or repeals many business deductions and credits, including a reduction of the business tax credit for certain clinical testing expenses incurred in the testing of certain drugs for rare diseases or conditions generally referred to as "orphan drugs." We continue to examine the impact these changes may have on our business. Notwithstanding the reduction in the corporate income tax rate, the overall impact of the TCJA is uncertain and our business and financial condition could be adversely affected.

As part of Congress's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the FFCR Act was enacted on March 18, 2020, and the CARES Act was enacted on March 27, 2020. Both contain numerous tax provisions. In particular, the CARES Act retroactively and temporarily (for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2021) suspends application of the 80%-of-income limitation on the use of NOLs, which was enacted as part of the TCJA. It also provides that NOLs arising in any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2021 are generally eligible to be carried back up to five years. The CARES Act also temporarily (for taxable years beginning in 2019 or 2020) relaxes the limitation of the tax deductibility for net interest expense by increasing the tax deduction cap from 30% to a 50% cap of adjusted taxable income. Regulatory guidance under the TCJA, the FFCR Act and the CARES Act is and continues to be forthcoming, and such guidance could ultimately increase or lessen impact of these laws on our business and financial condition. In addition, it is uncertain if and to what extent various states will conform to the TCJA, the FFCR Act or the CARES Act.

We urge our shareholders to consult with their legal and tax advisers with respect to the TCJA, the FFCR Act and the CARES Act and the potential tax consequences of investing in our common shares.

Uninsured losses arising from third-party claims brought against us could result in payment of substantial damages, which would decrease our cash reserves and could harm our profit and cash flow.

Our products are used in applications where the failure to use our products properly or their malfunction could result in serious bodily injury or death. We may not have adequate insurance to cover the payment of any potential claim related to such injuries or deaths. Insurance coverage may not continue to be available to us or, if available, may be at a significantly higher cost.

We are exposed to potential product liability and professional indemnity risks that are inherent in the research, development, manufacturing, marketing and use of pharmaceutical products.

The use of our investigational medicinal products in clinical trials and the sale of any approved products in the future may expose us to liability claims. These claims might be made by patients who use the product, healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies or others selling such products. Any claims against us, regardless of their merit, could be difficult and costly to defend and could materially adversely affect the market for our product candidates or any prospects for commercialization of our product candidates.

Although the clinical trial process is designed to identify and assess potential side effects, it is always possible that a product, even after regulatory approval, may exhibit unforeseen side effects. If any of our product candidates were to cause adverse side effects during clinical trials or after approval of the product candidate, we may be exposed to substantial liabilities. Physicians and patients may not comply with any warnings that identify known potential adverse effects and patients who should not use our product candidates.

To cover such liability claims, we purchase clinical trial insurances in the conduct of each of our clinical trials. It is possible that our liabilities could exceed our insurance coverage or that our insurance will not cover all situations in which a claim against us could be made. We also intend to expand our insurance coverage to include the sale of commercial products if we receive marketing approval for any of our proprietary products. However, we may not be able to maintain insurance coverage at a reasonable cost or obtain insurance coverage that will be adequate to satisfy any liability that may arise. If a successful product liability claim or series of claims is brought against us for uninsured liabilities or in excess of insured liabilities, our assets may not be sufficient to cover such claims and our business operations could be impaired. Should any of the events described above occur, this could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations, including, but not limited to:

- decreased demand for our future product candidates;
- adverse publicity and injury to our reputation;
- withdrawal of clinical trial participants;
- initiation of investigations by regulators;
- costs to defend the related litigation;
- a diversion of management's time and our resources;
- compensation in response to a liability claim;
- product recalls, withdrawals or labeling, marketing or promotional restrictions;
- loss of revenue;
- exhaustion of any available insurance and our capital resources; and
- the inability to commercialize our products or product candidates.

We could be adversely affected if we are subject to negative publicity. We could also be adversely affected if any of our products or any similar products distributed by other companies prove to be, or are asserted to be, harmful to patients. Any adverse publicity associated with illness or other adverse effects resulting from patients' use or misuse of our products or any similar products distributed by other companies could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects.

Some of our product candidates are classified as gene therapies by the FDA and the EMA, and the FDA has indicated that products similar to our product candidates will be reviewed within its Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, or CBER. Even though our mRNA product candidates are designed to have a different mechanism of action from gene therapies, the association of our product candidates with gene therapies could result in increased regulatory burdens, impair the reputation of our product candidates or negatively impact our platform or our business.

There have been few approvals of gene therapy products in the United States and other jurisdictions, and there have been well-reported significant adverse events associated with their testing and use. Gene therapy products have the effect of introducing new DNA and potentially irreversibly changing the DNA in a cell. In contrast, mRNA is highly unlikely to localize to the nucleus, integrate into cell DNA or otherwise make any permanent changes to cell DNA. Consequently, we expect that our product candidates will have a different potential side effect profile from gene therapies because they lack risks associated with altering cell DNA irreversibly. Further, we may avail ourselves of ways of mitigating side effects in developing our product candidates to address safety concerns that are not available to all gene therapies, such as lowering the dose of our product candidates during repeat dosing or stopping treatment to potentially ameliorate undesirable side effects.

Regulatory requirements governing gene and cell therapy products have evolved and may continue to change in the future, and the implications for mRNA-based medicines is unknown. For example, the FDA has established the Office of Tissues and Advanced Therapies within CBER to consolidate the review of gene therapy and related products, and convenes the Cellular, Tissue and Gene Therapies Advisory Committee to advise CBER on its review. In the European Union, mRNA has been characterized as a Gene Therapy Medicinal Product. In certain countries, mRNA therapies have not yet been classified or any such classification is not known to us. Specifically, in Japan, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency has not taken a position on the regulatory classification. Notwithstanding the differences between our mRNA product candidates and gene therapies, the classification of some of our mRNA product candidates as gene therapies in the United States, the European Union and potentially other countries could adversely impact our ability to develop our product candidates, and could negatively impact our platform and our business. For instance, a clinical hold on gene therapy products across the field due to risks associated with altering cell DNA irreversibly may apply to our mRNA product candidates irrespective of the mechanistic differences between gene therapies and mRNA.

Adverse events reported with respect to gene therapies or genome editing therapies could adversely impact one or more of our programs. Although our mRNA product candidates are designed not to make any permanent changes to cell DNA, regulatory agencies or others could believe that adverse effects of gene therapy products caused by introducing new DNA and irreversibly changing the DNA in a cell could also be a risk for our mRNA investigational therapies, and as a result may delay one or more of our trials or impose additional testing for long-term side effects. Any new requirements and guidelines promulgated by regulatory review agencies may have a negative effect on our business by lengthening the regulatory review process, requiring us to perform additional or larger studies, or increasing our development costs, any of which could lead to changes in regulatory positions and interpretations, delay or prevent advancement or approval and commercialization of our product candidates or lead to significant post-approval studies, limitations or restrictions. As we advance our product candidates, we will be required to consult with these regulatory agencies and advisory committees and comply with applicable requirements and guidelines. If we fail to do so, we may be required to delay or discontinue development of some or all of our product candidates.

Risks Related to Our Common Shares

An active trading market for our common shares may not be sustainable. If an active trading market is not maintained, investors may not be able to resell their shares at or above the purchase price and our ability to raise capital in the future may be impaired.

Although our common shares are listed and trade on Nasdaq, an active trading market for our shares may not be maintained. If an active market for our common shares is not maintained, it may be difficult for you to sell shares you purchase without depressing the market price for the shares or at all. An inactive trading market may also impair our ability to raise capital to continue to fund operations by selling shares and may impair our ability to acquire other companies or technologies by using our shares as consideration. In addition to the risks described above, the market price of our common shares may be influenced by many factors, some of which are beyond our control, including:

- the failure of financial analysts to continue to cover our common shares or changes in financial estimates by analysts;
- actual or anticipated variations in our operating results;
- changes in financial estimates by financial analysts, or any failure by us to meet or exceed any of these estimates, or changes in the recommendations of any financial analysts that elect to follow our common shares or the shares of our competitors;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts or acquisitions;
- future sales of our shares; and
- investor perceptions of us and the industries in which we operate.

These and other factors may cause the market price and demand for our common stock to fluctuate substantially, which may limit or prevent investors from readily selling their shares of common stock and may otherwise negatively affect the liquidity of our common stock. In addition, the stock market in general has from time to time experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations, including in recent months, that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of particular companies affected. These broad market and industry factors may materially harm the market price of our common shares, regardless of our operating performance. In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of certain companies' securities, securities class action litigation has been instituted against these companies. This litigation, if instituted against us, could adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common shares in the public market, or the perception that these sales may occur, could cause the market price of our common shares to decline.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common shares in the public market, or the perception that these sales may occur, could cause the market price of our common shares to decline. This could also impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of our equity securities. We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our shares or the effect, if any, that future sales and issuances of shares would have on the market price of our common shares.

Considerable amounts of common shares are available for issuance under our equity incentive plans, and significant issuances in the future may adversely impact the market price of our common shares.

As of December 31, 2021, we had 772,500,000 authorized common shares, of which 187,120,728 shares were outstanding. In addition, 14,034,356 common shares were reserved for issuance pursuant to our equity incentive plans. The availability of substantial amounts of our common shares resulting from the exercise or settlement of equity awards outstanding under our equity incentive plans, which would be dilutive to existing stockholders, could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our common shares and could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities.

We have broad discretion in the use of our cash on hand and may invest or spend it in ways with which you do not agree and in ways that may not yield a return on your investment.

As of December 31, 2021, we had cash and cash equivalents amounting to €811 million. Our management will have broad discretion in the use of such cash and could spend it in ways that do not improve our results of operations or enhance the value of our common shares. You will not have the opportunity to influence our decisions on how to use our cash on hand. The failure by our management to apply these funds effectively could result in financial losses that could harm our business, cause the price of our common shares to decline and delay the development of our product candidates. Pending its use, we may invest our cash on hand in a manner that does not produce income or that loses value.

Concentration of ownership by our principal shareholders may conflict with your interest and may prevent you from influencing significant corporate decisions.

As of March 22, 2022, our principal shareholders dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG, or dievini, beneficially own 45.38% of our common shares, and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, or KfW, beneficially owns 15.97% of our common shares.

In addition, dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) has the right under our articles of association to make a binding nomination for the following number of supervisory directors until dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates as defined by our articles of association and ultimate beneficiaries as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) ceases to own at least 10% of our issued share capital or an earlier change of control over dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) as defined by our articles of association, which period we refer to as the initial nomination period for dievini:

- four (4) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates (as defined by our articles of association) and ultimate beneficiaries (as defined by our articles of association) (individually or collectively) owns at least 70% of our issued share capital;
- three (3) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates (as defined by our articles of association) and ultimate beneficiaries (as defined by our articles of association) (individually or collectively) owns at least 50% (but less than 70%) of our issued share capital;
- two (2) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates (as defined by our articles of association) and ultimate beneficiaries (as defined by our articles of association) (individually or collectively) owns at least 30% (but less than 50%) of our issued share capital; and
- one (1) supervisory director for as long as dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates (as defined by our articles of association) and ultimate beneficiaries (as defined by our articles of association) (individually or collectively) owns at least 10% (but less than 30%) of our issued share capital.

Dievini and Mr. Dietmar Hopp may be able to significantly influence all matters requiring shareholder approval. Even when dievini ceases to own common shares representing a majority of the total voting power, for so long as dievini continues to own a significant percentage of our common shares, dievini will still be able to significantly influence the composition of our supervisory board and the approval of actions requiring shareholder approval. Accordingly, for such period of time, dievini will continue to have significant influence with respect to our management, business plans and policies, including the appointment and removal of our managing directors, decisions on whether to raise future capital and amending our organizational documents, which govern the rights attached to our common shares. In particular, for so long as dievini continues to own a significant percentage of common shares, it will be able to cause or prevent a change of control of us or a change in the composition of our supervisory board and could preclude any unsolicited acquisition of us.

In addition, KfW (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) has the right, and has exercised the right under our articles of association, the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement and the ISA to make a binding nomination for one (1) supervisory director until KfW or any KfW affiliates as defined by our articles of association (individually or together with any other KfW affiliate) ceases to own at least 10% of our issued share capital, which period we refer to as the initial nomination period for KfW. Certain decisions require, and cannot be taken without, a resolution of our supervisory board that the KfW nominee, and a dievini nominee, have approved. These relate in particular to the location within the European Union of certain of our activities. The KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement includes provisions relating to voting together and in a coordinated fashion on certain specified matters as further described under "Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions — B. Related Party Transactions."

The concentration of ownership and these nomination rights could deprive you of an opportunity to receive a premium for your common shares as part of a sale of us and ultimately might affect the market price of our common shares. In addition, the concentration of voting power and these nomination rights could delay or prevent an acquisition of our company on terms that other shareholders may desire or result in the management of our company in ways with which other shareholders disagree.

We may be required to redeem for cash all, or to facilitate the purchase by a third-party of all, the shares of us held by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as per the date of the ISA if we default under the Global Access Agreement, which could have an adverse impact on us and limit our ability to make distributions to our shareholders.

We entered into a Global Access Agreement with our shareholder, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in February 2015 pursuant to which we are required to take certain actions to support the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's mission. In the event that we commit a material breach of the Global Access Agreement or certain provisions of the ISA, following a cure period, we may be required to redeem for cash all, or to facilitate the purchase by a third-party of all, the shares of our company held by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as per the date of the ISA at certain terms that may not be favorable to us. If this occurs, cash used for this purpose may, adversely affect our liquidity, cause us to reduce expenditures in other areas of our business, or curtail our growth plans. If we do not have sufficient cash on hand to purchase the shares, we would have to seek financing alternatives in order to meet our obligations, and there is no certainty that financing would be available on reasonable terms or at all. For the period that we are unable to redeem the shares held by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation or arrange for a third-party to purchase such shares, we will generally not be allowed to pay dividends, redeem the shares of any other shareholder or otherwise make any other distribution to any of our shareholders in connection with their shares. Therefore, meeting this purchase obligation, if necessary, could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial results. For more information on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's withdrawal rights, see "Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions — B. Related Party Transactions — Investment and Shareholders' Agreement."

Transformation into a public company may continue to increase our costs and disrupt the regular operations of our business.

In August 2020, we completed our initial public offering. After the completion of our initial public offering we incurred and expect to continue to incur, including, but not limited to, costs and expenses for managing directors' and supervisory directors' fees, increased directors and officers insurance, investor relations, and various other costs of a public company.

We also anticipate that we will continue to incur increasing costs associated with corporate governance requirements, including requirements under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, or the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, as well as rules implemented by the SEC and Nasdaq. We expect these rules and regulations to continue to increase our legal and financial compliance costs and make some management and corporate governance activities more time consuming and costly. These rules and regulations may make it more difficult and more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance, and we may be required to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. This could have an adverse impact on our ability to retain, recruit and bring on a qualified independent supervisory board. We expect that the additional costs we will incur as a public company, including costs associated with corporate governance requirements, will be considerable relative to our costs as a private company.

The additional demands associated with being a public company may disrupt regular operations of our business by diverting the attention of some of our senior management team away from revenue producing activities to management and administrative oversight, adversely affecting our ability to attract and complete business opportunities and increasing the difficulty in both retaining professionals and managing and growing our businesses. Any of these effects could harm our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are a foreign private issuer and, as a result, we are not subject to U.S. proxy rules and are subject to Exchange Act reporting obligations that, to some extent, are more lenient and less frequent than those of a U.S. domestic public company.

We report under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, as a non-U.S. company with foreign private issuer status. Because we qualify as a foreign private issuer under the Exchange Act, we are exempt from certain provisions of the Exchange Act that are applicable to U.S. domestic public companies, including (i) the sections of the Exchange Act regulating the solicitation of proxies, consents or authorizations in respect of a security registered under the Exchange Act, (ii) the sections of the Exchange Act requiring insiders to file public reports of their share ownership and trading activities and liability for insiders who profit from trades made in a short period of time and (iii) the rules under the Exchange Act requiring the filing with the SEC of quarterly reports on Form 10-Q containing unaudited financial and other specified information, or current reports on Form 8-K, upon the occurrence of specified significant events. In addition, foreign private issuers are not required to file their annual report on Form 20-F until four months after the end of each fiscal year, while U.S. domestic issuers that are accelerated filers are required to file their annual report on Form 10-K within 75 days after the end of each fiscal year. Foreign private issuers are also exempt from the Regulation Fair Disclosure, aimed at preventing issuers from making selective disclosures of material information. As a result of the above, you may not have the same protections afforded to shareholders of companies that are not foreign private issuers.

We may lose our foreign private issuer status which would then require us to comply with the Exchange Act's domestic reporting regime and cause us to incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses.

We are a foreign private issuer and therefore we are not required to comply with all of the periodic disclosure and current reporting requirements of the Exchange Act applicable to U.S. domestic issuers. If in the future we are not a foreign private issuer as of the last day of the second fiscal quarter in any fiscal year, we would be required to comply with all of the periodic disclosure, current reporting requirements and proxy solicitation rules of the Exchange Act applicable to U.S. domestic issuers. In order to maintain our current status as a foreign private issuer, either (a) a majority of our common shares must be either directly or indirectly owned of record by nonresidents of the United States or (b)(i) a majority of our managing directors, supervisory directors and executive officers may not be United States citizens or residents, (ii) more than 50% of our assets cannot be located in the United States and (iii) our business must be administered principally outside the United States. If we were to lose this status, we would be required to comply with the Exchange Act reporting and other requirements applicable to U.S. domestic issuers, which are more detailed and extensive than the requirements for foreign private issuers. We may also be required to make changes in our corporate governance practices in accordance with various SEC and stock exchange rules. The regulatory and compliance costs to us if we are required to comply with the reporting requirements applicable to a U.S. domestic issuer may be significantly higher than the costs we would incur as a foreign private issuer. As a result, we expect that a loss of foreign private issuer status would increase our legal and financial compliance costs and would make some activities highly time consuming and costly. These rules and regulations could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified managing directors and supervisory directors.

As a foreign private issuer and as permitted by the listing requirements of Nasdaq, we follow certain home country governance practices rather than the corporate governance requirements of Nasdaq.

We are a foreign private issuer. As a result, in accordance with the listing requirements of Nasdaq we rely on home country governance requirements and certain exemptions thereunder rather than relying on the corporate governance requirements of Nasdaq. In accordance with Dutch law and generally accepted business practices, our articles of association do not provide quorum requirements generally applicable to general meetings. To this extent, our practice varies from the requirement of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5620(c), which requires an issuer to provide in its bylaws for a generally applicable quorum, and that such quorum may not be less than one-third of the outstanding voting shares. Although we must provide shareholders with an agenda and other relevant documents for the general meeting, Dutch law does not have a regulatory regime for the solicitation of proxies and the solicitation of proxies is not a generally accepted business practice in the Netherlands, thus our practice varies from the requirement of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5620(b). As permitted by the listing requirements of Nasdaq, we have also opted out of the requirements of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(d), which requires, among other things, an issuer to have a compensation committee that consists entirely of independent directors, Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(e), which requires independent director oversight of director nominations, and Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(b)(1), which requires an issuer to have a majority of independent directors on its board. These rules require that a majority of our supervisory directors must be independent. In addition, we have opted out of shareholder approval requirements, as included in the Nasdaq Listing Rules, for the issuance of securities in connection with certain events such as the acquisition of shares or assets of another company, the establishment of or amendments to equity-based compensation plans for employees, a change of control of our company and certain private placements. To this extent, our practice varies from the requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5635, which generally requires an issuer to obtain shareholder approval for the issuance of securities in connection with such events. Accordingly, you may not have the same protections afforded to shareholders of companies that are subject to these Nasdaq requirements.

Although we do not believe that we were a “passive foreign investment company,” or a PFIC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes for our 2021 taxable year, we may be a PFIC for 2022 or one or more future taxable years. A U.S. holder of common shares may suffer adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences if we are a PFIC for any taxable year.

Under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, we will generally be a PFIC for any taxable year in which, after the application of certain look-through rules with respect to subsidiaries, either (i) 75% or more of our gross income consists of “passive income,” or (ii) 50% or more of the average quarterly value of our assets consists of assets that produce, or are held for the production of, “passive income.” Passive income generally includes dividends, interest, certain nonactive rents and royalties, and capital gains. The value of a non-U.S. corporation’s goodwill that is associated with activities that produce or are intended to produce active income is generally an active asset for purposes of the asset test unless, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the non-U.S. corporation is a “controlled foreign corporation” (CFC) that is not publicly traded “for the taxable year.” If a non-U.S. corporation is a CFC that is not publicly traded for the taxable year, its PFIC status under the asset test is determined by using the U.S. tax basis of its assets rather than their fair market value and therefore the market value of its goodwill is generally disregarded. Generally, a non-U.S. corporation is a CFC if more than 50% of its shares’ voting power or value is owned, directly, indirectly or constructively, by “United States shareholders” (as defined in Section 951(b) of the Code). Although it is not certain, we may be or may have been a CFC in the 2021 taxable year. However, under recently promulgated Treasury regulations, the fair market value of our assets (including goodwill) can be used for purposes of the asset test provided that (i) we are publicly traded on the majority of days during our taxable year or (ii) we would not be a CFC if certain constructive ownership rules were not applied. We believe, and the remainder of this discussion assumes, that we are eligible to use the fair market value of our assets for purposes of the asset test for our 2021 taxable year.

Based on the composition of our income and assets during 2021, we do not believe that we were a PFIC for our 2021 taxable year. However, there can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) will agree with our conclusion. Whether we will be a PFIC in 2022 or any future year is uncertain because, among other things, (i) we currently own a substantial amount of passive assets, including cash, (ii) the valuation of our assets that generate nonpassive income for PFIC purposes, including our intangible assets, is uncertain and may vary substantially over time, (iii) the treatment of grants as income for U.S. federal income tax purposes is unclear, and (iv) the composition of our income may vary substantially over time. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that we will not be a PFIC in 2022 or any future taxable year.

If we are a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. investor holds common shares, we generally would continue to be treated as a PFIC with respect to that U.S. investor for all succeeding years during which the U.S. investor holds common shares, even if we ceased to meet the threshold requirements for PFIC status. Such a U.S. investor may be subject to adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences, including (i) the treatment of all or a portion of any gain on disposition as ordinary income, (ii) the application of a deferred interest charge on such gain and the receipt of certain dividends and (iii) compliance with certain reporting requirements. There is no assurance that we will provide information that will enable investors to make a qualified electing fund election, also known as a QEF Election, that could mitigate the adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences should we be classified as a PFIC. See “Item 10. Additional Information — E. Taxation — Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations to U.S. Holders.”

Insiders have substantial control over us and could limit your ability to influence the outcome of key transactions, including a change of control.

As of March 22, 2022, our principal shareholders, managing directors, supervisory directors and executive officers and entities affiliated with them own 71% of the outstanding common shares. As a result, these shareholders, if acting together, would be able to influence or control matters requiring approval by our general meeting, including the appointment of managing directors and supervisory directors, changes to our articles of association and approval of mergers or other extraordinary transactions. They may also have interests that differ from yours and may vote in a way with which you disagree and which may be adverse to your interests. The concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying, preventing or deterring a change of control of our company, could deprive our shareholders of an opportunity to receive a premium for their common shares as part of a sale of our company and might ultimately affect the market price of our common shares.

If securities or industry analysts do not continue to publish research or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about our business, our share price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common shares depends in part on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business. If securities or industry analysts do not continue to cover our company, the market price for our common shares would likely be negatively impacted.

In addition, if one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrades our common shares or publishes inaccurate or unfavorable research about our business, our share price may decline. If one or more of these analysts ceases coverage of our company or fails to publish reports on us regularly, demand for our shares could decrease, which might cause our share price and trading volume to decline.

We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

We currently intend to retain our future earnings, if any, for the foreseeable future, to fund the development and growth of our business. We do not intend to pay any dividends to holders of our common shares. As a result, capital appreciation in the price of our common shares, if any, will be your only source of gain on an investment in our common shares.

If we do pay dividends, we may need to withhold tax on such dividends payable to holders of our shares in both Germany and the Netherlands.

We do not intend to pay any dividends to holders of our common shares. See “— We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.” However, if we do pay dividends, we may need to withhold tax on such dividends both in Germany and the Netherlands.

As an entity incorporated under Dutch law, any dividends distributed by us are subject to Dutch dividend withholding tax on the basis of Dutch domestic law. However, on the basis of the 2012 Convention between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income, or the “double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands,” the Netherlands will be restricted in imposing these taxes if we are also a tax resident of Germany and our effective management is located in Germany, or the “withholding tax restriction.” See also “— We may become taxable in a jurisdiction other than Germany and this may increase the aggregate tax burden on us.” The withholding tax restriction does, however, not apply, and Dutch dividend withholding tax is still required to be withheld from dividends, if and when paid to Dutch resident holders of our common shares (and non-Dutch resident holders of our common shares that have a permanent establishment in the Netherlands to which their shareholding is attributable). As a result, upon a payment of dividends, we will be required to identify our shareholders in order to assess whether there are Dutch residents (or non-Dutch residents with a permanent establishment in the Netherlands to which the common shares are attributable) in respect of which Dutch dividend withholding tax has to be withheld. Such identification may not always be possible in practice. If the identity of our shareholders cannot be determined, withholding of both German and Dutch dividend withholding tax may occur upon a payment of dividends.

Furthermore, the withholding tax restriction referred to above is based on the current reservation made by Germany under the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, or the “MLI,” with respect to the tie-breaker provision included in Article 4(3) of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands, or the “MLI tie-breaker reservation.” If Germany changes its MLI tie-breaker reservation, we will not be entitled to any benefits of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands, including the withholding tax restriction, as long as Germany and the Netherlands do not reach an agreement on our tax residency for purposes of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands, and, as a result, any dividends distributed by us during the period no such agreement has been reached between Germany and the Netherlands, may be subject to dividend withholding tax both in Germany and the Netherlands.

Our ability to use our net operating loss carryforwards and other tax attributes may be limited.

Our ability to utilize our net operating losses, or NOLs, is currently limited, and may be limited further, under Section 8c of the German Corporation Income Tax Act (*Körperschaftsteuergesetz*, or KStG) and Section 10a of the German Trade Tax Act (*Gewerbesteuer-gesetz*, or GewStG). These limitations apply if a qualified ownership change, as defined by Section 8c KStG, occurs and no exemption is applicable.

Generally, a qualified ownership change occurs if more than 50% of the share capital or the voting rights are directly or indirectly transferred to a shareholder or a group of shareholders within a period of five years. A qualified ownership change may also occur in case of a transaction comparable to a transfer of shares or voting rights or in case of an increase in capital leading to a respective change in the shareholding.

In the case of such a qualified ownership change tax loss carryforwards expire in full. To the extent that the tax loss carryforwards do not exceed the built-in gains (*stille Reserven*) in the assets and liabilities taxable in Germany, they may be further utilized despite a qualified ownership change. In case of a qualified ownership change within a group, tax loss carryforwards will be preserved if certain conditions are satisfied. In case of a qualified ownership change, tax loss carryforwards will be preserved (in the form of a “*fortführungsgebundener Verlustvortrag*”) if the business operations have not been changed and will not be changed within the meaning of Section 8d KStG.

According to an appeal filed by the fiscal court of Hamburg dated August 29, 2017, Section 8c, paragraph 1, sentence 1 KStG is not in line with the German constitution. The appeal is still pending. It is unclear when the Federal Constitutional Court will decide this case.

As of December 31, 2021, there are NOLs of CureVac AG and CureVac Real Estate GmbH for German corporate tax purposes of €1,181.2 million: €1,057.1 million for CureVac AG, €86.8 million for CureVac Real Estate GmbH and €37.3 million for CureVac N.V. and for German trade tax purposes of €1,176.8 million: €1,053.9 million for CureVac AG, €85.6 million for CureVac Real Estate GmbH and €37.3 million for CureVac N.V. available. The contribution of 100% of CureVac AG's shares into CureVac B.V. was qualified as an ownership change within the meaning of Section 8c KStG and Section 10a GewStG. The available tax loss carryforwards of CureVac AG and CureVac Real Estate GmbH will generally expire in full. However, the NOLs would not be forfeited to the extent that CureVac AG and CureVac Real Estate GmbH have built-in gains in their assets that are fully taxable in Germany. The built-in gains are determined by comparing the Fair Market Value of the respective entity with the entity's tax book equity. A preliminary determination of the built-in gains has shown that all of the tax loss carryforwards would be maintained.

Future changes in share ownership may also trigger an ownership change and, consequently, a Section 8c KStG or a Section 10a GewStG limitation. Any limitation may result in the expiration of a portion or the complete tax operating loss carryforwards before they can be utilized. As a result, if we earn net taxable income, our ability to use our pre-change net operating loss carryforwards to reduce German income tax may be subject to limitations, which could potentially result in increased future cash tax liability to us.

Shareholders may not be able to exercise preemptive rights and, as a result, may experience substantial dilution upon future issuances of common shares.

In the event of an issuance of common shares, subject to certain exceptions, each shareholder will have a pro rata preemptive right in proportion to the aggregate nominal value of the common shares held by such holder. These preemptive rights may be restricted or excluded by a resolution of the general meeting or by another corporate body designated by the general meeting. Our management board, subject to approval of our supervisory board, has been authorized, for a period of five years to issue shares or grant rights to subscribe for shares up to our authorized share capital from time to time and to limit or exclude preemptive rights in connection therewith. This could cause existing shareholders to experience substantial dilution of their interest in us.

We may become taxable in a jurisdiction other than Germany and this may increase the aggregate tax burden on us.

Since our incorporation we have had, on a continuous basis, our place of "effective management" in Germany. We will therefore qualify as a tax resident of Germany on the basis of German domestic law. As an entity incorporated under Dutch law, however, we also qualify as a tax resident of the Netherlands on the basis of Dutch domestic law. However, based on our current management structure and the current tax laws of the United States, Germany and the Netherlands, as well as applicable income tax treaties, and current interpretations thereof, we should qualify solely as a tax resident of Germany for the purposes of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands due to the "effective management" tie-breaker included in Article 4(3) of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands and the current MLI tie-breaker reservation.

The test of "effective management" is largely a question of fact and degree based on all the circumstances, rather than a question of law. Nevertheless, the relevant case law and OECD guidance suggest that our company is likely to be regarded as having become a German tax resident from incorporation and remaining so if, as our company intends, (i) most meetings of its management board are prepared and held in Germany (and none will be held in the Netherlands) with a majority of managing directors present in Germany for those meetings; (ii) at those meetings there are full discussions of, and decisions are made regarding, the key strategic issues affecting our company and its subsidiaries; (iii) those meetings are properly minuted; (iv) a majority of our managing directors, together with supporting staff, are based in Germany; and (v) our company has permanent staffed office premises in Germany. We may, however, become subject to limited income tax liability in other countries with regard to the income generated in the respective other country, for example, due to the existence of a permanent establishment or a permanent representative in such other country.

The applicable tax laws or interpretations thereof may change, including the MLI tie-breaker reservation. Furthermore, whether we have our place of effective management in Germany and are as such tax resident in Germany is largely a question of fact and degree based on all the circumstances, rather than a question of law, which facts and degree may also change. Changes to applicable laws or interpretations thereof, changes to applicable facts and circumstances (for example, a change of directors or the place where board meetings take place), or changes to applicable income tax treaties, including a change to the MLI tie-breaker reservation, may result in us becoming (also) a tax resident of the Netherlands or another jurisdiction. See “— If we do pay dividends, we may need to withhold tax on such dividends payable to holders of our shares in both Germany and the Netherlands.” As a consequence, our overall effective income tax rate and income tax expense could materially increase, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects, which could cause our share price and trading volume to decline. In addition, as a consequence, dividends distributed by us, if any, may become subject to dividend withholding tax in more than one jurisdiction. The double taxation of income and the double withholding tax on dividends may be reduced or avoided entirely under the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands or under a double tax treaty between the Netherlands and the respective other country.

Claims of U.S. civil liabilities may not be enforceable against us.

We are incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands and, as such, Dutch private international law governs the rights of our shareholders and the civil liability of our managing directors, supervisory directors and executive officers are governed in certain respects by the laws of the Netherlands. Our headquarters is located in Germany. Most of our assets are located outside the United States. The majority of our managing directors and supervisory directors reside outside the United States. The ability of our shareholders in certain countries other than the Netherlands to bring an action against us or our managing directors, supervisory directors and executive officers may be limited under applicable law. As a result, it may not be possible for shareholders to effect service of process within the United States upon such persons or to enforce judgments against them or us in U.S. courts, including judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. In addition, it is not clear whether a Dutch court would impose civil liability on us or any of our managing directors, supervisory directors and executive officers in an original action based solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Netherlands.

As of the date of this Annual Report, the United States and the Netherlands do not have a treaty providing for the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments, other than arbitration awards, in civil and commercial matters. With respect to choice of court agreements in civil or commercial matters, the Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements has entered into force for the Netherlands, but has not entered into force for the United States. Accordingly, a judgment rendered by a court in the United States, whether or not predicated solely upon U.S. securities laws, would not automatically be recognized and enforced by the competent Dutch courts. However, if a person has obtained a judgment rendered by a court in the United States that is enforceable under the laws of the United States and files a claim with the competent Dutch court, the Dutch court will in principle give binding effect to that foreign judgment if (i) the jurisdiction of the foreign court was based on a ground of jurisdiction that is generally acceptable according to international standards, (ii) the judgment by the foreign court was rendered in legal proceedings that comply with the Dutch standards of proper administration of justice including sufficient safeguards (*behoorlijke rechtspleging*), (iii) binding effect of such foreign judgment is not contrary to Dutch public order (*openbare orde*) and (iv) the judgment by the foreign court is not incompatible with a decision rendered between the same parties by a Dutch court, or with a previous decision rendered between the same parties by a foreign court in a dispute that concerns the same subject and is based on the same cause, provided that the previous decision qualifies for recognition in the Netherlands. However, even if such a foreign judgment is given binding effect, a claim based on that foreign judgment may still be rejected if the foreign judgment is not or no longer formally enforceable.

The United States and Germany currently do not have a treaty providing for the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments, in civil and commercial matters. Consequently, a final judgment for payment or declaratory judgments given by a court in the United States, whether or not predicated solely upon U.S. securities laws, would not automatically be recognized or enforceable in Germany. German courts may deny the recognition and enforcement of a judgment rendered by a U.S. court if they consider the U.S. court not to be competent or the decision to be in violation of German public policy principles. For example, judgments awarding punitive damages are generally not enforceable in Germany. A German court may reduce the amount of damages granted by a U.S. court and recognize damages only to the extent that they are necessary to compensate actual losses or damages.

In addition, actions brought in a German court against us, our managing directors, our supervisory directors, our senior management and the experts named herein to enforce liabilities based on U.S. federal securities laws may be subject to certain restrictions. In particular, German courts generally do not award punitive damages. Litigation in Germany is also subject to rules of procedure that differ from the U.S. rules, including with respect to the taking and admissibility of evidence, the conduct of the proceedings and the allocation of costs. German procedural law does not provide for pre-trial discovery of documents, nor does Germany support pre-trial discovery of documents under the 1970 Hague Evidence Convention. Proceedings in Germany would have to be conducted in the German language and all documents submitted to the court would, in principle, have to be translated into German. For these reasons, it may be difficult for a U.S. investor to bring an original action in a German court predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws against us, our managing directors, our supervisory directors, our senior management and the experts named in this Annual Report.

Based on the lack of a treaty as described above, there can be no assurance that U.S. investors will be able to enforce against us or managing directors, supervisory directors, executive officers or certain experts named herein who are residents of or possessing assets in the Netherlands, Germany, or other countries other than the United States any judgments obtained in U.S. courts in civil and commercial matters, including judgments under the U.S. federal securities laws.

The rights of our shareholders may be different from the rights of shareholders in companies governed by the laws of U.S. jurisdictions and may not protect investors in a similar fashion afforded by incorporation in a U.S. jurisdiction.

We are a public company (*naamloze vennootschap*) organized under the laws of the Netherlands. Our corporate affairs are governed by our articles of association, the rules of our management board and those of our supervisory board and by the laws governing companies incorporated in the Netherlands. However, there can be no assurance that Dutch law will not change in the future or that it will serve to protect investors in a similar fashion afforded under corporate law principles in the United States, which could adversely affect the rights of investors.

The rights of shareholders and the responsibilities of managing directors and supervisory directors may be different from the rights and obligations of shareholders and directors in companies governed by the laws of U.S. jurisdictions. In the performance of their duties, our managing directors and supervisory directors are required by Dutch law to consider the interests of our company, its shareholders, its employees and other stakeholders, in all cases with due observation of the principles of reasonableness and fairness. It is possible that some of these parties will have interests that are different from, or in addition to, your interests as a shareholder.

For more information on relevant provisions of Dutch corporation law and of our articles of association, see “Item 10. Additional Information — B. Memorandum and Articles of Association.”

The ability for our shareholders to alter the members of our management board or supervisory board may be limited by Dutch cooling-off period in face of shareholder activism or hostile take-over

Our management board, with the approval of our supervisory board, can invoke a cooling-off period of up to 250 days when shareholders, using their right to have items added to the agenda for a general meeting or their right to request a general meeting, propose an agenda item for our general meeting to dismiss, suspend or appoint one or more managing directors or supervisory directors (or to amend any provision in our articles of association dealing with those matters) or when a public offer for our Company is made or announced without our support, provided, in each case, that our management board believes that such proposal or offer materially conflicts with the interests of our company and its business. During a cooling-off period, our general meeting cannot dismiss, suspend or appoint managing directors and supervisory directors (or amend the provisions in our articles of association dealing with those matters) except at the proposal of our management board. During a cooling-off period, our management board must gather all relevant information necessary for a careful decision-making process and at least consult with shareholders representing 3% or more of our issued share capital at the time the cooling-off period was invoked, as well as with our Dutch works council (if we or, under certain circumstances, any of our subsidiaries would have one). Formal statements expressed by these stakeholders during such consultations must be published on our website to the extent these stakeholders have approved that publication. Ultimately one week following the last day of the cooling-off period, our management board must publish a report in respect of its policy and conduct of affairs during the cooling-off period on our website. This report must remain available for inspection by shareholders and others with meeting rights under Dutch law at our office and must be tabled for discussion at the next general meeting. Shareholders representing at least 3% of our issued share capital may request the Enterprise Chamber of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal, or the Enterprise Chamber (*Ondernemingskamer*), for early termination of the cooling-off period. The Enterprise Chamber must rule in favor of the request if the shareholders can demonstrate that:

- our management board, in light of the circumstances at hand when the cooling-off period was invoked, could not reasonably have concluded that the relevant proposal or hostile offer constituted a material conflict with the interests of our company and its business;
- our management board cannot reasonably believe that a continuation of the cooling-off period would contribute to careful policy-making; or
- other defensive measures, having the same purpose, nature and scope as the cooling-off period, have been activated during the cooling-off period and have not since been terminated or suspended within a reasonable period at the relevant shareholders' request (i.e., no 'stacking' of defensive measures).

Provisions of our articles of association or Dutch corporate law might deter acquisition bids for us that might be considered favorable and prevent, delay or frustrate any attempt to replace or remove our managing directors or supervisory directors.

Under Dutch law, various protective measures are possible and permissible within the boundaries set by Dutch law and Dutch case law. In this respect, our general meeting shall authorize our management board, subject to the approval by our supervisory board, to grant a call option to an independent foundation under Dutch law (if and when incorporated), or protective foundation, to acquire preferred shares pursuant to a call option agreement, or the call option agreement, that may be entered into between us and such protective foundation after the later of (a) dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates as defined by our articles of association and ultimate beneficiaries as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) no longer holding at least 25% of our issued share capital (or an earlier change of control over dievini, as defined in our articles of association), which we refer to as the initial period, or (b) the termination or expiry of the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement (see "Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions — B. Related Party Transactions — Shareholders' Agreement Among KfW, dievini and Mr. Hopp" for further information on that agreement), which we refer to as the initial approval period.

This call option, if and when granted, shall be continuous in nature and can be exercised repeatedly on multiple occasions. If the protective foundation, if and when incorporated, would exercise such call option, if and when granted, a number of preferred shares up to 100% of our issued share capital held by others than the protective foundation, minus one share, will be issued to the protective foundation. These preferred shares would then be issued to the protective foundation under the obligation to pay 25% of their nominal value upon issuance. In order for the protective foundation to finance the issue price in relation to the preferred shares, the protective foundation may enter into a finance arrangement with a bank or other financial institution. As an alternative to securing this external financing, subject to applicable restrictions under Dutch law, the call option agreement, if and when entered into, will provide that the protective foundation may request us to provide, or cause our subsidiaries to provide, sufficient funding to the protective foundation to enable it to satisfy the payment obligation (or part thereof) in cash and/or to charge an amount equal to the payment obligation (or part thereof) against our profits and/or reserves in satisfaction of such payment obligation. The articles of association of the protective foundation, if and when incorporated, will provide that it will promote and protect the interests of the company, the business connected with the company and the company's stakeholders from time to time, and repressing possible influences which could threaten the strategy, continuity, independence and/or identity of the company or the business connected with it, to such an extent that this could be considered to be damaging to the aforementioned interests. These influences may include a third-party acquiring a significant percentage of our common shares, the announcement of an unsolicited public offer for our common shares, shareholder activism, other concentration of control over our common shares or any other form of undue pressure on us to alter our strategic policies. The protective foundation, if and when incorporated, shall be structured to operate independently of us.

The voting rights of our shares are based on nominal value and, as we expect our common shares to trade substantially in excess of their nominal value, preferred shares issued at 25% of their nominal value can carry significant voting power for a substantially reduced price compared to the price of our common shares and thus can be used as a defensive measure. These preferred shares, if and when issued, will have both a liquidation and dividend preference over our common shares and will accrue cash dividends at a fixed rate calculated over the amount paid-up on those preferred shares pro rata tempore for the period during which they were outstanding. The protective foundation would be expected to require us to cancel its preferred shares, if and when issued to the protective foundation, once the perceived threat to the company and its stakeholders has been removed or sufficiently mitigated or neutralized. However, subject to the same limitations described above, the protective foundation would, in that case, continue to have the right to exercise the call option in the future in response to a new threat to the interests of us, our business and our stakeholders from time to time.

In addition, certain provisions of our articles of association may make it more difficult for a third-party to acquire control of us or effect a change in the composition of our management board and supervisory board. These include:

- a provision that our managing directors and supervisory directors are appointed on the basis of a binding nomination, the binding nature of which can only be overruled by a simple majority of votes cast representing at least one-third of our issued share capital;
- a provision that our managing directors and supervisory directors may only be dismissed by the general meeting by a two-thirds majority of votes cast representing more than 50% of our issued share capital (unless the dismissal is proposed by the supervisory board or, with respect to supervisory directors nominated by dievini or KfW, by dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for dievini or by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for KfW, respectively, in which case a simple majority of the votes would be sufficient);
- a provision that certain provisions of our articles of association can only be amended with the affirmative vote of (i) during the nomination period for dievini, dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and (ii) during the nomination period for KfW, KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement);

- a provision that if a supervisory director is no longer in office or is unable to act, he or she may be replaced temporarily by a person who the supervisory board has designated for that purpose and, where a supervisory director who has been appointed upon a nomination of dievini or KfW, as applicable, is no longer in office or unable to act, such supervisory director may only be temporarily replaced by a person designated for such purposes by dievini or KfW, as applicable. Such person shall become a full member of the supervisory board with the rights of the relevant supervisory director appointed upon a nomination of dievini or KfW, as applicable, as soon as a written designation to that effect has been received by the chairman or vice-chairman of our supervisory board, subject to limitations, under applicable law regarding dievini's rights under this provision;
- a provision allowing, among other matters, a former chairman of our supervisory board, a former nominee of dievini, and a former nominee of KfW to jointly take on the supervisory functions, which persons jointly may designate one or more other persons to be charged with the supervision of our company (instead of or together with the former chairman of our supervisory board), as applicable, to supervise our affairs if all of our supervisory directors are removed from office and to appoint others to be charged with the supervision of our affairs, until new supervisory directors are appointed by the general meeting on the basis of a binding nomination discussed above;
- a provision allowing the management board to temporarily replace a managing director who is no longer in office or unable to act, with another person or persons designated for this purpose by the management board and attributing the management of the company to the supervisory board in case all managing directors are no longer in office or unable to act; and
- a requirement that certain matters, including an amendment of our articles of association, may only be brought to our shareholders for a vote upon a proposal by our management board with the approval of our supervisory board.

In addition, Dutch law allows for staggered multi-year terms of our managing directors and supervisory directors, as a result of which only part of our managing directors and supervisory directors may be subject to appointment or reappointment in any one year.

We are not obligated to, and do not, comply with all best practice provisions of the Dutch Corporate Governance Code.

We are subject to the Dutch Corporate Governance Code, or the DCGC. The DCGC contains both principles and best practice provisions on corporate governance that regulate relations between the management board, the supervisory board and the general meeting and matters in respect of financial reporting, auditors, disclosure, compliance and enforcement standards. The DCGC is based on a “comply or explain” principle. Accordingly, companies are required to disclose in their annual reports, filed in the Netherlands, whether they comply with the provisions of the DCGC. If they do not comply with those provisions (for example, because of a conflicting Nasdaq requirement), the company is required to give the reasons for such noncompliance. The DCGC applies to Dutch companies listed on a government-recognized stock exchange, whether in the Netherlands or elsewhere, including Nasdaq. We do not comply with all best practice provisions of the DCGC. See “Item 10. Additional Information — B. Memorandum and Articles of Association.” This may affect your rights as a shareholder and you may not have the same level of protection as a shareholder in a Dutch company that fully complies with the DCGC.

We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control related to ineffective information technology general controls (ITGCs) as well as business controls which, if not remediated appropriately or timely, could result in loss of investor confidence and adversely impact our stock price. If we are unable to remediate the material weakness, or if other control deficiencies are identified, we may not be able to report our financial results accurately, prevent fraud or file our periodic reports as a public company in a timely manner.

A “material weakness” is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

We reported in our Annual Report 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting primarily related to (a) a lack of sufficient accounting and supervisory personnel who have the appropriate level of technical accounting experience and training and (b) a lack of established accounting processes and procedures for new complex transactions and consistent application of existing accounting processes and procedures as of December 31, 2020. During 2021, we implemented measures to remediate this material weakness, and even though progress was made to strengthen our control environment, management concluded that at December 31, 2021, there were material weaknesses in internal control related to (a) ineffective information technology general controls (ITGCs) in the area of user access over certain information technology (IT) systems and the reports generated from these systems used in the execution of controls that support the Company's financial reporting processes and (b) business controls which were not adequately designed and operating effectively as a result of gaps in the identification of risks, precision of review controls and documentation to evidence control performance. As a result, management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of December 31, 2021. While we are working to remediate the weaknesses as quickly and efficiently as possible, we cannot at this time, provide an estimate of the time frame we expect in connection with implementing our plan to remediate those material weaknesses. These remediation measures may be time consuming, costly and might place significant demands on our financial and operational resources. If we are unable to remediate the material weaknesses, or are otherwise unable to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting or disclosure controls and procedures, our ability to record, process and report financial information accurately, and to prepare financial statements within required time periods, could be adversely affected, which could subject us to litigation or investigations requiring management resources and payment of legal and other expenses, negatively affect investor confidence in our financial statements and adversely impact our stock price.

Notwithstanding the material weaknesses identified as of December 31, 2021, we have concluded that the financial statements and other financial information included in this Annual Report on Form 20-F, fairly present in all material respects our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows as of, and for, the periods presented.

Our management has and continues to take action to remediate these material weaknesses, as discussed in more detail under "Item 15. Controls and Procedures" of this Report and is committed to continue investing significant time and resources and taking actions to remediate the material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as we work to further streamline disparate information technology systems and enhance our risk assessment and control activities. Any failure to maintain or implement required new or improved controls, or any difficulties we encounter in their implementation, could result in additional significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, and result in material misstatements in our financial statements that could result in a restatement of financial statements.

Risks related to ESG

Our ability to effectively monitor and respond to the rapid and ongoing developments and expectations relating to environmental, social and governance ("ESG") matters, including related social expectations and concerns, may impose unexpected costs or result in reputational or other harm that could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, cash flows and results of operations and could cause the market value of our common shares to decline.

There are rapid and ongoing developments and changing expectations relating to ESG matters and factors such as the impact of our operations on the environment, corporate governance, management of business ethics, human rights diligence in our supply chain, and human resource development, which may result in increased regulatory, social or other scrutiny on us. Regarding climate risks, we are expected to address climate risks due to our own contribution to climate change (inside-out perspective), risks due to physical effects of climate change as well as transition risks (outside-in perspective), and interactions between both perspectives ("dual materiality"). If we are unable to adequately recognize and respond to such developments and governmental, societal, investor and NGO expectations relating to such ESG matters, we may miss corporate opportunities, become subject to additional scrutiny, incur unexpected costs or experience damage to our reputation or our various brands. If any of these events were to occur, there may be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, cash flows and results of operations and the market value of our common shares may decline. We have observed that in addition to the importance of their financial performance, companies are increasingly being judged by their performance on ESG matters. A variety of organizations measure the performance of companies on such ESG topics, and the results of these assessments are widely publicized. We may fail to comply with standards or best practices put forth by such organizations or by governmental or regulatory bodies. In addition, investment in funds that specialize in companies that perform well in such assessments are increasingly popular, and major institutional investors have publicly emphasized the importance of such ESG measures to their investment decisions. In light of investors' increased focus on ESG matters, there can be no certainty that we will manage such issues successfully, or that we will.

If we or our third-party suppliers fail to comply with environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, we could become subject to fines or penalties or incur costs that could harm our business.

We are subject to numerous environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, including those governing laboratory procedures and the handling, use, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes. Our operations involve the use of hazardous and flammable materials, including chemicals and biological materials. Our operations also may produce hazardous waste products. We generally anticipate contracting with third parties for the disposal of these materials and wastes. We will not be able to eliminate the risk of contamination or injury from these materials. In the event of contamination or injury resulting from any use by us of hazardous materials, we could be held liable for any resulting damages, and any liability could exceed our resources. We also could incur significant costs associated with civil or criminal fines and penalties for failure to comply with such laws and regulations.

ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

A. History and Development of the Company

On April 7, 2020, CureVac B.V. was incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands and became the holding company of CureVac AG in connection with our initial public offering on August 14, 2020, pursuant to the Corporate Reorganization. As part of the Corporate Reorganization, the legal form of CureVac B.V. was converted from a Dutch private company with limited liability (*besloten vennootschap met beperkte aansprakelijkheid*) to a Dutch public company (*naamloze vennootschap*), and the articles of association of CureVac N.V. became effective. Following the Corporate Reorganization, CureVac N.V. became the holding company of CureVac AG and the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac AG included in this Annual Report became part of the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac N.V. Our legal and commercial name is CureVac N.V.

Our principal executive offices are located at Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany and our telephone number at this address is +49 7071 9883 0. Our additional offices are in Frankfurt am Main (Germany) and Boston (Massachusetts, United States).

Since August 14, 2020, our common shares have traded on Nasdaq under the symbol “CVAC.” Our agent for service of process in the United States is CureVac Inc., located at 250 Summer St. 3rd Fl., Boston, Massachusetts 02210.

Based on the aggregate market value of our common shares held by non-affiliates as of June 30, 2021, we became a “large accelerated filer” and no longer qualify as an emerging growth company as of December 31, 2021. Accordingly, beginning with this Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2021, we are no longer be subject to the reduced reporting requirements applicable to emerging growth companies and we are required to adhere to, among other things, the auditor attestation requirement in the assessment of internal controls over financial reporting and compliance with the requirement that the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board has adopted regarding a supplement to the auditor’s report providing additional information about the audit and the financial statements.

The SEC maintains an Internet website that contains reports and other information about issuers, like us, that file electronically with the SEC. The address of that website is www.sec.gov. Our website can be found at www.curevac.com. The information on our website is not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report, and you should not consider information contained on our website or any websites mentioned in this Annual Report to be part of this Annual Report.

Our capital expenditures for 2021, 2020 and 2019 amounted to €135.4 million, €39.6 million and €20.1 million. These expenditures were primarily for equipment and intangibles used in our research and development activities, as well as for the development of a GMP production process on a large industrial scale (GMP IV).

As the result of our organic growth, our workforce has increased over the last three years from an approximate average workforce of 440 in fiscal 2019 to 760 in fiscal 2021.

B. Business Overview

Overview

We are a global biopharmaceutical company developing a new class of transformative medicines based on messenger ribonucleic acid that has the potential to improve the lives of people. Our vision is to revolutionize medicine and open new avenues for developing therapies by enabling the body to make its own drugs. Messenger ribonucleic acid, or mRNA, plays a central role in cellular biology in the production of proteins in every living cell. We are the pioneers in successfully harnessing mRNAs designed to prevent infections and to treat diseases by mimicking human biology to synthesize the desired proteins. Our technology platform is based on a targeted approach to optimize mRNA constructs that encode functional proteins that either induce a desired immune response or replace defective or missing proteins using the cell's intrinsic translation machinery. Our current product portfolio includes clinical and preclinical candidates across multiple disease indications in prophylactic vaccines, oncology and molecular therapy.

In prophylactic vaccines, we are advancing our second-generation mRNA vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, against coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) in collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA, or GSK. The collaboration on second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidates with GSK was initiated in April 2021, and aims to research, develop and manufacture next-generation mRNA vaccines targeting the original SARS-CoV-2 strain as well as emerging variants. The collaboration extends the initial partnership we started with GSK in July 2020, which focuses on the development of new products based on our second-generation mRNA technology for different targets in the field of infectious diseases. The optimized mRNA backbone that is being used in this collaboration features targeted optimizations designed to improve intracellular mRNA stability and translation for increased and extended protein expression. These optimizations potentially allow for strong and early immune responses at low doses, which is intended to also support the development of multivalent vaccines to target rapidly spreading COVID-19 variants as well as combination vaccines against different viral diseases.

CV2CoV is the first representative of our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine program. The vaccine candidate is a non-chemically modified mRNA, encoding the prefusion stabilized full-length spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and formulated within Lipid Nanoparticles, or LNPs. On May 13, 2021, we announced that CV2CoV is able to induce high levels of antigen production in an in vitro setup as well as strong and dose-dependent immune responses in a preclinical study in rats. These data were complemented in June, 2021, by preclinical data published in Nature Communications demonstrating full protection by CV2CoV and CVnCoV from lethal infection caused by SARS-CoV-2 ancestral strain BavPat1 or the Beta variant (B.1.351) in a transgenic mouse model, expressing the human ACE2 receptor. On August 16, 2021 we announced availability of a preprint manuscript with preclinical data investigating immune responses as well as the protective efficacy of CV2CoV in comparison to our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, against SARS-CoV-2 challenge in non-human primates. The study, conducted in collaboration with Dan Barouch, MD, Ph.D., of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, assessed cynomolgus macaques vaccinated with 12µg of either the first or second-generation vaccine candidate. Better activation of innate and adaptive immune responses was achieved with CV2CoV, resulting in faster response onset, higher titers of antibodies and stronger memory B and T cell activation as compared to our first-generation candidate, CVnCoV. Higher antibody neutralizing capacity was observed with CV2CoV across a broad range of variants, including the Beta, Delta and Lambda variants. During challenge with the original SARS-CoV-2 virus, animals vaccinated with CV2CoV were found to be better protected compared to CVnCoV based on effective clearance of the virus in the lungs and nasal passages. A direct comparison of CV2CoV with a licensed mRNA vaccine in non-human primates was able to show that neutralizing antibody levels measured following full vaccination of animals with either 12µg of CV2CoV or a 30µg standard dose of the licensed mRNA vaccine were highly comparable. Full data was published in Nature on November 18, 2021. Following these preclinical data, we announced the start of a Phase 1 clinical trial with CV2CoV on March 30, 2022. Within the joint vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. We expect to start assessing a modified second-generation COVID-19 mRNA vaccine candidate in a Phase 1 trial later in 2022. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities. Candidates addressing relevant COVID-19 variants featuring the same mRNA backbone are currently in preclinical testing. On April 21, 2022, the preclinical data for the second-generation mRNA backbone was extended by a study conducted in collaboration with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, comparing immune responses and protective efficacy of monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding Beta and/or Delta variants, primarily in a transgenic mouse model and a Wistar rat model.

mRNA-based medicines represent a novel class of medicine that have the potential to address limitations of conventional treatment modalities. We believe the modular nature of mRNA has the potential for higher efficacy, greater speed and lower cost of production as compared to conventional treatment modalities. mRNA delivery enables direct production of any protein (secreted, membrane and intracellular) in the body and has shown a wide range of activity. The flexible chemical structure of mRNA, utilizing only four nucleotide building blocks, allows us to encode for a broad range of proteins with simple sequence changes, offering design versatility, specificity and limited off-target effects. Transient expression of mRNA limits the risk of irreversible changes to the cells' DNA and allows for flexible dosing based on a patient's needs as well as opportunity for repeat dosing. We are leveraging these inherent advantages of mRNA-based medicines in the development of our mRNA technology platform.

We have built an extensive expertise in the fields of mRNA biology, optimization and production. We have continued to invest in developing our technology platform, which we refer to as the RNAoptimizer, over the past 21 years. Our differentiated technology platform is designed to optimize each component of the mRNA-based medicine. Our RNAoptimizer platform is built on three core pillars:

- **Protein design:** optimizing the specific properties of encoded protein;
- **mRNA optimization:** optimizing characteristics such as half-life and translation efficacy of the mRNA molecule; and
- **mRNA delivery:** selecting the best-suited delivery system from our diverse portfolio of proprietary and third-party delivery systems.

By leveraging each of these pillars, we have observed improved required protein expression levels while modulating the interaction with the immune system in preclinical and clinical trials. We continue to invest in all levels of optimization to improve the methods we currently employ and to further advance our mRNA-based medicines.

We consider our manufacturing process an important part of our strategy that allows us to match our flexible and versatile technology platform with equally flexible and versatile manufacturing setups. In house, we currently operate three GMP-certified suites, with the capacity to supply our clinical programs and support potential early commercialization activities. In the context of COVID-19, we are currently producing clinical trial material for our second-generation vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, in our GMP facilities as well as via our broad and integrated European vaccine manufacturing network. We are in the process of building a fourth GMP large-scale production facility at CureVac's headquarters in Tübingen, which is being designed to cover all manufacturing steps from starting material to formulation, and which could potentially supply materials for hundreds of millions of doses of our vaccine product candidates to support our future commercial launches. To bridge the time before GMP IV can go online, we established a broad and integrated European vaccine manufacturing network with highly experienced Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization partners for each of the key manufacturing steps for our next-generation product candidates in November 2020. Partners currently strengthening our European manufacturing network include Fareva, Rentschler Biopharma SE, GSK, and Novartis AG, among others, and we may enter into additional agreements in the future. In addition to our GMP manufacturing facilities, we are developing a novel downsized, integrated, and automated process for manufacturing of mRNA vaccines and therapeutics, which we refer to as The RNA Printer®. In March 2022, we established the CureVac RNA Printer GmbH as a fully-owned CureVac company to advance The RNA Printer®. The new entity is designed as a platform and services company, providing a dedicated operational environment to further develop and establish The RNA Printer® as a manufacturing end-to-end solution. With its modular design and decentralized concept, we believe The RNA Printer® could be used to facilitate broad access to mRNA technology and enable mRNA product developments, e.g. for rapid supply of new mRNA-based vaccines in pandemic situations as well as patient access to advanced and personalized mRNA-based therapies in oncology.

Our approach seeks to mitigate clinical and developmental risk across multiple levels to advance and expand our broad product portfolio. We have made advances in utilizing the potential of our technology platform through rational disease selection. We consider a number of factors in our disease selection process including unmet medical need, immune response, duration of expression, dosing requirements, delivery, and targeted tissue types, among other factors. Our programs target the underlying modes of action of the disease that play a critical role in the pathology of the disease. We are initially targeting diseases that require an active immune response (such as prophylactic vaccines and oncology) and require transient expression of mRNA in tissue types that are more easily accessible. We believe these initial indications are amenable to localized delivery using a lipid nanoparticle, or LNP, delivery system. Following the encouraging results from our initial prophylactic vaccines program in clinical studies and based on our advanced understanding of mRNA biology and immune stimulation control, we have expanded our product portfolio to also target indications that require an immune silent approach (such as protein delivery), given the need for higher doses, repeated dosing and longer expression of the protein. These initial indications are using LNP delivery systems, or our proprietary polymer-based delivery system, which we refer to as the CureVac Carrier Molecule (CVCm). Our access to a broad range of delivery systems allows us to target multiple tissue types.

On October 12, 2021, we announced the strategic decision to withdraw our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, from the approval process with the European Medicines Agency, or EMA, and to focus our COVID-19 vaccine program on the development of second-generation mRNA vaccine candidates in collaboration with GSK. The decision was aligned with the evolving dynamics of the pandemic response toward greater need for more differentiated vaccines. The rolling submission with the EMA was originally initiated in February 2021 to assess CVnCoV's compliance with standards for vaccine efficacy, safety and pharmaceutical quality as a prerequisite for a formal market authorization application. Later in 2021, the EMA informed us that it would not start reviewing the provided CVnCoV data packages before 2022. As a result, we estimated that the earliest possible approval of CVnCoV would come in the second quarter of 2022. By this time, we expected candidates from the second-generation vaccine program to be progressing through clinical development. Consequently, CVnCoV was also withdrawn from a rolling submission with Swissmedic, Switzerland's authority responsible for the authorization and supervision of therapeutic products, initiated in April 2021, to review the safety, efficacy and pharmaceutical quality of CVnCoV as a prerequisite for market authorization.

Two clinical studies with first-generation candidate, CVnCoV, are still ongoing with the scheduled safety follow-up times for all trial participants as per the respective trial protocols, i.e. the Phase 2b/3 (HERALD) study in Europe and Latin America (initiated in December 2020) and a Phase 3 study in healthcare workers in Germany (initiated in December 2020). Primary data of the Phase 2b/3 (HERALD) trial was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021.

For a Phase 1 study in Germany (initiated in June 2020), a Phase 2a study in Peru and Panama (initiated in September 2020), and a Phase 3 study in participants with comorbidities in Belgium (initiated in April 2021) all subject follow-up times have been completed as per the respective trial protocols. Data of an interim analysis of the Phase 1 trial was published in *Wiener klinische Wochenschrift* on August 10, 2021. The first clinical data readout of the Phase 2a clinical trial in Peru and Panama was uploaded to the SSRN preprint server on December 10, 2021 and published in *Vaccines* on March 25, 2022.

Previously announced studies to be initiated with CVnCoV, including a Phase 2 clinical trial, focusing on immunogenicity in older adults above the age of 65 years old compared to younger adults and a flu-co-administration study, planned to be initiated together with Bayer AG to assess compatibility with established seasonal vaccines in an older population, were cancelled.

To assess the benefit of booster vaccinations, CVnCoV was also included in the Cov-Boost trial sponsored by the University of Southampton, UK, which is evaluating several COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine candidates as booster vaccines. Each participant in the Cov-Boost trial is expected to receive one booster vaccine at least three months after they completed their primary vaccination with two doses of either Comirnaty or Vaxzervia. The Cov-Boost trial started in June 2021 across 18 sites in the United Kingdom with an expected 2,886 participants. Initial results from the Cov-Boost trial were published in *The Lancet* on December 2, 2021.

Our pivotal Phase 2b/3 trial for CVnCoV, which included approximately 40,000 participants, reported interim analysis outcomes following a first interim analysis on May 28, 2021, based on 59 adjudicated COVID-19 cases and a second interim analysis on June 16, 2021, based on 134 adjudicated COVID-19 cases in the unprecedented context of at least 13 variants circulating within the assessed study population subset. Primary data of the study was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021. Overall, CVnCoV demonstrated a vaccine efficacy of 48% against COVID-19 disease of any severity. In the highly dynamic variant environment, the HERALD trial met the prespecified success criteria for efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 of any severity and for efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, as defined in the protocol. The primary efficacy analysis included 12,851 participants in the CVnCoV group and 12,211 in the placebo group. The mean observation period, starting 15 days after administration of the second dose, was 48.2 days. Vaccine efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity was 48.2% in the overall primary efficacy analysis set of SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants, and 52.5% in those aged 18–60 years. Vaccine efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19 was 70.7% overall and 77.2% in participants aged 18–60 years. There were too few participants aged 61 years or older who developed COVID-19 to allow a meaningful estimate of efficacy in this age group.

HERALD was conducted in an unprecedented evolving landscape that reflects the changing reality of the global COVID-19 pandemic, with an increasing number of SARS-CoV-2 variants adding additional challenges to the assessment of COVID-19 vaccine candidates. Sequence data were available for 184 of 207 adjudicated cases in people aged 18–60 years. About 50% of cases of COVID-19 in our trial were caused by variants of concern, 35% were caused by variants of interest, as classified by WHO in September 2021, and about 3% were caused by wild-type, with the remaining 11% caused by other variants. Although we were only able to evaluate vaccine efficacy against these variants in participants aged 18–60 years, the results indicate that the vaccine had similar efficacies against Alpha, Gamma, and Lambda variants. Many newly emerged strains have shown increased transmissibility, and differences in neutralizing antibody activity against these strains might alter vaccine efficacy.

Within the broader second-generation infectious disease program, which we are developing in collaboration with GSK, our first COVID-19 vaccine candidate is CV2CoV, a non-chemically modified mRNA, encoding the prefusion stabilized full-length spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and formulated within Lipid Nanoparticles, or LNPs. On May 13, 2021, we announced that CV2CoV is able to induce high levels of antigen production in an in vitro setup as well as strong and dose-dependent immune responses in a preclinical study in rats. These data were complemented in June 2021, by preclinical data published in *Nature Communications* demonstrating full protection by CV2CoV and CVnCoV from lethal infection caused by SARS-CoV-2 ancestral strain BavPat1 or the Beta variant (B.1.351) in a transgenic mouse model, expressing the human ACE2 receptor. On August 16, 2021, we announced availability of a preprint manuscript with preclinical data investigating immune responses as well as the protective efficacy of CV2CoV in comparison to our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, against SARS-CoV-2 challenge in non-human primates. The study, conducted in collaboration with Dan Barouch, MD, Ph.D., of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, assessed cynomolgus macaques vaccinated with 12µg of either the first or second-generation vaccine candidate. Better activation of innate and adaptive immune responses was achieved with CV2CoV, resulting in faster response onset, higher titers of antibodies and stronger memory B and T cell activation as compared to our first-generation candidate, CVnCoV. Higher antibody neutralizing capacity was observed with CV2CoV across a broad range of variants, including the Beta, Delta and Lambda variants. During challenge with the original SARS-CoV-2 virus, animals vaccinated with CV2CoV were found to be better protected compared to CVnCoV based on effective clearance of the virus in the lungs and nasal passages. A direct comparison of CV2CoV with a licensed mRNA vaccine in non-human primates was able to show that neutralizing antibody levels measured following full vaccination of animals with either 12µg of CV2CoV or a 30µg standard dose of the licensed mRNA vaccine were highly comparable. Full data was published in *Nature* on November 18, 2021. Following these preclinical data, we announced the start of a Phase 1 clinical trial with CV2CoV on March 30, 2022. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities. Candidates addressing relevant COVID-19 variants featuring the same mRNA backbone are currently in preclinical testing. On April 21, 2022, the preclinical data for the second-generation mRNA backbone was extended by a study conducted in collaboration with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, comparing immune responses and protective efficacy of monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding Beta and/or Delta variants, primarily in a transgenic mouse model and a Wistar rat model.

The first non-COVID-19 vaccine candidate within the broader second-generation infectious disease program we are developing in collaboration with GSK is the influenza candidate, CVSQIV, a differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate featuring multiple non-chemically modified mRNA constructs to induce immune responses against relevant targets of four different influenza strains. On February 10, 2022, we announced the start of a Phase 1 dose-escalation study in Panama evaluating the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of CVSQIV in up to 240 healthy adult participants.

Within the jointly developed vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform also to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. In line with this mRNA development strategy, CureVac and GSK are working on chemically modified mRNA technologies and expect to start clinically assessing a modified second-generation COVID-19 as well as influenza mRNA vaccine candidate later in 2022.

Beyond the GSK infectious disease collaboration, our next advanced prophylactic vaccine program, CV7202, is being developed for prophylactic vaccination against rabies. CV7202 is an mRNA that encodes the rabies virus glycoprotein, RABV-G, formulated with lipid nanoparticles. We are currently investigating CV7202 in a Phase 1 clinical trial, evaluating safety, including reactogenicity, and immunogenicity. In January 2021, we published data from our Phase 1 trial of CV7202 in rabies. CV7202 induced adaptive immune response as shown by rabies-specific virus-neutralizing antibodies above the World Health Organization thresholds considered to be protective, after the second dose in all subjects, at the lowest 1µg and 2µg dose levels. We also showed that the lowest dose levels (1µg and 2µg mRNA) were generally well tolerated. We are currently assessing the path forward for advancing CV7202.

In oncology, we are exploring a range of potential approaches, including intratumoral therapy and novel cancer vaccines targeting neoepitopes and tumor associated antigens. Our lead oncology candidate, CV8102, is a complex of single-stranded non-coding RNA which has been optimized to maximize activation of cellular receptors that normally detect viral pathogens entering the cells (such as toll-like receptor 7, or TLR7, toll-like receptor 8, or TLR8, and retinoic acid inducible gene I, or RIG-I pathways), mimicking a viral infection of the tumor. CV8102 is designed to recruit and activate antigen-presenting cells at the site of injection to present tumor antigens released from tumor cells to T cells in the draining lymph node. This potentially leads to activation of tumor-specific T cells, which can kill tumor cells at the injected site, but also at distant non-injected tumor lesions or metastases. CV8102 is currently being evaluated in a Phase 1 clinical trial as a single agent and in combination with anti-PD-1 antibodies for the treatment of four types of solid tumors - cutaneous melanoma, adenoidcystic carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma of skin, and squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck, or HNSCC. Details of safety and efficacy observed in the dose-escalation portion of the trial were recently reported at ESMO 2021. As of June 21, 2021, 58 patients were enrolled in the dose escalation part: 33 in the single-agent cohort and 25 in the combination cohort with anti-PD-1 antibodies. As of the same cutoff date, in the single-agent CV8102 dose escalation cohort, we observed one patient with a complete response and two patients with a partial response according to RECIST 1.1. In addition, twelve patients experienced a best response of stable disease. In the PD-1 dose escalation combination cohort, one PD-1 refractory melanoma patient experienced a partial response according to RECIST 1.1. In addition, three patients experienced a best response of stable disease.

On November 10, 2021, at the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer, or the SITC, conference, we further extended the ESMO update with an extensive analysis of immune cell activation to better understand the mobilization of the immune system against CV8102-injected as well as non-injected tumors. The data showed efficient stimulation of the immune system characterized by the induction of interferon alpha and interferon gamma. Serial tumor biopsies from individual patients demonstrated increased infiltration of tumor-fighting T cells in the microenvironment of injected as well as non-injected tumors. Both observations support the hypothesis that local injection of the RNA immuno-modulator into a single tumor lesion can induce a systemic response leading to immune attack against both injected and non-injected tumors.

In February 2021, we initiated the expansion of our Phase 1 study to confirm the safety, tolerability and efficacy of CV8102 at a 600µg dose, the selected dose to be advanced in a Phase 2 clinical trial. The expansion part of the Phase 1 trial completed enrollment in October 2021 and involves 40 trial participants, with 10 in the single-agent cohort and 30 in the combination cohort with anti-PD-1. Comprehensive data from the expansion part of the study is expected in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Furthermore, we anticipate providing proof-of concept data for selected antigens in cancer vaccines with a focus on T cell mediated responses in the future. Selection of suitable clinical candidate(s) for a first clinical study is expected to occur in the first half of 2022.

On June 16, 2021, Boehringer Ingelheim expressed its intention to terminate the 2014 collaboration agreement on BI1361849 (previously CV9202). The termination became effective on November 17, 2021. The legacy program, targeting specific immune responses against tumor-associated antigens frequently overexpressed in patients with non-small cell lung cancer, or NSCLC, applies an older protamine formulation technology, which reflected the state of the technology development at the time. A Phase 1/2 clinical trial in NSCLC applying BI1361849 as a combination therapy is ongoing. Both companies are currently assessing options to continue a collaboration on our RNA technology platform based on state-of-the-art LNP-based formulations.

In molecular therapies, we published preclinical mouse data in liver fibrosis in the Journal of Hepatology in August 2021. Progression of liver fibrosis is associated with the gradual decrease of hepatocyte nuclear factor 4 alpha, or HNF4 alpha, an important regulator and key factor in liver metabolism. In the published study, four independent mouse models of the disease were treated with mRNA encoding HNF4A. The treatment was able to restore HNF4A levels and thereby significantly reduced liver injury. The study was conducted in collaboration with the REBIRTH-Research Center for Translational Regenerative Medicine and Department of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Endocrinology at the Hannover Medical School, Hannover (Germany). It provides the first preclinical data demonstrating the therapeutic applicability of mRNA encoded HNF4A in the treatment of liver fibrosis and cirrhosis.

We further expect to publish data from our collaboration with the Schepens Eye Research Institute in the end of 2022.

Our development efforts for molecular therapy are based on delivering optimized mRNAs to trigger production of antibodies or therapeutic proteins. Using our technology, we can instruct human cells to produce specific proteins in the nucleus, cytoplasm, cellular organelles, cell membrane, or get them secreted. Based on this “healthy” information delivered by mRNA, our cells can produce proteins, which are required to treat the disease caused by missing or inactive proteins. Molecular therapy spans broad therapeutic areas and has the potential to be used as a treatment against infectious diseases in passive immunization (protection against an infectious disease with the encoding of the adequate protective antibody) and toxins (protection against a toxin with the encoding of the adequate protective antibody) and to be applied in many disease indications including cancer (mRNA encoded cancer antibodies), cardiovascular diseases, and autoimmune diseases. Our mRNA optimization process, which is a core pillar of our RNAoptimizer platform, is designed to increase protein expression with the aim to reach therapeutic levels. In preclinical studies in non-human primates, we have demonstrated that antibodies encoded by mRNA can be produced in hepatocytes very rapidly and can reach therapeutic levels in the blood stream. We are also currently advancing multiple undisclosed programs in preclinical studies across eye disorders and lung diseases as well as delivering therapeutic antibodies.

To date, our revenues have consisted of up-front licensing payments, product sales and compensation for research and development services, all of which relate to our license and collaboration agreements. For the years ended December 31, 2019, 2020 and 2021, €17.4 million, €48.9 million and €103.0 million, respectively, or 100%, of our total revenue, in each respective year, was derived from our license and collaboration agreements.

The following is a summary of revenue by geographic area. Revenue is attributed to geographic region based on the location of our license and collaboration partner:

	2019	2020	2021
North America	82.2 %	71.3 %	— %
Europe	17.8 %	28.7 %	100.0 %
Rest of the World	— %	— %	— %

We have built an intellectual property portfolio in the United States, Europe and other major geographies. As of March 23, 2022, we own approximately 1,056 issued patents worldwide, including 85 issued U.S. patents, 62 issued European patents (which have been validated in various European countries resulting in a total of approximately 682 national patents in European countries), and 227 issued patents in other foreign countries, 130 pending U.S. patent applications, 78 pending European patent applications, 282 pending patent applications in other foreign countries and 27 pending PCT patent applications. Our patent portfolio includes claims relating to our RNA technology platform, our CVCM delivery system, our proprietary LNP technology and our CV8102, CV7202, CV-SSIV, and our SARS-CoV-2 product candidates.

We are led by a team of veterans with extensive experience in the biopharmaceutical industry, including experience in nucleic acid therapy, oncology, rare and infectious diseases and antibodies. Our management team as well as our supervisory board members have broad expertise in the clinical, regulatory and commercialization aspects of oncology, prophylactic vaccines and protein therapy as well as in drug development, process development and manufacturing for mRNA therapies. As of December 31, 2021, we had 648 employees, including 188 employees with advanced scientific degrees. Since our founding in 2000, we have raised €1.66 billion in gross proceeds from equity financings.

Our Product Portfolio

Our differentiated mRNA technology platform is designed to address a broad range of diseases across multiple therapeutic areas. Given the strengths of our platform, the broad potential of mRNA-based medicines and our rational approach to disease selection, we have chosen to leverage our platform to initially focus on advancing our product candidates in the areas of prophylactic vaccines, oncology and molecular therapy.

A disease indication may require an approach that triggers an immune response (immune active) or that does not require immune activation (immune silent). Each of the disease indications that we are targeting require different levels of immune activation for the mRNA-based medicines to be effective. For the immune active side of our technology, we focus on RNA or mRNA-based medicines in prophylactic vaccines and oncology. For the immune silent side of our technology, we have expanded our preclinical product portfolio to include mRNA therapies based on the expression of therapeutic proteins (including ocular, liver and lung applications).

	FOCUS AREA	LEAD PROGRAM / COLLABORATION	FORMULATION
 Immune active applications	Prophylactic Vaccines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Induction of antibody responses Induction of T cell responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 CV2CoV Influenza CVSQIV 	 Lipid nano-particle
	Oncology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Induction of T cell responses Induction of antibody responses Breaking of tolerance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumor-associated antigens* Shared neo-antigens* 	 Lipid nano-particle  Peptide based
 Immune silent applications	Protein Therapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oncology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the liver as a bioreactor Convey controlled immunogenicity Rare Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocular administration Mucosal delivery Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genmab collaboration 	 Lipid nano-particle
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvard collaboration Yale collaboration REBIRTH-Research Center collaboration CRISPR collaboration 	 Polymer based  Lipid nano-particle

* Unidentified indication.

Our lead proprietary programs include:

- Our second-generation vaccine candidate CV2CoV against SARS-CoV-2 developed in collaboration with GSK. Based on the results of preclinical studies, we initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial in March 2022.
- Our second-generation vaccine candidate CVSQIV against influenza is a differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate developed in collaboration with GSK. We initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial in February 2022.
- Our vaccine program, CV7202, has finished a Phase 1 clinical trial as a vaccine candidate against rabies. In January 2021, Phase 1 data was published in a scientific journal. We are currently assessing the timeline for advancing CV7202 into a Phase 2 clinical trial.
- Our lead oncology program, CV8102, is currently in a Phase 1 dose escalating clinical trial for four types of cancers as a monotherapy and in combination with anti-PD-1. In February 2021, we initiated the expansion of our Phase 1 study to confirm the safety, tolerability and efficacy of CV8102 in patients with advanced melanoma at 600µg, the selected dose to be advanced in a Phase 2 clinical trial.

Our key partnered programs include:

- We have partnered with GSK for the development of second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidates, including CV2CoV, and second-generation vaccine candidates against other infectious diseases, including influenza.
- We have partnered with CRISPR Therapeutics for the development of novel Cas9 mRNA constructs for use in gene editing therapeutics, with improved properties such as increased potency, decreased duration of expression and reduced potential for immunogenicity. CRISPR Therapeutics has an exclusive license to the improved constructs in three of their *in vivo* gene editing programs.
- We have a broad strategic partnership with Genmab to leverage our mRNA technology platform to develop up to four mRNA-based novel therapeutic antibodies. This represents the first publicly announced strategic partnership focused on differentiated mRNA-based antibodies.
- We have received grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop prophylactic vaccines designed to prevent picornaviruses, influenza, malaria and rotavirus.
- The CEPI Agreement terminated in February 2022, except with respect to certain ongoing projects, which are contemplated to be completed in March 2023. We also have several academic collaborations, including with SERI for target discovery research in mRNA-based eye therapy, and Yale University for target discovery research in mRNA-based pulmonary therapy.

AREA	PROGRAM	CANDIDATE	PRECLINICAL	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	CVAC COMMERCIAL RIGHTS *
PROPHYLACTIC VACCINES	1 st -Gen COVID-19 Program	1 st -Gen candidate: CVnCoV (2)	████████	████████	████████	████████ (1)	
	2 nd -Gen COVID-19 Program	2 nd -Gen candidate: CV2CoV Further 2 nd -Gen candidates **	████████	████████			Eligible for shared profits, development costs and royalties
	Infectious Disease Program	Influenza Four additional targets **	████████	████████			Eligible for milestones and royalties
	Rabies	CV7202	████████	████████			Worldwide
	Diverse Projects	Rota, malaria, universal influenza	████████				Worldwide
ONCOLOGY	Solid tumors ***	CV8102	████████	████████			Worldwide
	Shared neo-antigen **		████████				Worldwide
	Tumor Associated Antigens **		████████				Worldwide
MOLECULAR THERAPY	Cas9 gene-editing	CRISPR Therapeutics collaboration	████████				Eligible for milestones and royalties
	Liver Diseases	HNF4A mRNA: REBIRTH-Research Center collaboration	████████				Worldwide
	Ocular Diseases **	Sheppens Eye Research Institute collaboration	████████				Worldwide
	Lung Diseases **	Yale collaboration	████████				Worldwide
	Therapeutic ** Antibodies	Genmab collaboration	████████				Eligible for milestones and royalties

* For further details on our collaboration agreements, see “Business — Collaborations” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Our Collaborations and Related License Agreements.”

** Unidentified indication.

*** Cutaneous melanoma, adenoid cystic carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck.

(1) The program was discontinued. The Phase 2b/3 clinical trials is ongoing with safety follow-up times for all trial participants, see “Business — RNA-Based Prophylactic Vaccines — COVID-19 Vaccines Program — CVnCoV Phase 2b/3 Clinical Trial.”

- (2) CEPI provided funding for the Phase 1 clinical trial of CVnCoV, which was completed in December 2021. See “Business — Collaborations — Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations Framework Partnering Agreement” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations —Our Collaborations and Related License Agreements — Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations.”

Our Strengths

We are developing a broad portfolio of product candidates currently in preclinical or clinical development stages that we believe position us at the forefront of targeted immune active and immune silent mRNA medicines. Our key strengths include:

- ***We have a differentiated mRNA technology platform that has the potential to address a wide range of diseases.*** As the pioneers in the field of mRNA-based medicines, we have a deep understanding of mRNA biology, its interaction with the cellular translation machinery as well as the immune system. We have built our differentiated RNA optimizer platform to incorporate these insights over the past 21 years. We optimize mRNA to preserve critical protein-RNA interactions as these are an inherent feature of the natural building blocks we employ. Given the potential advantages of the mRNA-based medicines over existing treatment modalities, such as potential for broad application, natural biology, wide range of activity, flexibility, design versatility, transient expression and a single manufacturing process, we believe that we have the potential to address a broad range of diseases across multiple therapeutic areas. Our technology platform has been validated in clinical and preclinical studies in selected disease indications.
- ***We have a broad portfolio of mRNA-based medicines in preclinical and clinical development stages being designed for efficacy, safety and protein expression at relatively low doses.*** The potential of our technology optimized for immune activation has been observed in multiple clinical studies. We are developing our product candidates and have conducted preclinical studies and initiated Phase 1 trials of our second-generation vaccine candidates for COVID-19 and influenza, as well as Phase 2a and Phase 2b/3 clinical trials for our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. Additionally, CV7202, our prophylactic vaccine candidate trial against rabies, induced protective antibody titers above the WHO threshold in a Phase 1 study, following two doses as low as 1µg of mRNA. Our lead oncology product candidate, CV8102, for the treatment of four types of solid tumors through intratumoral treatment, has shown evidence of single-agent therapeutic activity with shrinkage of non-treated lesions, with limited treatment emergent adverse events.

- Our development focus is on our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidates jointly developed with GSK, with CV2CoV being the first one advanced into a Phase 1 clinical trial on March 30, 2022. CV2CoV is a non-chemically modified mRNA, encoding the prefusion stabilized full-length spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and formulated within Lipid Nanoparticles, or LNPs. On May 13, 2021, we announced that CV2CoV can induce high levels of antigen production in an in vitro setup as well as strong and dose-dependent immune responses in a preclinical study in rats. These data were complemented in June 2021, by preclinical data published in Nature Communications demonstrating full protection by CV2CoV and CVnCoV from lethal infection caused by SARS-CoV-2 ancestral strain BavPat1 or the Beta variant (B.1.351) in a transgenic mouse model, expressing the human ACE2 receptor. On August 16, 2021, we announced availability of a preprint manuscript with preclinical data investigating immune responses as well as the protective efficacy of CV2CoV in comparison to our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, against SARS-CoV-2 challenge in non-human primates. The study, conducted in collaboration with Dan Barouch, MD, Ph.D., of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, assessed cynomolgus macaques vaccinated with 12µg of either the first or second-generation vaccine candidate. Better activation of innate and adaptive immune responses was achieved with CV2CoV, resulting in faster response onset, higher titers of antibodies and stronger memory B and T cell activation as compared to our first-generation candidate, CVnCoV. Higher antibody neutralizing capacity was observed with CV2CoV across a broad range of variants, including the Beta, Delta, and Lambda variants. During challenge with the original SARS-CoV-2 virus, animals vaccinated with CV2CoV were found to be better protected compared to CVnCoV based on effective clearance of the virus in the lungs and nasal passages. A direct comparison of CV2CoV with a licensed mRNA vaccine in non-human primates was able to show that neutralizing antibody levels measured following full vaccination of animals with either 12µg of CV2CoV or a 30µg standard dose of the licensed mRNA vaccine were highly comparable. Full data was published in Nature on November 18, 2021. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities. Candidates addressing relevant COVID-19 variants featuring the same mRNA backbone are currently in preclinical testing. On April 21, 2022, the preclinical data for the second-generation mRNA backbone was extended by a study conducted in collaboration with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, comparing immune responses and protective efficacy of monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding Beta and/or Delta variants, primarily in a transgenic mouse model and a Wistar rat model. The first non-COVID-19 vaccine candidate within the broader second-generation infectious disease program we are developing in collaboration with GSK is the influenza candidate, CVSQIV, a differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate featuring multiple non-chemically modified mRNA constructs to induce immune responses against relevant targets of four different influenza strains. On February 10, 2022, we announced the start of a Phase 1 dose-escalation study in Panama evaluating the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of CVSQIV in up to 240 healthy adult participants.
- Within the jointly developed vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform also to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. In line with this mRNA development strategy, CureVac and GSK are working on chemically modified mRNA technologies and expect to start clinically assessing a modified second-generation COVID-19 as well as influenza mRNA vaccine candidate later in 2022.
- In the immune silent area, our approaches optimized for protein therapies have been evaluated in multiple preclinical disease models.
- **We have the ability to target different tissue types based on our delivery systems.** We have access to a number of mRNA delivery systems, including third-party and our proprietary systems, which allow us to target distinct tissues in an optimal way. Our initial clinical programs are based on localized delivery or using the LNP delivery system. Our prophylactic vaccine programs rely on LNP-based delivery systems administered intramuscularly and provide access to the immune cells. Moreover, LNP-based systems deliver mRNA efficiently to the hepatocytes in the liver, if administered intravenously. Protein expressed in the liver may either restore a specific function in the liver itself or produce secreted proteins for release into circulation. We rely on third-party state-of-the-art LNP delivery systems for our initial clinical programs, but we are developing our own proprietary LNP delivery system. In addition to LNPs, we have developed our proprietary polymer-based delivery system called CVCN, which allows us to further expand into other indications. CVCNs offer the ability to target indications that require localized, long-term dosing and create formulations that are appropriate for certain tissue types (such as lung, eye and mucosal).

- ***We have invested in building our in-house manufacturing infrastructure, capabilities and expertise to rapidly, efficiently and cost-effectively produce mRNA-based medicines at commercial-scale.*** We have continued to invest in our manufacturing platform since 2000 and have manufactured thousands of mRNA constructs and obtained manufacturing authorization for over 80 products. We consider our manufacturing process an important part of our strategy that allows us to continuously improve our technology platform and maintain flexibility in clinical development. In the context of COVID-19, we are currently producing clinical trial material for our second-generation vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, in our GMP facilities as well as via our broad and integrated European vaccine manufacturing network with highly experienced Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization partners. Clinical trial material for our second-generation influenza vaccine candidate is produced in our European vaccine manufacturing network. Our manufacturing setup allows us to drive innovation and to maintain flexibility as well as to pivot quickly in clinical development and potential commercialization. In house, we currently operate three GMP-certified suites, with the capacity to supply our clinical programs and support potential early commercialization activities. We are in the process of building a fourth GMP large-scale production facility at CureVac's headquarters in Tübingen, which is being designed to cover all manufacturing steps from starting material to formulation, and which could potentially supply for hundreds of millions of doses of our vaccine product candidates to support our future commercial launches. All our mRNA-based active ingredients for various fields of application originate from a common technology platform and are based on identical source materials, which enables us to produce mRNA-based medicines using a substantially similar platform process concept.
- ***We have entered into strategic partnerships with leading biopharmaceutical companies and research and non-profit institutions to expand the applications of our technology platform.*** We have a history of partnering with leading biopharmaceutical companies such as GSK, CRISPR Therapeutics, Genmab, and Bayer. We also have received research grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CEPI for the development of several prophylactic vaccines. Our academic collaborations are focused on identifying and evaluating novel targets in selected therapeutics areas. We have collaborations with SERI and the Yale University for eye disorder and pulmonary diseases, respectively. These partnerships and collaborations allow us to expand the application of our platform and bring in external expertise and capabilities.
- ***We have built an intellectual property portfolio in a variety of markets for our platform and product candidates.*** As pioneers in the field of mRNA therapies, we have built an intellectual property portfolio in the United States and other major geographies. As of March 23, 2022, we own approximately 1,056 issued patents worldwide, including 85 issued U.S. patents, 62 issued European patents (which have been validated in various European countries resulting in a total of approximately 682 national patents in European countries), and 227 issued patents in other foreign countries, 130 pending U.S. patent applications, 78 pending European patent applications and 282 pending patent applications in other foreign countries and 27 pending PCT patent applications. These patents include claims relating to our mRNA technology platform, our CVCM delivery system, our proprietary LNP technology, CV8102, CV7202, CV2CoV and other product candidates. We believe our patent applications and other patents are the most cited among mRNA companies' intellectual property.
- ***We have a long history of mRNA research and development and are led by an experienced management team.*** We are led by veterans of the biopharmaceutical industry with extensive experience in nucleic acid therapy, oncology, rare and infectious diseases and antibodies. Our management team as well as our supervisory board members have broad expertise in the clinical, regulatory and commercialization aspects of oncology, prophylactic vaccines and rare diseases as well as in drug development, process development and manufacturing for mRNA-based medicines. Members of our management team have held senior positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb, Ipsen, Sanofi-Aventis, GSK, Merck KGaA, Schering Plough, AstraZeneca, Genmab, LION Bioscience, Pixium Vision, Sirona Dental Systems, Sygnis Pharma AG and other companies. As of March 31, 2021, our broader team included 188 individuals with advanced scientific degrees working on advancing our mRNA platform.

Our Strategy

Our goal is to build a leading, fully integrated mRNA-based medicines company that can transform the lives of people. The key components of our strategy include:

- **Continue to invest in our proprietary technology platform to be the leading mRNA platform company.** We intend to invest in our proprietary technology platform to broaden its potential across therapeutic areas, in addition to broadening our pipeline in existing therapeutic areas. We believe our continued investment will enable us to further optimize the three core pillars of our technology platform — protein design, mRNA optimization and mRNA delivery — and to further enhance our treatment approaches by offering higher selectivity, greater protein expression, potential combination therapies and reduced or flexible dosing. We are continuing to build on our deep expertise in mRNA-based medicines based on what we have learned from our current programs to apply to our future programs.
- **Utilize a rational disease selection approach to minimize clinical and commercial risk for our programs and broader platform.** Our strategy is to maximize the potential of our technology platform through our rational disease selection approach to clinical development. We are initially targeting diseases that require an active immune response (such as prophylactic vaccines and oncology) and require transient expression of mRNA in tissue types that are more easily accessible. Based on the proof of concept achieved in our clinical trials for these initial indications, we have expanded our product portfolio to target diseases that require an immune silent approach (such as molecular therapy).
- **Rapidly advance our lead product candidates through clinical development and regulatory approval.** Our product candidates are currently in preclinical or clinical development stages. We have advanced our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, jointly developed with GSK, to a Phase 1 clinical trial in March 2022. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities. Candidates addressing relevant COVID-19 variants featuring the same mRNA backbone are currently in preclinical testing. The first non-COVID-19 vaccine candidate within the broader second-generation infectious disease program we are developing in collaboration with GSK is the influenza candidate, CVSQIV, a differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate featuring multiple non-chemically modified mRNA constructs to induce immune responses against relevant targets of four different influenza strains. On February 10, 2022, we announced the start of a Phase 1 dose-escalation study in Panama evaluating the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of CVSQIV in up to 240 healthy adult participants. Within the jointly developed vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform also to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. In line with this mRNA development strategy, CureVac and GSK are working on chemically modified mRNA technologies and expect to start clinically assessing a modified second-generation COVID-19 as well as influenza mRNA vaccine candidate later in 2022.

We believe that by initially targeting diseases with high unmet medical need, we will be able to rapidly advance our programs through clinical development. We intend to pursue the appropriate regulatory pathways available to further accelerate our development efforts.

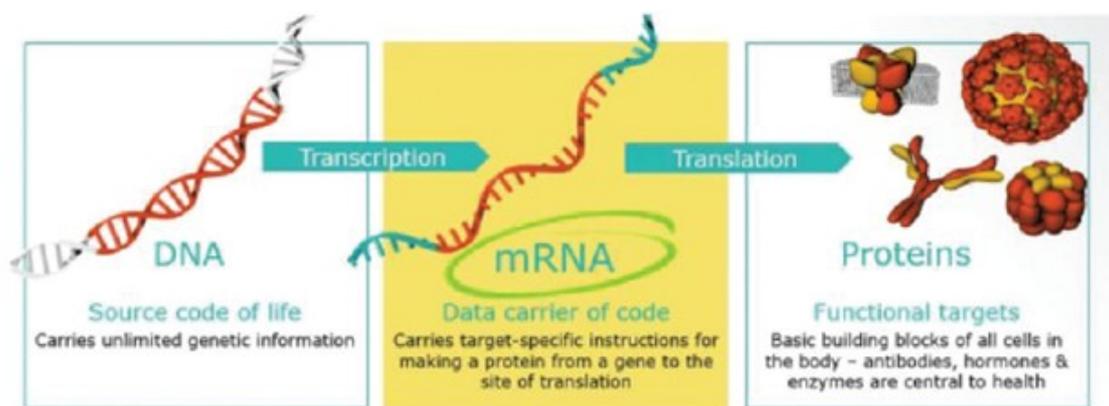
- **Continue to invest in our manufacturing capabilities across all manufacturing steps from starting material to formulation to further add scale and flexibility for potential commercialization.** We believe that our manufacturing capabilities are a key strategic advantage that offer us flexibility, scalability, versatility and reliability in discovery and development. Beyond our integrated European network of CMOs, we are currently building our GMP IV facility, which is being designed to cover all manufacturing steps from starting material to formulation and would allow us to further scale up, reduce manufacturing time and reduce production costs. In addition, we are developing a new integrated and automated process for manufacturing of mRNA therapeutics, The RNA Printer®. In March 2022, we established the CureVac RNA Printer GmbH as a fully-owned CureVac company to advance The RNA Printer®. The new entity is designed as a platform and services company, providing a dedicated operational environment to further develop and establish The RNA Printer® as a manufacturing end-to-end solution. With its modular design and decentralized concept, we believe The RNA Printer® could be used to facilitate broad access to mRNA technology and enable mRNA product developments, e.g. for rapid supply of new mRNA-based vaccines in pandemic situations as well as patient access to advanced and personalized mRNA-based therapies in oncology.

- **Selectively seek strategic partners to develop and commercialize product candidates in certain therapeutic areas and geographies.** We plan to continue to seek additional partnerships with other leading biopharmaceutical companies with specialized capabilities, including development and commercialization expertise in selected therapeutic areas and geographies. We may pursue partnerships that allow us to expedite the discovery and development of product candidates, complement our internal development expertise, broaden the breadth of our technology platform, and provide us with non-dilutive financing, while allowing us to retain economic rights to our product candidates that we view as strategically important. Our approach of partnering with a number of biopharmaceutical companies allows us to execute on a broad range of programs simultaneously, while mitigating our drug development risk.
- **Seek strategic acquisitions or in-licenses of technology or assets that are complementary to our programs and technology platform.** mRNA-based medicines is an emerging field with ongoing advancements and discoveries. As the pioneers in the field, we have made significant strides in advancing and optimizing our technology platform over the past 21 years. We may seek acquisitions and in-licensing opportunities that can augment our internal expertise, expand our competitive differentiation and further enhance our mRNA technology platform.
- **Strengthen and expand our intellectual property portfolio to protect our scientific and technical know-how.** We intend to continue to strengthen and expand our intellectual property to protect our advances in scientific and technical know-how. Our intellectual property strategy is focused on covering advancements in our technology platform, manufacturing processes, and product candidates. In addition to patent protection, we also rely on trade secrets and confidentiality agreements to protect other proprietary information that is not patentable or that we elect not to patent.

Overview of mRNA Therapeutics

The Role of mRNA

mRNA is a molecule instructing the translation of genetic information encoded in DNA by cells into proteins, which carry out essential cellular functions. As depicted in the figure below, genetic information stored in DNA is transferred to mRNA in a process called transcription in the cell nucleus. In transcription, double-stranded DNA is temporarily unwound and copied into single-stranded mRNA by the enzyme RNA polymerase. mRNA is then transported to the cytoplasm where it instructs synthesis of proteins through a process called translation. In translation, cellular structures called ribosomes decode mRNA bases in groups of three (called codons) as amino acids. Each codon specifies a particular amino acid which are the building blocks of protein molecules which perform distinct functions within the body.



Limitations of Existing Treatment Modalities

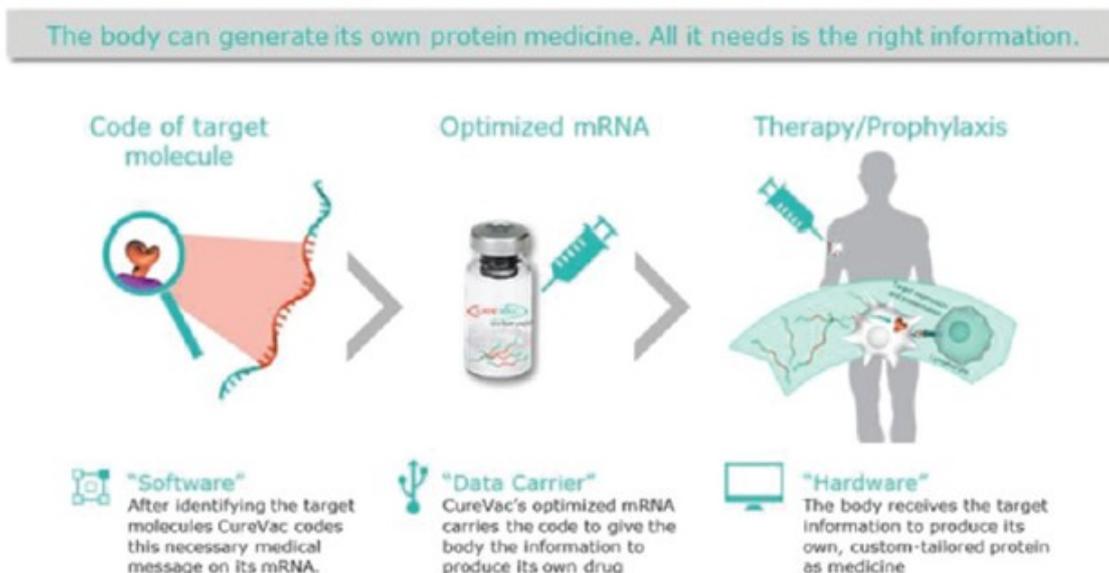
There are several existing treatment modalities that seek to address the underlying cause of absent or defective proteins associated with diseases, including protein replacement therapy, gene therapy, gene editing, RNA interference and small molecule therapies. Other treatment modalities seek to harness the immune system, including antibody therapies and traditional prophylactic vaccines. Each of these treatment modalities have certain limitations as discussed below:

- *Protein Replacement Therapy*: While this approach has been successfully used to treat a subset of protein-based disorders, it is mostly limited to proteins that function outside of the cell.
- *Antibody Therapy*: Antibody therapeutics are largely administered intravenously and, being proteins themselves, have applications largely limited to surface molecules. In addition, antibodies have historically faced challenges due to their relatively large size, inadequate pharmacokinetics and tissue accessibility as well as unwanted interactions with the immune system.
- *Gene Therapy*: Gene therapy is usually a one-time intervention meant to provide lasting levels of therapeutic protein. While expected to be a one-time treatment, the duration of treatment efficacy is still largely unknown and it may not be amenable to repeat dosing due to neutralizing antibodies against the gene therapy vehicle. In addition, large-scale manufacturing is costly, time consuming and complex.
- *Gene Editing*: Despite its promise, gene editing is still in the early-stages of development and has potential risks related to unwanted on and off-target DNA modifications, incomplete targeting or mosaicism that hinder intended modifications. Similar to gene therapies, manufacturing complexities and costs for gene editing are also challenging.
- *RNA Interference*: RNA interference has potential in silencing certain genes but has limitations in replacing defective or missing proteins, as well as highly expressed proteins. Most of the current efforts in this treatment modality are focused on genes expressed in the liver, with limited evidence of applications in extra-hepatic tissues.
- *Small Molecule*: While small molecules offer advantages over other treatment modalities in terms of biodistribution, tolerability, and delivery, they do not directly address specific gene defects and have a high potential to cause off-target toxicities.
- *Traditional Prophylactic Vaccines*: While traditional prophylactic vaccines are one of the most successful and cost-effective global health interventions, their complex development and costly production processes create a high barrier to entry, long development cycle and limitation in developing vaccines with high serotype coverage.

mRNA as a Novel Treatment Modality

mRNA, as the universal template for protein synthesis, can direct the synthesis of any protein in the body. To treat a medical condition, we identify a target protein and encode the information required to synthesize this protein on the mRNA. The mRNA, optimized using our platform, carries this code to give a patient's body the information to produce its own, custom-tailored protein as medicine.

mRNAs are typically characterized by their rate of translation into protein and their short and predictable, yet steerable half-life. We optimize these mRNA properties for specific therapeutic needs to provide the most efficacious mRNA-based medicine. mRNAs provide the flexibility to deliver medicines that are required for a limited time as well as the opportunity to deliver repeated doses that can be adjusted to patient needs. The development and manufacturing of mRNA-based medicines can also proceed much more quickly than traditional protein-based therapies, including antibodies.



Key potential advantages of mRNA therapies that could position it as a novel treatment modality include:

- *Broad application:* mRNA has the ability to produce all types of proteins, including secreted, membrane and intracellular proteins. This enables broad applicability across a variety of diseases.
- *Natural biology:* mRNAs mimic human biology to produce proteins in the body in contrast to recombinant proteins that are manufactured using processes that are foreign to the body.
- *Wide range of activity:* mRNAs can be used to create therapies that can be applied as an agonist, an antagonist or for vaccines.
- *Flexibility:* A large number of alternative mRNA candidates can be generated in short time and tested to optimize both the mRNA and protein format.
- *Design versatility:* Therapeutic protein expressed from mRNA *in situ* can be designed for efficacy without being limited by the constraints which recombinant proteins are subject to.
- *Specificity:* mRNA-based medicines encode proteins which offer much higher specificity of interactions compared to small molecule drugs, which limits any potential off-target effects.
- *Repeat dosing:* mRNA-based medicines can be dosed repeatedly given their low immunogenicity.
- *Transient expression:* Short-lived expression of mRNA limits the risk of unforeseen adverse effects of lasting protein expression (as seen in gene therapy and gene editing) and allows for modified dosing schedules adjusted based on patient's needs.
- *Manufacturing:* mRNA production process is independent of the encoded protein as changes to the mRNA sequence do not affect its chemical and physical properties, allowing for higher efficiency, greater speed and lower cost of production.

Historical Challenges with Developing mRNA Treatments

Using mRNA as a treatment has long been of interest given its potential to address limitations of existing treatment modalities. However, mRNA has historically been limited by the following theoretical and practical hurdles:

- **Stability:** Naked mRNA is rapidly degraded by RNase enzymes present throughout the body which limits the duration of its therapeutic effect. An effective mRNA would need to be masked from these enzymes.
- **Uptake by cells:** Uptake of naked mRNA into cells is relatively inefficient. A more effective mRNA-based medicine would need a delivery system that delivers mRNA efficiently into cells.
- **Expression level:** Protein expression levels from synthetic mRNA obtained by *in vitro* production have been considered too low historically for therapeutic purposes, which underlines the need for an optimized mRNA construct.
- **Immunogenicity:** Non-optimized mRNA in the body rapidly activates receptors on immune cells which triggers the innate immune response and can lead to shut down of protein translation in cells. An effective mRNA-based medicine needs to modulate the immune system according to the disease indication being targeted.
- **Tissue targeting:** Each indication requires delivery to a specific tissue. An effective mRNA-based medicine would need a delivery system that efficiently delivers mRNA to a specific target tissue with low off-target delivery and toxicity.
- **Manufacturing:** mRNA manufacturing technology must be scalable and cost-effective to enable large production for multiple clinical trials and commercialization.

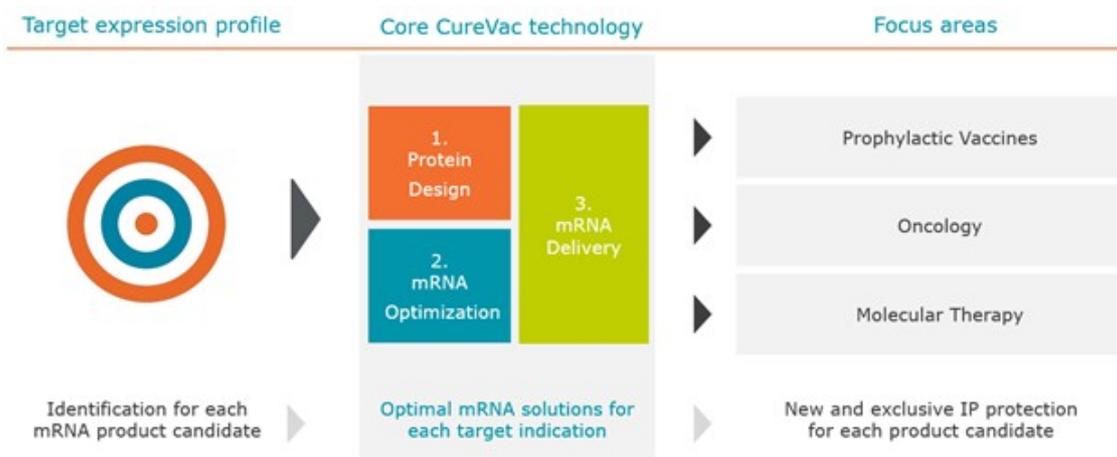
Our Technology Platform

The therapeutic potential of mRNAs was discovered by our co-founders in 2000. As the pioneers in the field of mRNA, we have built extensive expertise in mRNA biology, optimization and production. We have developed our technology platform, called RNAOptimizer, through continued investments over the past 21 years. We believe that we have created the broadest and most versatile platform to develop optimized mRNA-based medicines that has potential to offer differentiated profile in terms of safety, stability and expression.

Our optimization approach covers three pillars: protein design, mRNA optimization and mRNA delivery. Our approach is based on the extensive data libraries we have generated to date. To improve protein expression from *in vitro* produced mRNA, we isolated high numbers of human natural mRNAs from different cells and identified elements which stabilize mRNA in a natural way and improve their interaction with the cellular translation machinery. We continue to invest in all levels of optimization to improve the methods we currently employ and continue advancing mRNA-based medicines.

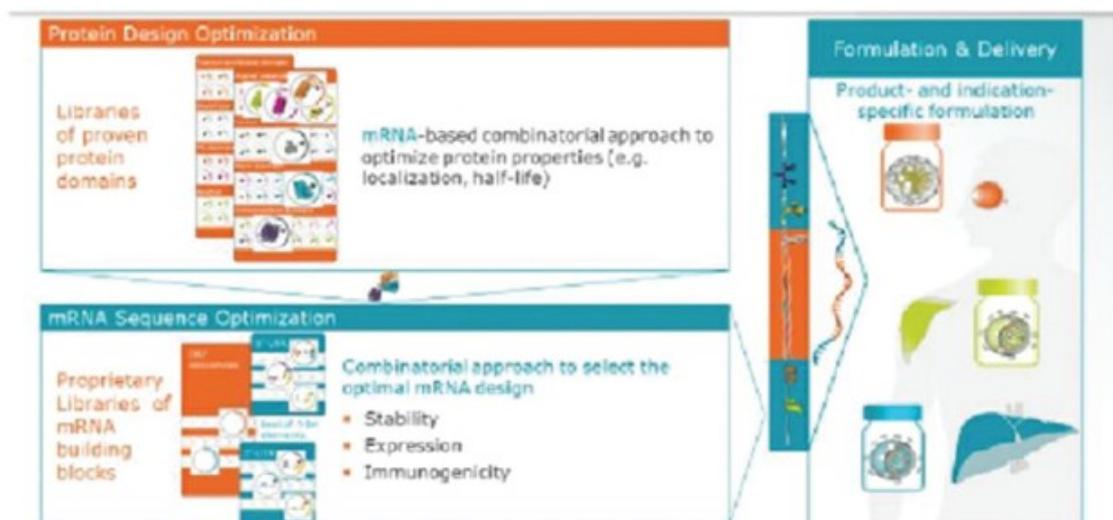
We have a long track record of performing clinical trials with multiple product candidates since 2008. The data generated in these clinical trials has allowed us to better understand the biology of mRNA and to further accelerate development in new therapeutic areas and approaches. We were the first company to demonstrate that mRNA vaccines can induce protective antibody titers in a naïve human subjects with a previous version of our current rabies vaccine product candidate.

Our product candidates consist of two major components: the protein-coding mRNA and a delivery vehicle. Once we have established delivery capability to a target tissue, we can design new product candidates that vary only in the mRNA component, which we expect will allow for rapid target and development candidate identification. We believe that this will enable our platform to be flexible and scalable as we develop additional product candidates.



Our process for creating novel mRNA therapies comprises the following three pillars:

- **Protein Design:** Our goal is to define the amino acid sequence to optimize specific properties of the encoded protein.
- **mRNA Optimization:** Our goal is to define the nucleotide sequence of the mRNA encoding the optimized protein to improve the properties of the mRNA molecule.
- **mRNA Delivery:** Our goal is to define mRNA encapsulation and delivery to select the optimal formulation for each specific indication and tissue.



First Pillar: Protein Design

Proteins play a central role in biology, including formation of the structural framework of the body, aiding in intra- and extracellular transport, biological catalysts (such as enzymes), controlling the activity of cells, and enabling signal transduction throughout the body. Accordingly, mutations that alter the function of a protein that plays a critical role inside the body can disrupt normal development and cause disease. Diseases could be caused by low expression, over expression, or abnormal structures for specific proteins.

We target diseases that are caused by these abnormal or missing proteins. Once our team identifies the protein of interest for a specific vaccine or therapeutic target with a defined target product profile, protein design further improves the potential efficacy by adaptation of the amino acid sequence. Protein design is based on modulation of beneficial protein characteristics that are not present in the naturally occurring protein. We have a library of validated protein domains that can be leveraged using a combinatorial approach to optimize the properties of the target protein.

Our protein design process considers multiple factors before the protein is encoded in the mRNA, including half-life, stabilization of tertiary structure, oligomerization, secretion, and immunogenicity. We have the ability to modify each of these parameters while ensuring that these modifications work in harmony with the required function of the target protein.

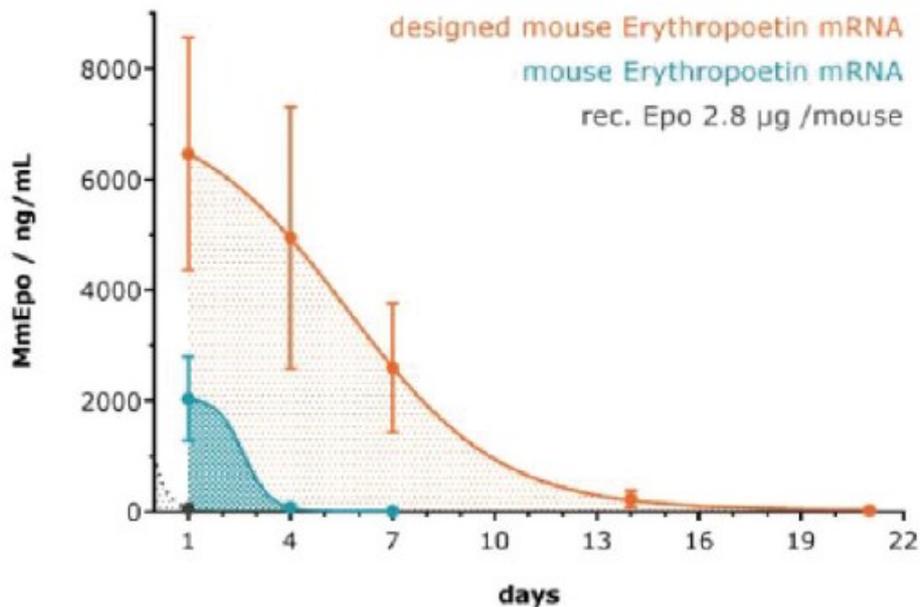
Protein design always depends on the function of the individual protein of interest. The protein can serve as a therapeutic protein without any activation of the immune system or the protein can serve as an antigen with the goal of inducing strong immune responses against it. We employ different optimization strategies to support these distinct functions and requirements. For example, we can enhance certain parameters to extend the half-life or localization of a protein in the case of therapeutic proteins while making sure that RNA sensors remain muted to avoid activation of the immune system. For vaccines, our goal is to induce an optimal immune response mimicking response induced by bacterial or viral infections. Therefore, protein design is always bespoke and multi-factorial to support distinct functions and requirements of the specific target protein.

Below are several specific examples of protein modifications by which we designed a protein's properties relative to the wild-type protein:

Extended Half-Life of Secreted Protein

This approach relies on the addition of supplementary short domains to the coding sequence of the protein of interest. Although this fusion increases protein size, the additional domains recruit binding proteins already present in blood which promote stabilization of the target protein by preventing proteolytic degradation. To support the efficient persistence of a secreted protein in the bloodstream, we can improve the half-life of this protein by adding specific, endogenous domains. By tailoring the pharmacokinetic profile of secreted proteins, we have the ability to reduce the frequency of dosing, generating a better therapeutic window, and using less material.

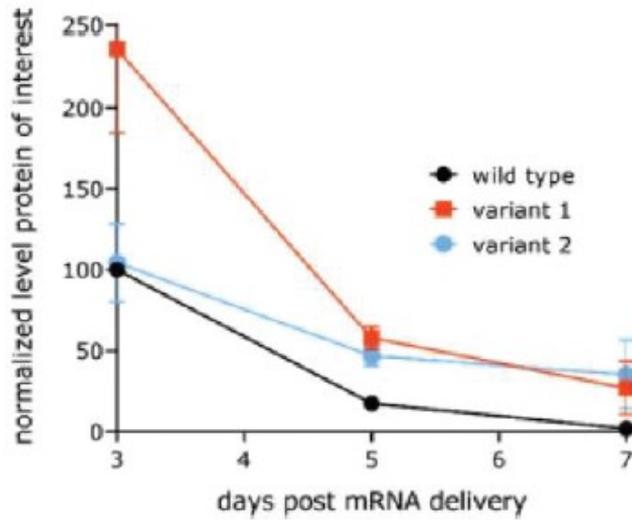
For example, wild-type erythropoietin (Epo) is a protein that has a very short half-life of three to four hours in the bloodstream. In a preclinical model, mice were dosed with mouse Epo and protein engineered mouse Epo, both encoded with our optimized mRNA. Dosing with the engineered mouse Epo protein showed an increase in serum titers and pharmacokinetic profile. We were able to increase the half-life and availability of functional Epo in blood from four days to two weeks by fusing endogenous Epo to a selected domain. Notably, both mRNA-encoded Epo proteins showed significantly higher protein expression levels than the injected recombinant Epo, which was cleared from the bloodstream after a single day.



Mice received a single injection in the tail vein of recombinant protein (control) or mRNA encoding proteins. Mice received 2.8 µg of recombinant mouse Epo protein. Wild-type Epo encoded by our optimized mRNA and engineered Epo protein encoded by our optimized mRNA were administered at a dose of 0.4 mg/kg giving rise to relevant serum titers of functional Epo and different pharmacokinetic profiles.

Extended Half-Life of Intracellular Protein

Similar approaches can also be applied to intracellular proteins, promoting the half-life of functional target proteins. In the example below, protein variant 1 represents the fusion of a protein of interest with a selected protein domain, while variant 2 represents a construct with a single point mutation within the protein of interest. In contrast to the wild-type protein, both engineered protein variants enabled the detection of protein even one week after mRNA delivery to hepatocyte cells in culture.

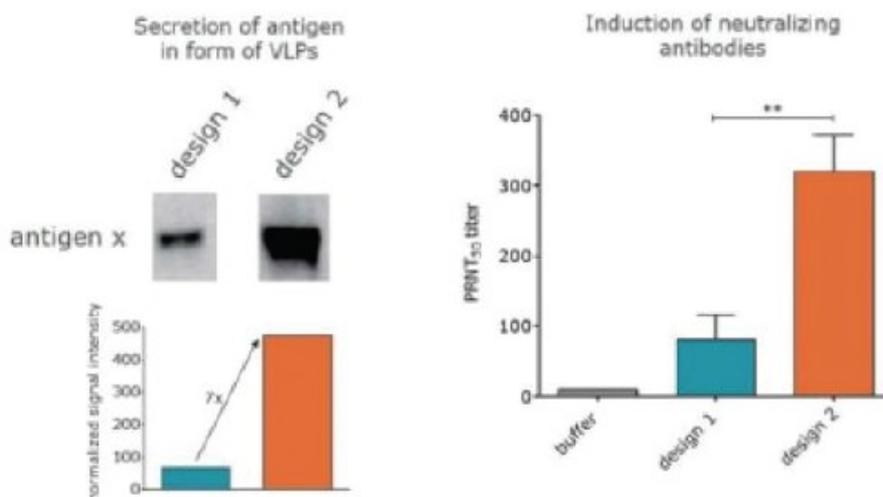


Intracellular abundance of engineered protein variants in comparison to unmodified wild-type protein. Protein levels were determined by whole cell Western Blot analysis in human hepatocytes, followed by normalization to signals from a cytosolic loading control and relative to the wild-type protein. Same doses used in wild-type and engineered protein variants.

Increased Oligomerization

Protein oligomerization is a process that converts monomers to macromolecular complexes through polymerization. We can engineer protein oligomerization by adding domains capable to perform this process to the target protein. As antigens need to be secreted and build clusters to form virus-like particles, or VLPs, this oligomerization process is beneficial in boosting the immune response.

Protein design to support VLP formation



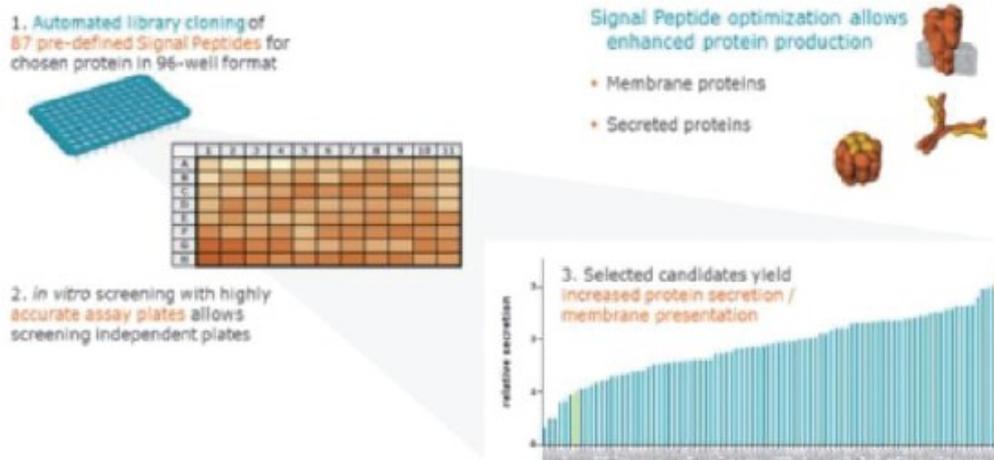
Protein sequence of viral antigen was optimized (design 2) by adding an element promoting secretion and clustering of antigen. In the left-hand side of the graphic, secretion of antigen in form of clusters was confirmed by Western Blot analysis of supernatants from transfected human cells. In the right-hand side of the graphic, vaccination of mice with an mRNA vaccine based on this improved protein design resulted in higher immunogenicity, measured by induction of virus neutralizing antibodies.

Improved Secretion

The potency of secreted target proteins can be improved by using alternative, more powerful signal peptides. These signal peptides are responsible for transporting the target protein from the cytoplasm to the outside of the cell, where the secreted protein fulfills its primary function. We screen large libraries of signal peptides to optimize secretion of any given target protein and in any cell type of choice.

For example, we selected a set of 87 verified signal peptides to maximize secretion. These were combined with the novel target protein via automated cloning to enable facile screening and selection of the most potent product candidate. In the figure below, the top hit from this screen increased the secreted protein levels in primary human muscle cells by three-fold relative to the native signal peptide.

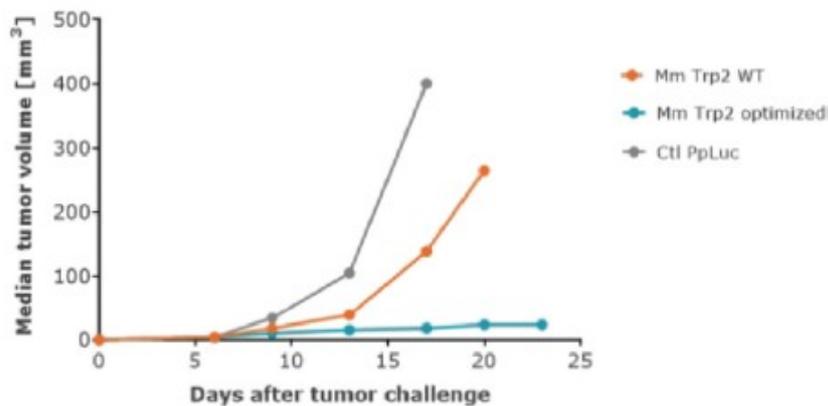
Protein design to improve secretion



Modified Immunogenicity

If the target protein serves as a therapeutic agent, it is important to curb the protein's natural immunogenicity. Our protein design process analyzes and replaces immunogenic epitopes, masking immunogenic epitopes and thereby rendering the target protein more immunosilent. In contrast, we also have the ability to improve immunogenicity for certain applications (for example in a cancer vaccine) by protein design. These protein sequence adaptations promote immunogenicity and suppress tumor growth in mouse models, as shown in the below example.

Inhibition of B16-F10 tumor growth

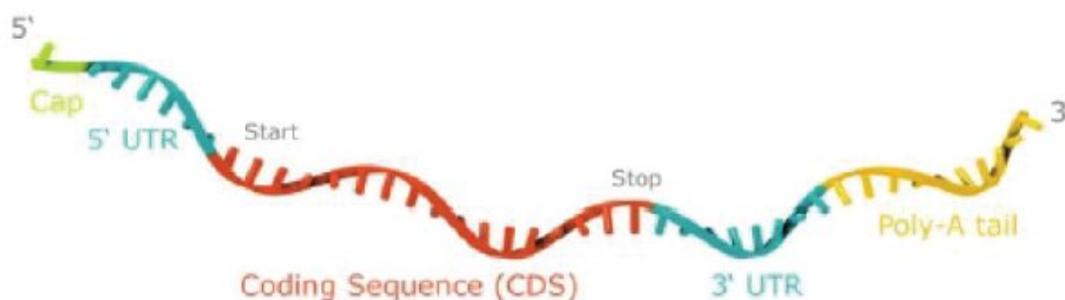


Therapeutic vaccination with mRNA vaccine encoding optimized Trp2 cell antigen inhibited tumor growth in murine melanoma model. Syngeneic mice were challenged subcutaneously with melanoma cells. When tumors were palpable, mice were vaccinated intradermally twice a week with LNP-formulated mRNA encoding either wild-type murine antigen Trp2 or Trp2 designed to improve antigen presentation. Mice vaccinated with LNP-formulated irrelevant mRNA (PpLuc) served as control.

Second Pillar: mRNA Optimization

Overview of mRNA Biology

mRNA is a linear polymer comprised of four monomers called nucleotides: adenosine (A), guanosine (G), cytidine (C), and uridine (U). The sequence at any mRNA's center instructing the synthesis of the protein encoded by it is the open reading frame (ORF, also known as coding sequence). The ORF is a continuous stretch of groups of three nucleotides (called codons) that is decoded and translated into protein by the ribosome. The process of translation begins at the first codon of the ORF, always an AUG (the start codon). The start codon signals to the ribosome where to start protein synthesis. The ribosome then progresses along the ORF one codon at a time, adding the amino acid to the protein chain fitting to the codon. A stop codon at the end of the ORF (UAA, UAG, or UGA) signals to the ribosome to terminate protein synthesis. In every cell, hundreds of thousands of mRNAs are translated into hundreds of millions of proteins every day. A typical protein contains 200-600 amino acids; therefore, a typical mRNA coding region ranges from 600-1,800 nucleotides.



In addition to the coding sequence, mRNAs contain the following elements:

- Untranslated regions, or UTRs — UTRs are sequences that are not translated into protein. The 5' UTR precedes the start codon, the 3' UTR follows the stop codon. These regions play important roles in gene expression including mRNA stability, mRNA localization and translational efficiency via protein-RNA interactions. Some of the elements in the UTRs form characteristic secondary structures that are involved in mRNA regulation.
- 5' cap — The cap structure is required to recruit ribosomes and additional proteins involved in translation to the mRNA.
- 3' polyadenosine, or poly-A, tail — The 3' poly-A tail is a long sequence of adenosine nucleotides (often several hundred) at the 3' end of mRNA. This tail promotes mRNA export from the nucleus and translation and protects mRNA from degradation. In addition, the 3' end of the mRNA can include a stretch or sequence of nucleotides following the 3' poly-A tail.

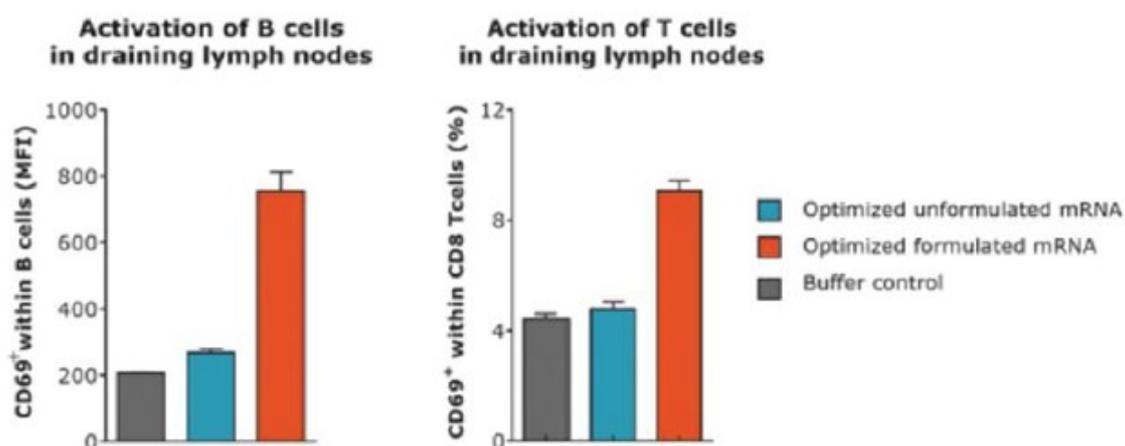
Our Approach

Our mRNA optimization process is designed to generate the most efficacious mRNA for any particular target and indication by optimizing translation, stability and immunogenicity. Each of these parameters can be modified by changing individual mRNA elements and their interplay guided by the envisaged application. Our mRNA molecule contains six elements that can be optimized to improve the potential efficacy of the mRNA construct. These elements include 5' cap, 5' UTR, ORF, 3' UTR, and 3' poly-A tail and 3' end.

Depending on the target and indication, the required pharmacokinetics of protein expression might be different. Some applications may require the highest possible protein expression but only for a limited time, as is the case for gene editing approaches. For other applications, for example some protein replacement therapies, long-lasting protein expression might be key. Peak level and duration of protein expression can be adjusted by the choice or design of enhancer and stabilizing elements in untranslated regions of mRNA. Each of the mRNA elements together in combination with the overall sequence influence the degree of activation of the immune system by any particular mRNA. Therefore, our approach to RNA optimization always considers multiple factors as well as the whole construct to generate the optimal mRNA.

UTRs contribute decisively to the potential efficacy of therapeutic mRNAs. Natural mRNAs contain several different 5' and 3' UTRs, setting the individual level of translation and stability for each message. We have tapped this natural wealth of regulatory sequences and identified a large set of UTRs that confer translation or mRNA stability via diverse protein-RNA interactions.

Historically, one factor limiting the use of mRNA as a treatment has been the observation that *in vitro* produced synthetic mRNA activated the innate immune system, resulting in a fast shutdown of protein translation in cells. An effective mRNA therapy would need to evade recognition by the immune system to avoid shut down of protein translation. We have accumulated significant knowledge about the signatures recognized by the innate immune system over the past few years. With the insights we have gained, we are able to avoid signatures activating the immune system in elements at our disposal or eliminate them from mRNA constructs. This is demonstrated by the following example where formulated mRNA was injected intradermally in mice and both B cells and T cells were activated in the draining lymph node. In contrast, unformulated mRNA injected intradermally had limited immunostimulatory capacity.



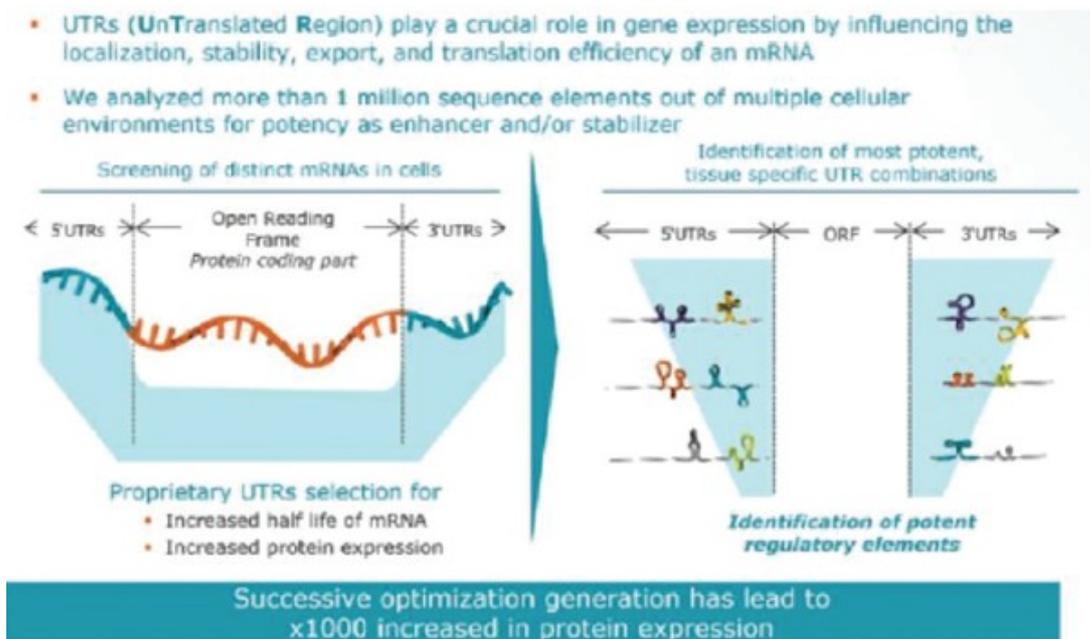
10 μ g of mRNA, either free or formulated, was administered intradermally to the back of mice. 24 hours post treatment, draining lymph nodes were isolated and the activation status of immune cells was analyzed by flow cytometry. A higher CD69 signal indicates activation of the respective immune cells.

Cap Structure

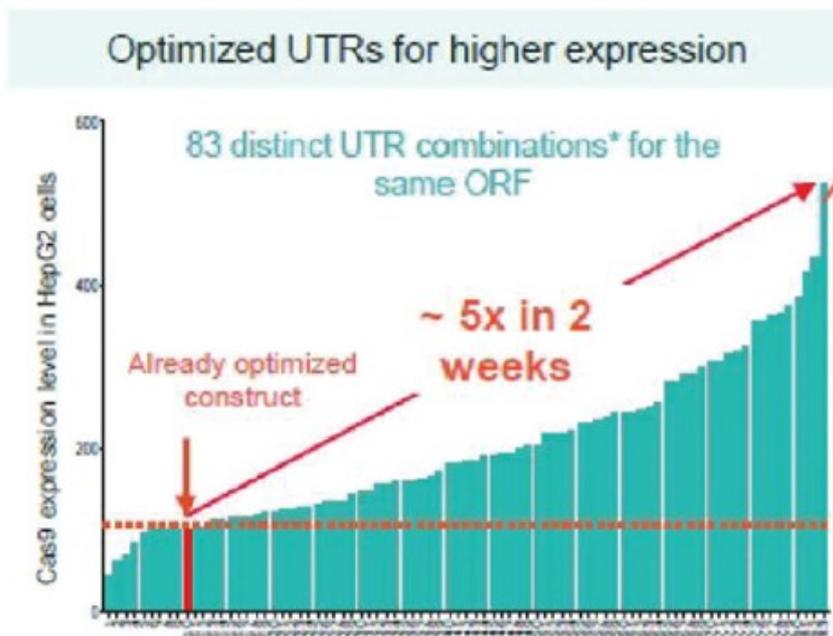
The cap structure influences translation as it recruits the translational machinery including initiation factors and the ribosome. The cap structure also affects mRNA stability due to its influence on the various proteins recruited to mRNA. Further, the cap structure is a determinant of activation of the innate immune system as different cap structures are differentially recognized by several innate immune sensors. In addition, different cap structures are incorporated during *in vitro* production of mRNA with different capping efficiency, resulting in varying proportion of mRNA lacking a cap, which is an mRNA species which is recognized by yet other sensors of the innate immune system. Accordingly, there is great potential to improve protein expression and immunosilence in mRNA by optimizing the cap structure. We have access to several cap structures, including those we have developed and commercially available ones.

5' and 3' UTRs

We have identified high numbers of naturally occurring 5' and 3' UTRs. Using bioinformatics analysis to identify patterns of increased expression, duration of expression, and reduced immunogenicity, we have catalogued more than one million 5' and 3' UTRs. From these, we selected a large set of potential enhancer elements (improving the rate of protein expression) and stabilizer elements (improving half-life of protein expression). By running a high throughput combinatorial approach, we identify and create optimized UTR combinations for a specific construct. Further, we have created UTR sub-libraries because we discovered that different UTRs perform differently in various tissue types.



Below is an example of the effectiveness of our UTR library to optimize protein expression as part of our collaboration with CRISPR Therapeutics. An open reading frame coding for an optimized Cas9 protein was combined with 83 UTR combinations via automated cloning. This target-specific UTR screening increased Cas9 protein levels in HepG2 cells five-fold compared to an already optimized construct.



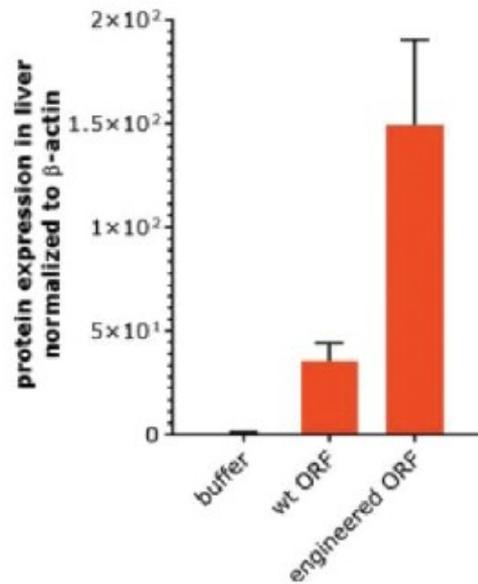
To maximize expression of the target protein a set of 83 combinations of untranslated regions (UTR) was selected from screens identifying stable or highly translated endogenous transcripts. These UTR combinations were combined with the target open reading frame (ORF) via automated cloning to enable facile screening and selection of the most potent product candidates. Target-specific UTR screening led to a five-fold increase in protein levels in HepG2 cells compared to an already optimized construct.

Open reading frame (ORF)

The ORF instructs the synthesis of the protein it encodes by the ribosome. The ORF is a continuous stretch of groups of three nucleotides called codons. Ribosomes decode each codon as an amino acid to be added to the nascent protein. Each codon specifies a particular amino acid, however, many amino acids are specified by more than one codon. Due to this multiplicity of codons that specify an amino acid, any protein can be encoded by a myriad of coding sequences differing in their codon composition. These various ORFs differ largely in their properties and for any particular protein a top-performing ORF needs to be identified or designed to make an efficacious mRNA-based medicine. We currently optimize the ORF in a broad, holistic approach that includes multiple parameters taking into account codon optimality. Our algorithms also take into account that, similar to UTRs, different codons are optimal for different tissues. Furthermore, these algorithms also analyze and consider secondary structure. For example, as certain elements are known to drive immune stimulation by secondary structure, our algorithms avoid generation of sequences that may give rise to such immune stimulations.

In the following example, protein expressed from our mRNA containing a wild-type coding sequence was abundant in the livers of mice injected intravenously with LNP-encapsulated mRNA. However, protein levels were higher from our mRNA containing a coding sequence engineered for maximal protein expression.

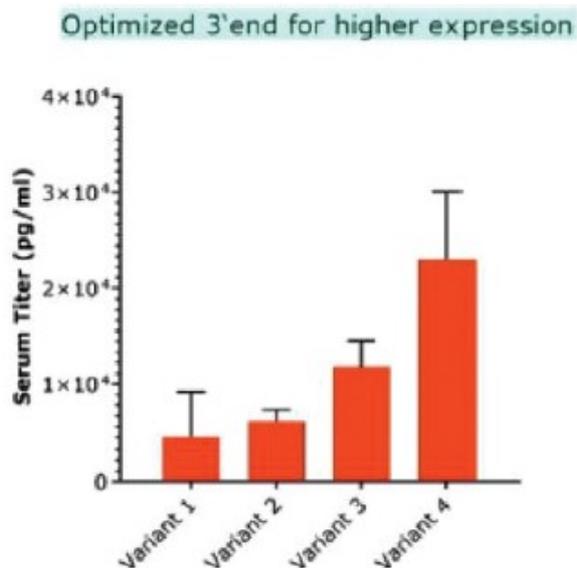
Optimized ORF for higher expression



Abundance of a therapeutic protein in mouse liver expressed from an engineered open reading frame (ORF) in comparison to the wild ORF. mRNAs containing ORF variants were formulated in LNPs and injected intravenously into mice (called engineered ORF). Protein levels were determined by Western Blot analysis of liver lysates, followed by normalization to the signal from a loading control.

Poly(A) tail and 3' end

The 3' end of the mRNA molecule, prone to degradation by nucleases, is another form of optimization. The 3' end can be sealed using different stabilizing elements, including secondary structure or specific nucleotide sequences, to inhibit RNA nucleases degrading RNA from the 3' end.



Impact of different mRNA 3' end on serum levels of a therapeutic protein. mRNAs containing different vector-encoded 3' end variants were formulated in LNPs and injected intravenously at a dose of 20 µg into female Balb/c mice. Six hours after injection, serum levels of secreted protein were determined by an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay test, also referred to as ELISA, to measure antibodies in blood.

Finally, we analyze the structure of the optimized mRNA as a whole including ORF and UTRs to predict its recognition by RNA sensors and immune activating potential and modify any inappropriate elements.

Third Pillar: mRNA Delivery

The potency of the administered mRNA drug product is the combination of the potential efficacy of the mRNA that encodes the protein and the delivery system that transports the mRNA to the cells. Protein levels are highly correlated with the number of transfected cells which requires optimized delivery systems. While it is possible to deliver mRNA directly into the target tissue without delivery systems in certain cases, the presence of RNA degrading enzymes in blood and interstitial fluids rapidly regrade any extracellular mRNA. Additionally, cell membranes act as a significant barrier to entry of large molecules such as mRNA. These delivery technologies enable us to deliver large quantities of mRNA to the target cells.

We have access to a diverse portfolio of third-party and proprietary delivery systems that allow us to target a range of diseases. Access to this broad range of delivery technologies allows us to select the best-suited technology for development of each of our product candidates. We choose the most suited delivery system based on a number of factors including immunogenicity, duration of treatment, dose levels, mode of administration and targeted tissue type.

The key delivery systems that we currently employ include:

- Lipid-based delivery systems — We employ lipid nanoparticles, or LNPs, to deliver our mRNA-based prophylactic and cancer vaccines locally. For protein and antibody therapeutic candidates, we apply LNP-formulated mRNA systemically. We have relied on third-party state-of-the-art LNP delivery systems for our initial clinical programs, and we are developing our proprietary LNP delivery systems for our future clinical programs.

- Polymer-based delivery systems — We employ our novel, proprietary PEGylated polymer system, the CureVac Carrier Molecule, or CVCVM, to administer therapeutic candidates to such organs as eye and lung. CVCVMs are designed to be delivered locally and their administration method may vary (injection, nebulization, among others) due to the robustness of the formulation.

LNPs and CVCVM delivery technologies complement each other in their applicability and enable us to cover a greater number of modalities within the mRNA space. With these delivery modalities at hand, we are currently expanding our development pipeline and plan to bring new mRNA therapies to different organs and applications.



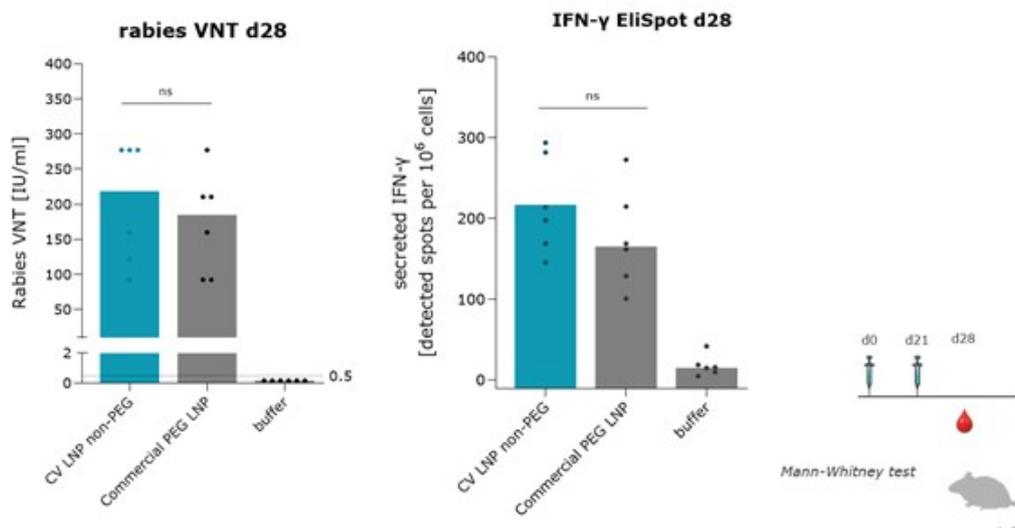
Lipid Nanoparticles (LNPs)

A variety of nanoparticles have been developed over the years for use in drug delivery. LNPs represent the most clinically advanced non-viral delivery systems. Encapsulation of the mRNA within LNPs enables delivery to the site of action within the cell. LNPs protect the mRNA from degradation, rapid excretion and liver clearance, enabling higher bioavailability and longer half-life.

LNPs consist of different lipids that form together a lipid nanoparticle with a solid core. The four primary LNP components include cationic lipids, pegylated lipids, phospholipids, and cholesterol. LNPs mimic low-density lipoproteins, which allows them to be taken up by an endogenous cellular transport pathway to deliver the mRNA cargo to cells. When LNPs are injected into biological systems, they attach to natural transport proteins, apolipoproteins, to facilitate the transport of lipids within the bloodstream and throughout the body. Following intravenous administration, the apolipoprotein binding enables efficient transport of the mRNA cargo to the liver. Once internalized in endosomes within cells, the LNPs are designed to escape the endosome and release their mRNA cargo into the cytoplasm, where the mRNA can be translated. Any mRNA and LNP components that do not escape the endosome are typically delivered to lysosomes where they are degraded by the natural process of cellular digestion.

The properties of each LNP system can be customized based on altering each component or overall composition. All of the LNPs we employ in our projects are designed to be biodegradable. We have extensively tested over 40 different delivery solutions and have selected the ones we use based on comparative data for the most efficient LNPs available from third parties for licensure. Having access to these technologies enables us to develop fast powerful solutions for vaccines and protein therapy.

Besides the licensed LNP technology from our partners, we are also developing our own LNP technology. We have established two ionizable lipid families and are developing those LNPs for application in local vaccination and systemic delivery to the liver. We conducted a systematic screening of LNP components and compositions for local vaccination in skin and muscle. Those optimized LNP formulations incorporating our own lipids helped to raise significant levels of immune response comparable with those of approved vaccine formulations.



The graphs above demonstrate comparable immunogenicity of CV LNP against a commercial PEG LNP in a vaccination trial with the rabies antigen in mice at same mRNA dose. On left panel, the virus neutralization titer seven days post the second vaccination is shown, whereas on the right panel the induced T cell response is assessed by EliSpot of peptide library stimulated splenocytes.

CureVac Carrier Molecule or CVCM Delivery Technology

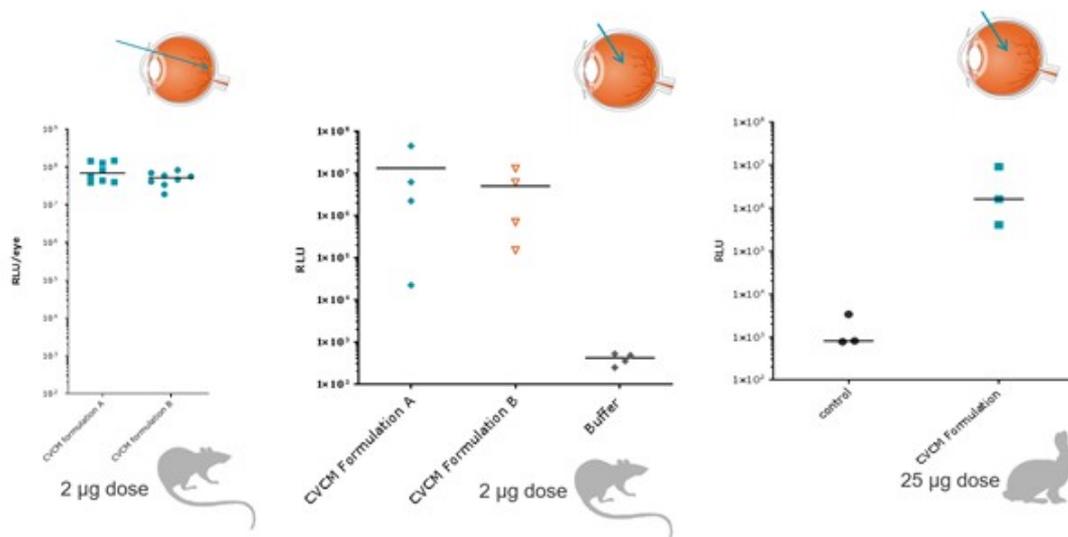
Our proprietary CVCM delivery technology is a polymer-based approach for local delivery of mRNA medicines to selected tissues. CVCMs enter cells via endocytosis and at lower pH during the trafficking, the core peptide and the lipids get protonated. The lipids are then released from the CVCM particles and are inserted into the endosomal membrane, thereby disrupting the membrane. Within the reducing environment of the cytosol, the CVCMs get destabilized and broken down into its components, resulting in mRNA being efficiently released.

We believe the CVCM delivery technology offers the following key advantages:

- **Stability:** CVCM formulation confers physicochemical stability by design and generates very stable complexes that can survive physical stress. CVCMs can be effectively spray dried, lyophilized, or nebulized, enabling formulation methods that are difficult to achieve with LNPs.
- **Degradation and Excretion:** The human body handles the degradation and excretion of hydrophilic materials very well, without any accumulation in lipid membranes. CVCM polymer is designed and equipped with intrinsic degradation mechanism that enables fast decomposition in the cytosol of cells.
- **Tolerability:** The human body tolerates polymers very well due to the fact that polymers do not disturb the lipid membrane. We have extensively optimized and adapted our CVCM system for mRNA to enable efficient complexation and protection of the mRNA in hostile environments. The excipient to cargo ratio is an important metric that influences the tolerability of delivery systems. For our CVCMs, this excipient to cargo ratio is very low, allowing us to deliver higher amounts of mRNA.

- *Immunogenicity*: Polymeric systems are immunosilent as they do not mimic virus-like particles and do not interact with RNA or lipid sensors.
- *Production of mRNA Therapies*: Polymeric systems tend to be water soluble and enable a homogeneous mixing with the mRNA, thus allowing for less complicated production methods.

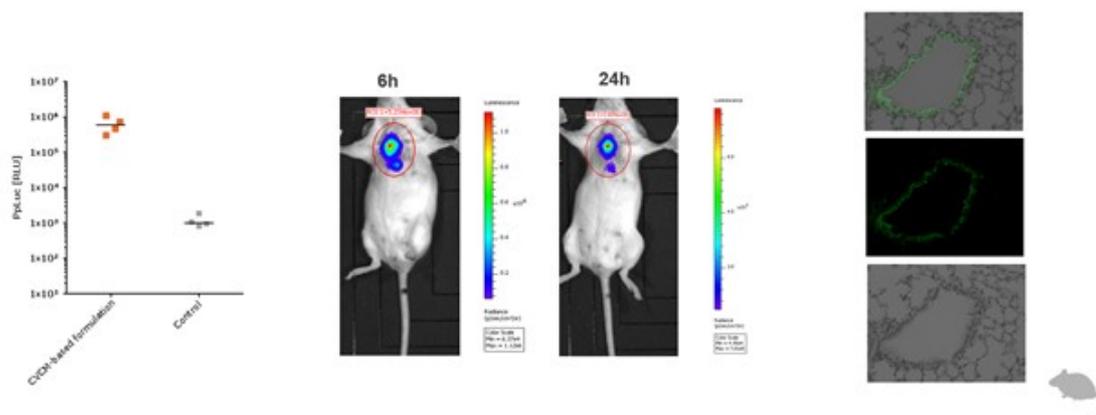
The combination of low immune stimulatory capacity and high tolerability makes CVCM formulation highly suitable for sensitive tissues like eye (nerve tissue) and lung (immune sensitive). In preclinical models, CVCM technology enabled high protein in eye (nerve tissue) after intravitreal or sub-retinal administration.



CVCM nanoparticles mediated protein expression in eye in rats (left panel subretinal injection; middle panel intravitreal injection) and rabbits (right panel intravitreal injection)

The high physicochemical stability during physical stress is also well suited for the administration of CVCM formulation to the lung via the airway. Enabling an administration as an aerosol or as a dry powder formulation.

CVCM formulation leads to high levels of protein expression following intrapulmonary administration



CVCM formulated mRNA, encoding Luciferase was delivered, intratracheal using penncentury device.

Our Approach to Disease Selection

Our approach seeks to mitigate risk across multiple levels to advance and expand our broad product portfolio. While mRNA is still an emerging treatment modality, we believe that we have made advances towards utilizing the potential of our technology platform through rational disease selection. Our approach for selecting new programs is based on the following key factors:

- Target diseases with high unmet medical needs that are not effectively addressed using the current standard of care.
- Target areas where the underlying mode of action of the disease is understood or hypothesized which allows us to identify the required protein(s) or antigen(s).
- Identify areas where mRNA therapies have potential to have differentiated profile compared to the conventional treatment modalities.
- Assess the likelihood of being able to address the disease using our technology platform and seek to continuously improve and expand the capabilities of our platform to address an even broader range of diseases.
- Seek to build on our deep understanding of mRNA biology, data derived from our technology platform and previous clinical and preclinical studies to apply to new indications.

In building our product portfolio, we have considered a number of factors including immune response, duration of expression, dosing requirements, delivery technology, target tissue type, potential for responsiveness to mRNA-based medicine, and target disease profile, among other factors. A disease indication may require an mRNA-based medicine that triggers an immune response, or that is immune active, or an mRNA-based medicine that requires no immune activation, or that is immune silent. Each of the disease indications that we are targeting require different levels of immune activation for the mRNA-based medicine to be effective. Our approach is to initially target indications that require an immune active approach (such as prophylactic vaccines), given the need for lower doses and transient expression of the antigen. These initial indications are amenable to localized delivery using an LNP delivery system. Following the proof of concept observed in preclinical studies from our prophylactic vaccines program and our advanced understanding of mRNA biology and immune stimulation modulation, we have expanded our product portfolio to target indications that require an immune silent approach (such as protein delivery). Targeting diseases amenable to the immune silent approach requires higher doses and longer expression of the protein, with potential for long-term repeat dosing for chronic diseases. By using both LNP and our proprietary CVCM delivery systems, we are able to address a broad range of target tissue types.

	FOCUS AREA	LEAD PROGRAM / COLLABORATION	FORMULATION
 Immune active applications	Prophylactic Vaccines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Induction of antibody responses Induction of T cell responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 CV2CoV Influenza CVSQIV 	 Lipid <u>nano</u> -particle
	Oncology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Induction of T cell responses Induction of antibody responses Breaking of tolerance Activation of innate and adaptive immunity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumor-associated antigens* Shared neo-antigens* CVB102 	 Lipid <u>nano</u> -particle  Peptide based
 Immune silent applications	Protein Therapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oncology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the liver as a bioreactor Convey controlled immunogenicity Rare Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocular administration Mucosal delivery Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genmab collaboration Harvard collaboration Yale collaboration REBIRTH-Research Center collaboration CRISPR collaboration 	 Lipid <u>nano</u> -particle  Polymer based  Lipid <u>nano</u> -particle

We are able to explore the full potential of mRNA product candidates via two main approaches:

- **Immune active.** For indications that require immune stimulation such as prophylactic and therapeutic vaccines, our technology optimizes the combination of mRNA molecules encoding specific antigens and selected delivery modalities to provide the desired immunostimulatory capacity. This allows us to design vaccines with high immunogenic effect. The goal is to induce an immune response against the encoded antigen. The mRNA is taken up by cells, including dendritic cells, at the injection site. Expressed antigens are then presented to the adaptive immune system leading to selective activation of T cells and B cells that recognize these antigens. These activated adaptive immune cells can then recognize and attack similar antigens that are found on tumors or pathogens.
- **Immune silent.** For indications that require no immune stimulation such as protein delivery, our technology can also design product candidates to be immunosilent and to express encoded proteins over an extended period of time. These product candidates can be expressed either locally (eye, liver or lung) or systemically, using the liver as a bioreactor for production of the therapeutic proteins (enzymes and antibodies).

Prophylactic Vaccines

Infectious disease-related proteins, such as viral surface proteins, specific targets for the body’s immune defense system, can be expressed by injected mRNA and then presented to B and differentiated T cells, activating a specific immune response. We believe that our mRNA technology offers a platform for the development and production of prophylactic vaccines against infectious diseases. We believe our mRNA vaccines offer many potential advantages over existing vaccine technologies, including:

- mRNA vaccines mimic several aspects of a natural viral infection and has the potential to offer improved and balanced immune response.
- mRNAs allow us to encode for specific protein antigens of choice, offering potential for the development against known and yet unidentified pathogenic threats.
- mRNAs allow production of multivalent vaccines with the potential to either demonstrate a broader efficacy by including additional target pathogens, or to strengthen potential efficacy by better targeting a specific pathogen, for example by adding of immunogenic epitopes, or by addressing different pathogen variants, or both.
- mRNA vaccines are generally expected to be safer than live or attenuated vaccines since no living virus is injected. As they do not interact with the host-cell DNA, they avoid the potential risk of genomic integration posed by DNA-based vaccines.

- mRNA binds to pattern recognition receptors and mRNA vaccines are thereby self-adjuvanting, a property which peptide- and protein-based vaccines lack.
- Rapid speed of development from knowing the sequence of the virus to progressing programs in clinical development given our ability to produce antigens without dedicated cell cultures and fermentation-based manufacturing processes.
- Commercial-scale production of mRNA is fast, cost-effective and, in contrast to traditional vaccine approaches, does not require cell culture or the use of live pathogens and as a result, multiple vaccines can be produced in the same plant.

Our current approach to the development of potential prophylactic vaccines is focused on:

- **CV2CoV for SARS-CoV-2:** Our second-generation mRNA vaccine program against SARS-CoV-2, which we develop in collaboration with GSK is CV2CoV. The candidate is currently being evaluated in Phase 1 clinical study. Preclinical data in non-human primates published in Nature on November 18, 2021, showed strongly improved immune responses and protective efficacy of CV2CoV compared to our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCOV. A direct comparison of CV2CoV with a licensed mRNA vaccine was able to show that neutralizing antibody levels following full vaccination of animals with either 12µg of CV2CoV or a 30µg standard dose of the licensed mRNA vaccine were highly comparable. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities.
- **CVSQIV for influenza:** Our second-generation mRNA vaccine program against influenza, which we develop in collaboration with GSK is CVSQIV, a differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate featuring multiple non-chemically modified mRNA constructs to induce immune responses against relevant targets of four different influenza strains. CVSQIV is currently being investigated in a Phase 1 clinical study.
- **CV7202 for rabies:** Our most advanced program, CV7202, is a rabies vaccine candidate currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial. CV7202 induced adaptive immune response as shown by rabies-specific VNTs above the WHO thresholds considered to be protective, 28 days after the second dose in all subjects, at the lowest 1µg and 2µg dose levels.
- **Respiratory Syncytial Virus, or RSV vaccine:** Our approach for the RSV program is based on delivering mRNAs encoding for the RSV F (fusion) protein. Based on *in vivo* challenge studies in cotton rat, we have demonstrated that our mRNA vaccines induce high levels of virus neutralizing antibodies, protect animals against RSV infection, without any signs of lung pathology.
- **Other prophylactic vaccines:** In partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we are developing prophylactic vaccines for prevention of other infectious diseases associated with high mortality in the developing world including malaria and rotavirus.

Oncology

mRNA is a versatile platform for cancer vaccine development allowing to encode a wide range of antigens from full length tumor associated antigens to neoepitopes. We are taking multiple approaches in oncology to induce tumor-specific immune responses in patients:

- **Intratumoral therapy:** Intratumoral injection of immunostimulating agents into tumors is an alternative to classic vaccination to induce a therapeutic immune response. High concentration of such agents can be achieved by local administration in the tumor tissue with little systemic side effects. Intratumoral immunotherapy activates antigen-presenting cells in the tumor environment and draining lymph nodes to present a broad panel of antigens expressed by the tumor to T and B cells and induce a systemic immune response against the injected tumor as well as non-injected metastatic lesions (abscopal effect).

Our lead oncology product candidate, CV8102, is based on a complex of single stranded non-coding RNA with a polymeric peptide carrier which has been shown to activate the TLR7, TLR8 and RIG-I pathways. These pathways activate the innate immune system upon detection of RNA molecule. We are currently evaluating CV8102 in a dose-escalation Phase 1 clinical trial for the treatment of four types of solid tumors and an expansion of the Phase 1 study in patients with advanced melanoma.

- **Novel cancer vaccines:** We are also working on discovery of novel vaccines against tumor-associated antigens, which are antigens that are overexpressed in tumor tissues with no or little expression on healthy tissues, using our LNP formulations. It is known that these antigens are often less immunogenic than neoantigens and require optimized design to improve their presentation to immune cells as well as vaccine formulation with strong immunostimulating properties (vaccine adjuvant effect) to enable the induction of relevant immune responses.

We have demonstrated in a preclinical model that an optimized LNP formulated mRNA vaccine, encoding a TAA, that is also a self-antigen, can induce cellular and anti-tumoral immune responses and single-agent therapeutic activity. These immune responses led to single-agent therapeutic effect in the B16F10 tumor model that does not respond to anti-PD-1 antibodies alone. The therapeutic effect of the vaccine was further enhanced by concomitant systemic anti-PD-1 antibody treatment. Based on these encouraging data, we are developing vaccine candidates targeting tumor associated antigens for different indications. We aim to focus on indications and settings with a high medical need showing a low response rate to anti-PD-1 antibodies alone or indications with minimal residual disease after standard of care surgery (adjuvant setting) and aim to use the vaccines to prevent cancer relapse.

We are also working on the discovery of vaccines targeting different classes of neoantigens. We have demonstrated that our LNP formulated mRNA vaccines are also able to induce T cell responses against different model neoantigens.

Molecular Therapy: Deliver mRNA to express the right protein wherever needed

We are seeking to optimize mRNA molecules to trigger production of antibodies. Our antibody work has potential to protect against viruses, bacteria, and toxins and can be applied to many disease indications including cancer, cardiovascular diseases, infectious diseases and autoimmune diseases. In preclinical studies in non-human primates, we have demonstrated that antibodies encoded by mRNA can be produced in hepatocytes very rapidly and can reach the blood stream at relevant therapeutic levels.

With our technology, we can instruct human cells to produce specific proteins in the nucleus, cytoplasm, cellular organelles, cell membrane, or get them secreted. Based on this “healthy” information delivered by mRNA, our cells are designed to produce proteins, which are required to treat the disease caused by missing or inactive proteins.

We believe there are several advantages of our technology applied to development of molecular therapy, including:

- mRNA encoded proteins can function within or outside of cells as well as inside cell membranes, allowing us to address intracellular protein deficiencies that are not addressed by recombinant proteins.
- mRNAs can enable production of complex proteins that are challenging to make using recombinant technologies due to their folding requirements and complexity.
- Administered mRNAs encode proteins using natural pathways allowing for post-translational modifications such as glycosylation whereas recombinant proteins use non-human post-translational modifications which may lead to lower effectiveness and increased immunogenicity.
- mRNA constructs can be optimized to produce proteins that offer desirable pharmacology relative to the wild-type protein, such as increased half-life.
- mRNA allows for dosing flexibility to meet patient needs without causing irreversible changes to the genome.
- mRNA can be delivered repeatedly, creating the opportunity to provide long-term benefit for treatment of chronic diseases.

We currently have collaborations focused on:

- **Therapeutic antibodies:** We are also developing mRNAs therapies to produce antibodies systemically using the liver as a bioreactor for subsequent secretion and systemic distribution of the antibodies to primary organs affected by a disease. Our collaboration with Genmab, a global leader in antibody discovery and design, will allow us to work with novel antibodies produced using our mRNA technology. This partnership represents the first-ever publicly disclosed mRNA antibody focused deal and will allow us to optimize and manufacture mRNA encoded antibodies for Genmab.
- **Liver diseases:** We are working on mRNAs therapies targeted for the liver, including designing and producing intracellular targets such as transcription factors. Our collaboration with the Hannover Medical School aims to design treatments for liver diseases such as NAFLD, NASH, and liver cirrhosis, with the potential to treat or reverse liver fibrosis.
- **Eye diseases:** Using our CVCM delivery system that enables different routes of delivery to the eye, we are investigating development of mRNA-based treatments for undisclosed ophthalmic indications. We have a collaboration with SERI for our discovery efforts.
- **Lung diseases:** The CVCM delivery system is also well suited for delivery of mRNA to the lung, administered as either an aerosol or a dry powder formulation. Proof of concept *in vivo* animal studies showed that CVCM mRNA formulations, administered using the intrapulmonary route, were able to transfect airway epithelial cells and produce functional therapeutic proteins in the lung. We have a collaboration with Yale University focused on discovery of novel molecular targets in pulmonary diseases.

Our Key Pipeline Candidates

RNA-Based Therapeutics in Oncology

CV8102

CV8102 is the first compound we are developing for treatment of various solid tumors using an intratumoral approach. CV8102 is based on a complex of single stranded non-coding RNA with a polymeric peptide that binds and coats the RNA, protecting it from rapid degradation while also helping to stimulate the immune system.

CV8102 was shown to activate cellular receptors that normally detect viral pathogens entering the cells (such as TLR7, TLR8 and RIG-I pathways). By mimicking a viral infection at the injection site, CV8102 is designed to induce an inflammation that can activate the immune system to reject the tumor. CV8102 was initially developed as a vaccine adjuvant and was shown to enhance the induction of multifunctional CD8 T cell responses and therapeutic activity of peptide vaccines against cancer in preclinical models.

CV8102 is currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial for the intratumoral treatment of four types of solid tumors — cutaneous melanoma, or cMEL, adenoidcystic carcinoma, or ACC, and squamous cell carcinoma of skin, or SCC, as well as squamous cell carcinoma of head and neck, or HNSCC.

As of June 21, 2021, 58 patients were enrolled in the dose escalation part: 33 in the single-agent cohort and 25 in the combination cohort with anti-PD-1 antibodies. Intratumoral CV8102 was observed to be tolerated without dose limiting toxicities, or DLTs, at dose levels up to 600 µg (single-agent and combination). At the 900µg dose level (single agent) one out of six patients experienced a DLT of Grade 3 increase in the liver enzymes ALT and AST, observed in the context of a Grade 2 cytokine release syndrome. Another patient in this cohort experienced a potentially related Grade 3 immune-mediated pneumonitis that occurred after DLT evaluation period set forth in the protocol.

As of the cutoff date we have observed preliminary evidence of activity with objective tumor responses according to RECIST 1.1:

- In the single-agent cohort 1 complete response (CR) in a melanoma patient
- 2 partial responses (PR) in a melanoma patient and a patient with squamous cell cancer of the skin (cSCC)

In the combination cohort:

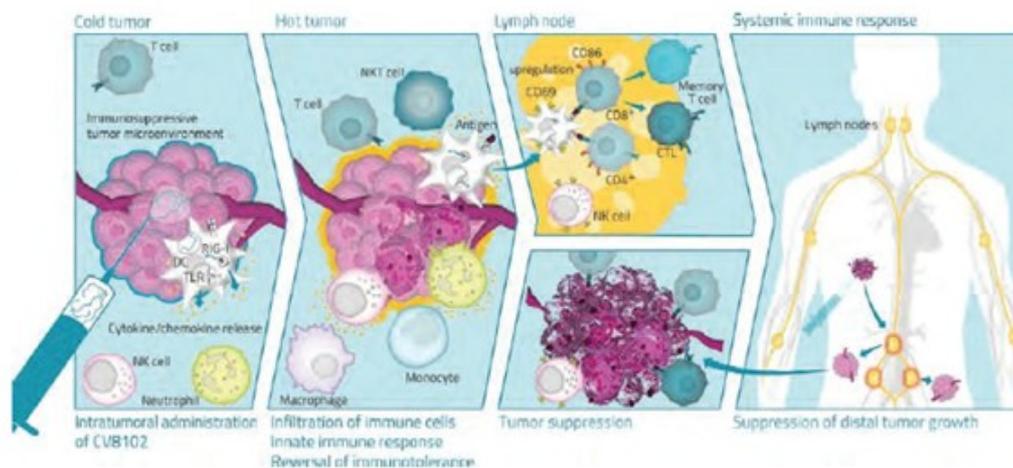
- 2 partial responses (PR) in two melanoma patients.

In February 2021, we initiated the expansion part of our Phase 1 study to confirm the safety, tolerability and efficacy of CV8102 at a 600 µg dose, the selected dose to be advanced in a Phase 2 clinical trial. The expansion part of the Phase 1 trial has enrolled 30 patients with PD-1 refractory melanoma, who receive intratumoral injections of CV8102 in combination with PD-1 antibodies, as well as 10 patients being treated with CV8102 only.

On June 21, 2021, 9 of the 30 combination patients were recruited and all of the CV8102 only patients were recruited. Enrollment was completed in October 2021. Initially, CV8102, with or without co-administration of anti-PD-1 treatment, is being injected weekly for five weeks, followed by three injections at two- or three-week intervals depending on the anti-PD-1 antibody schedule. Patients showing evidence of clinical benefit are eligible for further injections for up to 12 months.

Mechanism of Action

CV8102 is designed to activate cellular receptors that normally detect viral pathogens entering the cells (such as TLR7, TLR8 and RIG-I pathways) mimicking a viral infection of the tumor. CV8102 is designed to recruit and activate antigen-presenting cells at the site of injection to present tumor antigens released from tumor cells to T cells in the draining lymph node. This potentially leads to activation of tumor-specific T cells, which can kill tumor cells at the injected site, but also at distant non-injected tumor lesions or metastases. Activation of other immune cells like natural killer, or NK, cells at the site of injection may also contribute to the antitumor effect. This mechanism of action is illustrated in the figure below.



In preclinical models, CV8102 was shown to initially activate the innate immune system at the site of injection and the draining lymph node based on increase in number or activation of NK cells, monocytes and plasmacytoid dendritic cells. There was also an increased expression of genes associated with T cell mediated cytotoxicity. These effects were enhanced by concomitant treatment with anti-PD-1 antibodies which also led to increased tumor infiltration by CD8+-T cells.

Market Opportunity

CV8102 is currently being developed against four types of cancers, each frequently exhibiting easily accessible superficial tumor lesions:

- cMEL is an aggressive form of cancer that starts in the pigment-producing cells of the skin and can spread widely to other parts of the body. Cutaneous melanoma accounts for the majority of skin cancer-related deaths in the United States. In 2018, there were approximately 300,000 new cases of cutaneous melanoma and approximately 60,000 deaths worldwide. In the United States, the National Institute of Health, or NIH, estimates approximately 100,000 new diagnoses of cutaneous melanoma, and approximately 7,000 deaths in 2020. According to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, or NCCN, guidelines, while surgical removal of the tumor is the primary treatment for localized melanoma, for patients with metastatic disease, chemotherapy and targeted therapies including the BRAF inhibitors are also recommended. Based on published literature, the majority of patients treated with BRAF inhibitors develop secondary resistance within a relatively short amount of time. Checkpoint inhibitors are recommended as the first-line treatment for advanced / unresectable metastatic melanoma, but their side effects are severe and a significant subset of patients (approximately 40% to 45%) do not respond to these drugs and many of those who do respond (approximately 30% to 40%), develop secondary resistance. There are very limited therapeutic options for patients who have failed anti-PD-1 and targeted therapy (if eligible). Intralesional oncolytic virus therapy, or Tvec, is considered for selected cases, but its use is mostly limited to metastatic stage IIIc or M1A disease.
- HNSCC occurs in the outermost surface of the skin or certain tissues within the head and neck region including the throat, mouth, sinuses and nose. Squamous cell carcinoma makes up about 90% of all head and neck cancers. Consumption of tobacco products and alcohol and having a poor diet are important risk factors. HNSCC is the sixth most common cancer worldwide, with 890,000 new cases and 450,000 deaths in 2018. In the United States, according to American Society of Clinical Oncology, or ASCO, approximately 65,000 new cases are diagnosed annually, and more than 14,500 deaths are reported every year. Published literature indicates that more than two-thirds of patients with HNSCC initially present with locoregionally advanced disease (stage III-IV). HNSCC treatment typically involves a combination of chemotherapy, radiation and surgery. According to the Cancer Network and published literature, for patients with early-stage disease, these treatment approaches lead to approximately 60% to 80% response rate. The 5-year progression-free survival, or PFS, rate of advanced HNSCC has continued to remain at 40% to 50% and the average time to relapse is less than 2 years regardless of the combination of various treatment modalities. In patients with advanced disease, more than 50% develop local or regional recurrence and nearly 30% develop distant metastases. Based on the NCCN, the recommended first line treatment for recurrent/metastatic HNSCC include chemotherapy combinations with Cetuximab and anti-PD-1 antibody treatment with or without platinum-based chemotherapy. We believe, based on publications and our analysis, that the typical response rate to anti-PD-1 antibodies in patients with HNSCC is below 20%, and that there is still a significant unmet need.
- ACC is an uncommon form of malignant neoplasm that arises within secretory glands, most commonly the major and minor salivary glands of the head and neck. Other sites of origin include the trachea, lacrimal gland, breast, skin and vulva. ACC accounts for around 10% of all salivary gland neoplasms, 22% of all salivary gland malignancies and about 1% of all head and neck malignancies. The National Cancer Institute, or NCI, estimates that 1,200 patients are diagnosed annually in the United States with ACC and 15,000 patients are affected. Globally, ACC incidence rate is estimated between 0.4 to 13.5 cases per 100,000 annually. The primary treatment of ACC is surgery, which is usually followed by post-operative radiotherapy. According to the American Society of Clinical Oncology, or ASCO, while the 5-year survival of ACC is 89%, 15-year survival is only approximately 40%. For patients with recurrent or advanced/ metastatic disease not amenable to curative intent surgery there is no approved systemic standard treatment. There are minimal options for treatment of advanced ACC, traditional chemotherapy has been proven to be of minimal benefit, so patients often seek clinical trials as a second line option, leading to a high unmet medical need.

- SCC is the second most common form of skin cancer that develops in the squamous cells that make up the middle and outer layers of the skin. While not life-threatening, it can be aggressive and can spread to the other parts of the body, causing serious complications. According to ASCO, in the United States, keratinocyte carcinomas (KC) represent the two most common types of cancer in humans (basal cell carcinoma (BCC); and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)). KCs are responsible for approximately 3,000 deaths per year in the United States, almost exclusively as a result of SCCs. According to published literature, global incidence varies widely with highest incidence reported in Australia and lowest rates reported in Africa. Given most countries do not have cancer registries for skin cancer, figures reported are likely underestimated. Although most SCC are localized and easily treated, approximately 5% of patients experience local recurrence, approximately 4% develop nodal metastases and approximately 2% die of the disease. According to NCCN, most SCC are managed through different surgical methods, along with topical therapy, cryotherapy and photodynamic therapy. Surgical methods usually lead to good prognosis and cure rates greater than 90%. In the rare case of metastases, radiation therapy, immunotherapy and/or chemotherapy are deployed. Despite the available treatments, 10-year survival rate is less than 20% in patients with locoregional lymph node metastases and less than 10% in the presence of distance metastases, leading to a significant clinical unmet need.

Phase 1 Clinical Trial of Intratumoral CV8102

We initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial of CV8102 for the treatment of various solid tumors in 2017. The Phase 1 clinical trial is evaluating intratumoral administration of CV8102 in patients with advanced melanoma, squamous cell carcinoma of the skin, squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck, or adenoid cystic carcinoma. Patients receive CV8102 as single-agent or in combination with anti-PD-1 therapy. Patients with advanced inoperable melanoma, cutaneous or head and neck squamous cell or adenoid cystic carcinoma are eligible for single-agent CV8102, and patients with advanced inoperable melanoma and head and neck squamous cell carcinoma indicated for anti-PD-1 therapy or who did not respond or slowly progressed on anti-PD-1 therapy are eligible for the combination. CV8102 is administered for up to eight intratumoral injections into a single accessible tumor lesion over a 12-week period.

The objectives of this clinical trial include to define the maximum tolerated dose and recommended dose for CV8102 alone and in combination with an anti-PD-1 therapy, and to evaluate safety and tolerability of CV8102 administered alone and in combination with an anti-PD-1 therapy. Secondary endpoints include anti-tumor activity analyses and tumor response assessment.

Key Inclusion Criteria:

- Patients enrolled into single-agent CV8102 dose escalation cohorts must have:
 - histologically confirmed advanced cMEL, SCC, HNSCC or ACC with documented disease progression;
 - not amenable to resection or locoregional radiation therapy with curative intent; and
 - at least 1 line of anti-cancer therapy for advanced disease (except adenoid cystic carcinoma).
- Patients enrolled into CV8102 anti-PD-1 combination cohort must have:
 - histologically confirmed advanced cMEL or HNSCC; and
 - indication for anti-PD-1 therapy or currently receiving anti-PD-1 therapy with stable or slowly progressing disease after at last eight-weeks (HNSCC) or 12 weeks (cMEL) of anti-PD-1.
- Patients enrolled into single-agent CV8102 expansion cohort must have:
 - histologically confirmed advanced cMEL with documented disease progression;
 - not amenable to resection or locoregional radiation therapy with curative intent;

- progression on/after at least 1 line of anti-cancer therapy for advanced disease; and
- willing to undergo baseline and post-baseline biopsy of the lesion which is to be injected.
- Patients enrolled into CV8102 anti-PD-1 combination expansion cohort must have:
 - histologically confirmed advanced Stage IIIB-IV cMEL refractory to anti-PD-1 therapy;
 - progression during or after anti-PD-1 therapy with progressive disease according to RECIST 1.1;
 - received a minimum dose of anti-PD-1 mAB (800mg for pembrolizumab or 1200 mg for nivolumab in monotherapy or at least two doses of nivolumab at a minimum dose of 1 mg/kg given every 3 weeks in combination with ipilimumab);
 - last anti-PD-1 agent within 12 weeks prior to enrollment;
 - presence of measurable lesion(s) according to RECIST 1.1, not intended for injection; and
 - willing to undergo tumor biopsies at specific timepoints (baseline and post-baseline biopsy of the injected lesion at selected sites).
- Presence of at least one injectable lesion that is measurable according to RECIST 1.1 criteria.
- Recovered from prior relevant toxicities to grade \leq 1.
- ECOG PS 0 or 1, 18 years of age or older.

Key Exclusion Criteria:

- Rapidly progressing multifocal metastatic or acutely life-threatening disease;
- Prior use of topical/local TLR-7/8 agonists within the past 6 months;
- Prior anti-cancer therapy administered 2-4 weeks prior to the first dose of the study drug depending on the indication;
- Lesions that are to be injected in previously irradiated areas unless progressive tumor growth has been demonstrated (no prior irradiation of injected lesions on patients with melanoma); or
- Treatment with any investigational anticancer agent within 30 days or 5 half-lives (whichever is longer) prior to the first dose of the study drug or planned during the study.

Primary Endpoints:

- Determine maximum tolerated dose, or MTD, based on occurrence of DLTs within 2 weeks after the first dose and recommended (combination) dose, or R(C)D, respectively, for CV8102 alone and with anti-PD-1 therapy.
- Tolerability and safety of CV8102 alone and in combination with anti-PD-1 therapy.

Secondary Endpoints:

- Evaluate anti-tumor activity of CV8102 alone and in combination with anti PD-1 antibodies per RECIST 1.1 and irRECIST criteria.

- Evaluate duration of response, progression-free survival and disease control rate at 6 months.
- Evaluate tumor response of injected and non-injected lesions.
- Evaluate survival time.

Exploratory Endpoints:

- Evaluate effects on immune parameters and other biomarkers of interest in the peripheral blood.
- Evaluate effects on immune cell infiltration and other biomarkers of interest in tumor biopsy specimen (in selected cohorts during the expansion phase).

Preliminary Patient Demographics

As of June 21, 2021 58 patients were enrolled in the dose escalation part: 33 in the single-agent cohort and 25 in the combination cohort with anti-PD-1 antibodies.

In the single-agent cohort, 42% of patients had melanoma, 12% HNSCC, 18% SCC and 27% ACC. 58% of patients were pretreated with anti-PD-1 antibodies and 9% with anti CTLA-4 antibodies.

In the combination cohort, 80% of patients had cMEL and 20% had HNSCC. 88% were pretreated with anti-PD-1 antibodies and 44% with anti CTLA-4 antibodies.

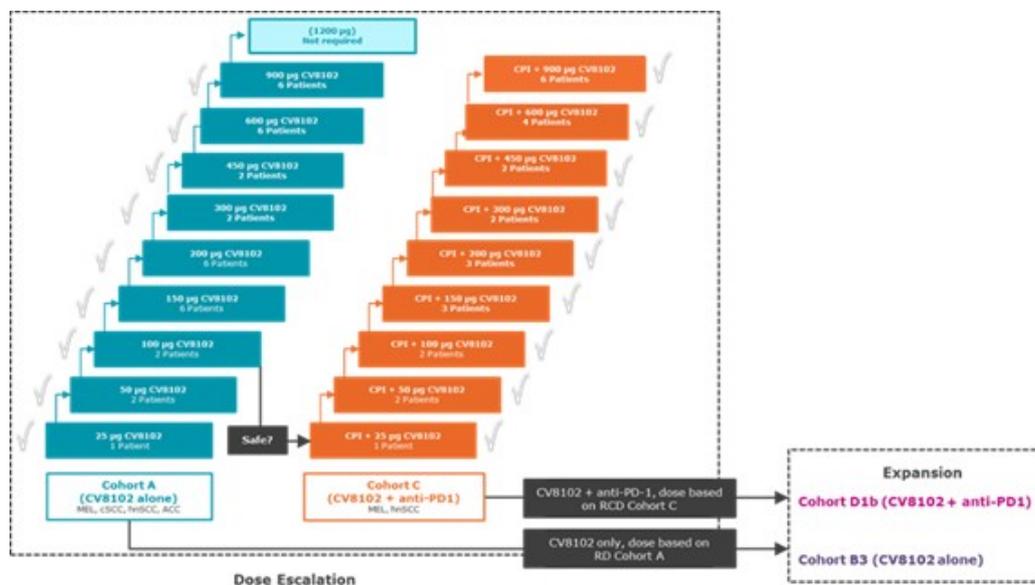
Characteristics	Number of patients (%)		
	Single agent (n=33)	anti-PD-1 combination (n=25)	All (n=58)
Age			
range (yrs)	35-91	36-90	35-91
median (yrs)	69	68	69
Gender			
Male	15 (45)	14 (56)	29 (50)
Female	18 (55)	11 (44)	29 (50)
cMEL			
Stage IIIB	1 (3)	0 (0)	1 (2)
Stage IIIC	4 (12)	5 (20)	9 (16)
Stage IV	9 (27)	15 (60)	24 (41)
HNSCC			
Stage IV	4 (12)	5 (20)	9 (16)
cSCC			
Stage III	1 (3)	0 (0)	1 (2)
Stage IV	5 (15)	0 (0)	5 (9)
ACC			
Stage IV	9 (27)	0 (0)	9 (16)
ECOG PS			
0	17 (52)	18 (72)	35 (60)
1	16 (48)	7 (28)	23 (40)
Pre-treatment with anti-PD-1	19 (58)	22 (88)	41 (71)
Pre-treatment with anti-CTLA4	3 (9)	11 (44)	14 (24)

Percentages presented above have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

CV8102 is administered weekly for the first five cycles and then every two to three weeks for the subsequent cycles for a total of eight injections or until disease progression or death of the patient. In the single-agent cohorts, more than eight injections may be administered should the patient experience a clinical benefit.

Dose escalation of single-agent CV8102 and the combination with anti-PD-1 are running in parallel, with the single-agent cohort being more advanced due to an earlier start of enrollment. We consider a dose level to be safe once it is cleared with monotherapy. This CV8102 dose level is then combined with an anti-PD-1. In parallel, the study continues with the next cohort of the dose escalation monotherapy. Once that higher monotherapy dose is considered safe, combination follows.

Phase 1 Dose Cohorts and Enrollment Status as of January 2022



Phase I trial updates as described above were presented at the ESMO conference in September 2021. Preliminary Biomarker Data were presented at SITC conference in November 2021.

Preliminary Safety Data Dose Escalation

**Preliminary safety data:
Treatment emergent AEs occurring in ≥ 10% of patients as of June 21, 2021**

AE preferred term	Number of patients with ≥1 TEAE (%)*			
	Single agent (n= 33) DL 25-900 µg	anti-PD-1 combination (n= 25) DL 25-900 µg	All (n= 58)	
			G1/G2	≥ G3
Any Adverse Event	33 (100)	25 (100)	58 (100)	22 (38)
Pyrexia	17 (52)	11 (44)	28 (48)	0 (0)
Fatigue	12 (36)	8 (32)	20 (34)	0 (0)
Chills	6 (18)	10 (40)	16 (28)	0 (0)
Headache	9 (27)	3 (12)	12 (21)	0 (0)
Injection site pain	8 (24)	4 (16)	12 (21)	0 (0)
Nausea	8 (24)	3 (12)	11 (19)	0 (0)
Influenza like illness	7 (21)	2 (8)	9 (16)	0 (0)
Urinary tract infection	4 (12)	5 (20)	9 (16)	1 (2) §
C-reactive protein increased	5 (15)	2 (8)	7 (12)	0 (0)
Injection site erythema	2 (6)	5 (20)	7 (12)	0 (0)
Pain in extremity	4 (12)	3 (12)	7 (12)	0 (0)
Anaemia	5 (15)	2 (8)	6 (10)	2 (3) §
Arthralgia	4 (12)	2 (8)	6 (10)	0 (0)
Asthenia	3 (9)	3 (12)	6 (10)	0 (0)
Decreased appetite	3 (9)	3 (12)	6 (10)	0 (0)

The dose of CV8102 administered either alone or in combination with an anti-PD-1 antibody was escalated up to 900 µg. The MTD was not reached in either cohort, however, due to one DLT and a significant SAE (immune-mediated pneumonitis) after DLT period observed in the 900 µg DL for single agent, a recommended dose/recommended combination dose for the expansion (RD/RCD) of 600 µg was determined in agreement with the DMC for both single agent and combination with an anti-PD-1 antibody.

Adverse events were graded according to the NCI-Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events. Grades refer to the severity of the adverse events with unique clinical descriptions of the severity of each AE based on the following general guideline:

Adverse events were graded according to the NCI-Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events. Grades refer to the severity of the adverse events with unique clinical descriptions of the severity of each AE based on the following general guideline:

Grade 1: Mild; asymptomatic or mild symptoms or clinical or diagnostic observations only or intervention not indicated.

Grade 2: Moderate; minimal, local or non-invasive intervention indicated or limiting age appropriate instrumental activities of daily living.

Grade 3: Severe or medically significant but not immediately life-threatening or hospitalization or prolongation of hospitalization indicated or disabling or limiting self-care activities of daily life.

Grade 4: Life-threatening consequences or urgent intervention indicated.

Grade 5: Death related to adverse event.

As of June 21, 2021:

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- The most frequently reported adverse events occurring in more than 20% of patients were mild to moderate pyrexia, fatigue, chills, headache, injection site pain and nausea.
- 22 (38%) patients experienced treatment emergent \geq Grade 3 AEs and 7 (12%) patients experienced Grade 3 AEs considered treatment related per investigator's judgment (one of the events fulfilled criteria for dose limiting toxicities per protocol). There were no Grade 4 or 5 AEs considered related to study treatment.
- In the single-agent CV8102 cohort, four patients experienced transient Grade 3 elevations of liver enzymes (1 at 150 μ g dose level, 2 at 200 μ g dose level and one at the 900 μ g dose level, the latter fulfilled DLT criteria per protocol, because it occurred within one week after the second injection). One patient in the 900 μ g cohort experienced an immune mediated Grade 3 pneumonitis and was recovering on steroid treatment approximately one week later. The patient had already experienced a previous episode of Grade 1 pneumonitis that may have been related to previous treatment with anti PD-1 antibodies prior to study enrollment.
- In the combination cohort of CV8102 with anti-PD-1 antibodies, one patient (100 μ g dose level) experienced Grade 3 hypertension, mild chills, fever and tachycardia on day of administration of CV8102 and anti-PD-1 requiring inpatient observation (SAE) and transient asymptomatic Grade 3 elevation of serum lipase. One patient (100 μ g dose level) experienced transient asymptomatic Grade 3 elevation of serum amylase.

Treatment Related Serious Adverse Effects (SAEs)

As of June 21, 2021:

- In the single agent CV 8102 cohort one patient experienced Grade 2 CRP increase (150 μ g dose level,) one patient experienced Grade 2 tumor pain (200 μ g dose level), one patient experienced Grade 1 chills, pyrexia and vomiting and an episode of Grade 2 pyrexia (300 μ g dose level), one patient experienced a Grade 2 cytokine release syndrome (900 μ g dose level) and one patient a Grade 3 immune-mediated pneumonitis (900 μ g dose level).
- In the combination cohort of CV8102 with anti-PD-1 antibodies, one patient required inpatient observation after Grade 3 hypertension, mild chills, fever and tachycardia (100 μ g dose level), one patient experienced Grade 2 cytokine release syndrome (300 μ g dose level), one patient a Grade 1 cytokine release syndrome (600 μ g dose level) and one patient a Grade 1 cytokine release syndrome (900 μ g dose level).

Preliminary Efficacy Data

Tumor responses were assessed according to Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors, or RECIST 1.1. The overall response evaluation according to RECIST 1.1 integrates changes in both measurable and non-measurable tumor lesions that can be assessed by radiographic imaging (CT or MRI) or clinical examination (documented by photographs). Assessment was performed by the investigators at baseline and at defined time points during the study period. Responses per RECIST 1.1 criteria are defined as follows:

A CR is the disappearance of all tumor lesions that were present before start of treatment without appearance of new lesions.

A PR is a \geq 30% decrease in the sum of diameters of specified tumor lesions (called target lesions) taking as reference the baseline sum diameters without progression or disappearance of the other lesions and without appearance of new lesions or CR of target lesions without disappearance of other lesions but without progression or appearance of new lesions.

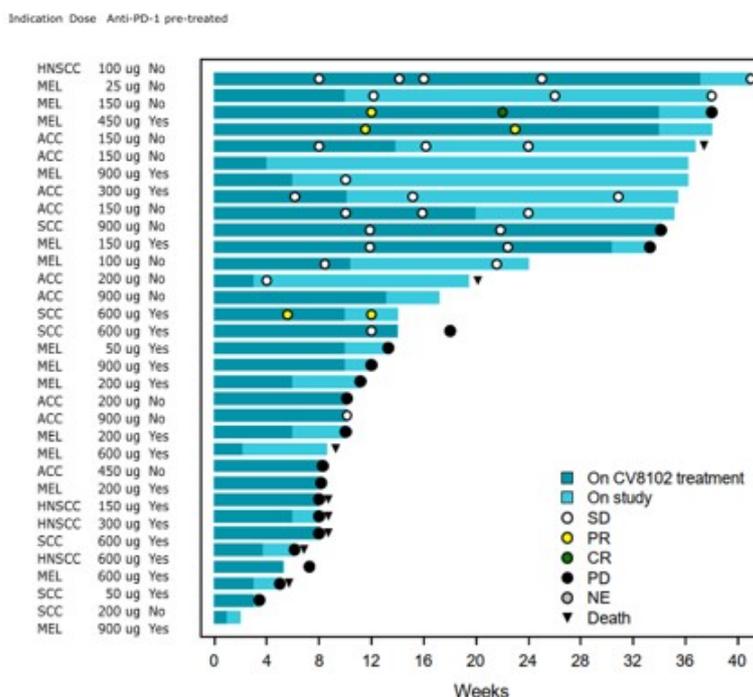
Progressive disease, or PD, indicates a \geq 20% increase in the sum of diameters of specified tumor lesions (called target lesions) (taking as reference the smallest sum of diameters while on study) and at least a 5 mm increase and/or an unequivocal progression of existing further lesions (called nontarget lesions) or appearance of new lesions.

Stable disease indicates there is neither sufficient shrinkage nor increase in size of tumor lesions to declare PR or PD and no appearance of new lesions.

The tables below show duration of treatment, response and time to progression of individual patients enrolled in the trial.

Preliminary data on overall tumor response and duration according to RECIST 1.1 as of June 21, 2021

Preliminary efficacy data for single-agent CV8102



As of June 21, 2021, one patient showed a CR and two patients showed a PR according to RECIST 1.1 after single-agent CV8102. In addition, 12 patients experienced a best response of stable disease after eight-weeks of treatment (associated with shrinkage of non-injected lesion in one patient, shrinkage of injected lesion in one patient and shrinkage of both the non-injected and injected lesions in one patient). Nine of the 33 (27%) patients treated with single-agent CV8102 remained free of progression for more than six months.

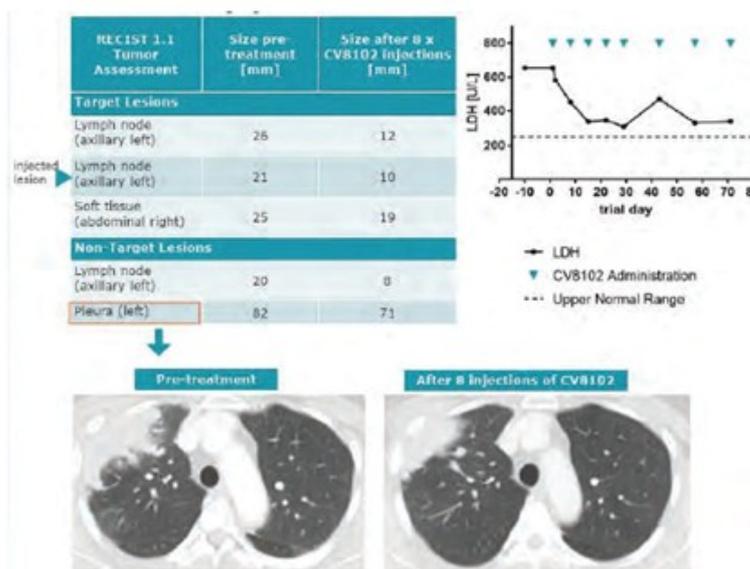
Single-agent Response Data

Case reports of patients with observed tumor shrinkage after single-agent CV8102:

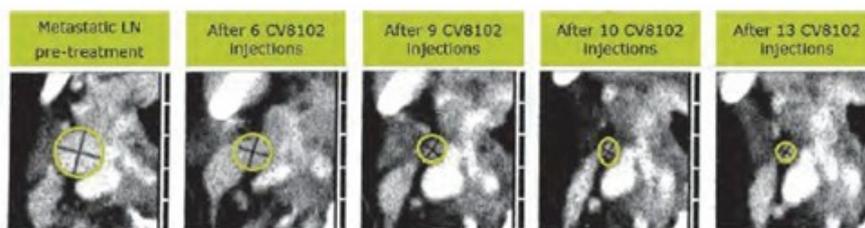
- A 74-year-old female patient with Stage IIIC melanoma and multifocal in-transit metastases was treated with single-agent CV8102 (150 µg). The pictures below show the injected primary tumor before treatment, after first five weekly injections, and after eight injections at 12 weeks. After the first five injections, a partial regression of the injected lesion became apparent, which turned into a complete regression after eight injections (12 weeks). An MRI scan showed a complete regression of all noninjected in transit metastases. The response data together represent a confirmed complete response based on RECIST 1.1 criteria. The patient continued to receive injections at monthly intervals for up to nine months without locoregional recurrence but there was occurrence of a new intraabdominal soft tissue lesion.



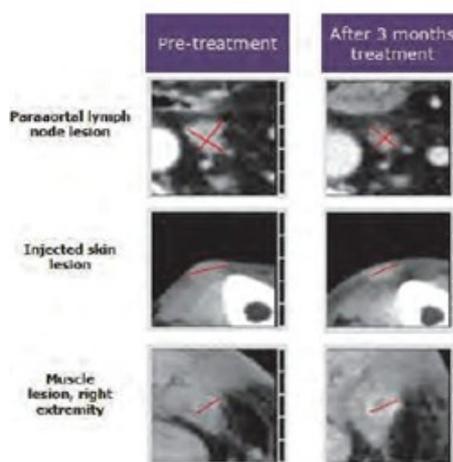
- A 50-year-old female patient with Stage IV melanoma, metastases in ipsilateral supraclavicular lymph nodes and distant detectable metastases at study entry was treated with single-agent CV8102 (450 µg). The patient previously experienced early tumor progression on adjuvant treatment with Nivolumab and subsequently underwent multiple resections of cutaneous and lymph node metastases and radiation prior to study entry. The patient received eight intratumoral injections of CV8102 into an axillary lymph node metastasis. After an early decrease in serum LDH she developed a partial response. Treatment with CV8102 was ongoing as of April 2020. The table below shows the decrease in the size of measurable tumor lesions after eight intratumoral injections of CV8102. The CT scan shows the decrease in size of the noninjected metastatic pleural lesion. The graph shows the decrease in serum LDH over time during the treatment period.



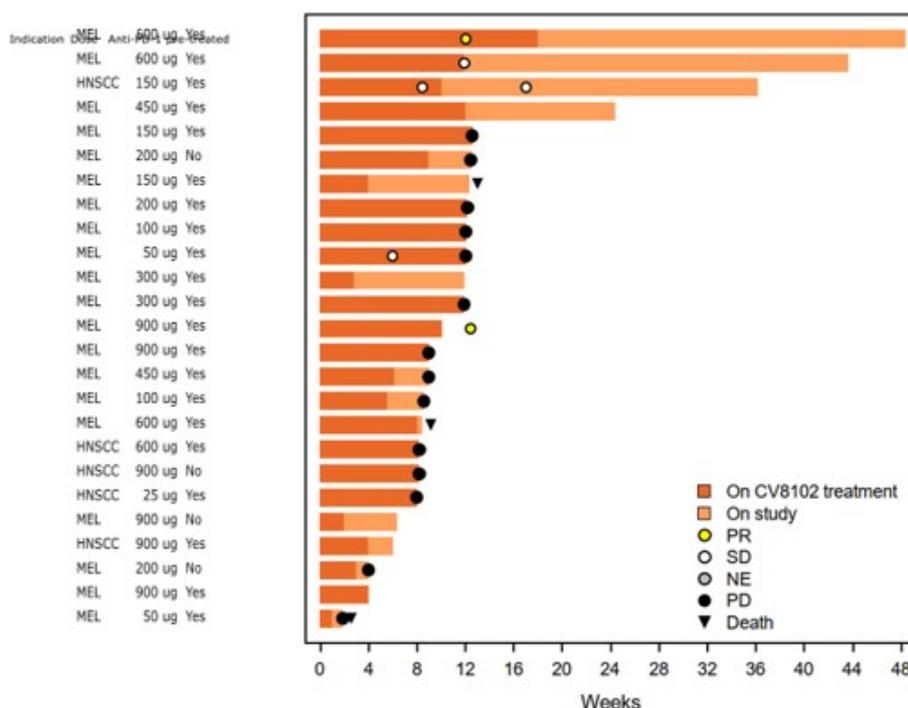
- A 91-year-old male patient with Stage IV HNSCC with large buccal and small lip lesion and a contralateral metastatic cervical lymph node was treated with single-agent CV8102 (100 µg) after pretreatments with cetuximab, external beam radiation, and multiple surgeries. The patient experienced prolonged stable disease according to RECIST 1.1 until the end of study after nine months. Whereas the injected buccal lesion remained stable in size, the noninjected contralateral metastatic lymph node showed ongoing regression.



- A 64-year-old male patient with Stage IV melanoma (150 µg dose level, single-agent CV8102) who had progressed on previous anti-PD-1 antibody treatment experienced stable disease according to RECIST 1.1 for six months, with shrinkage of the injected lesion in the skin, and shrinkage of a noninjected contralateral paraaortic lymph node lesion.



Preliminary efficacy data in combination with PD-1 antibodies



As of June 21, 2021, two patients with PD-1 refractory melanoma showed a partial response according to RECIST 1.1 in the combination cohort.

One PD-1 refractory HNSCC patient experienced stable disease according to RECIST1.1. The following salvage tumor resection due to persistent tumor hemorrhage 11 weeks after last dose which included the area of injected lesion showed a complete response within the histopathological results with no tumor cells detected.

One PD-1 refractory melanoma patient experienced stable disease after the eight-week treatment period with regression of the injected and some non-injected lesions, while other non-injected lesions showed progression.

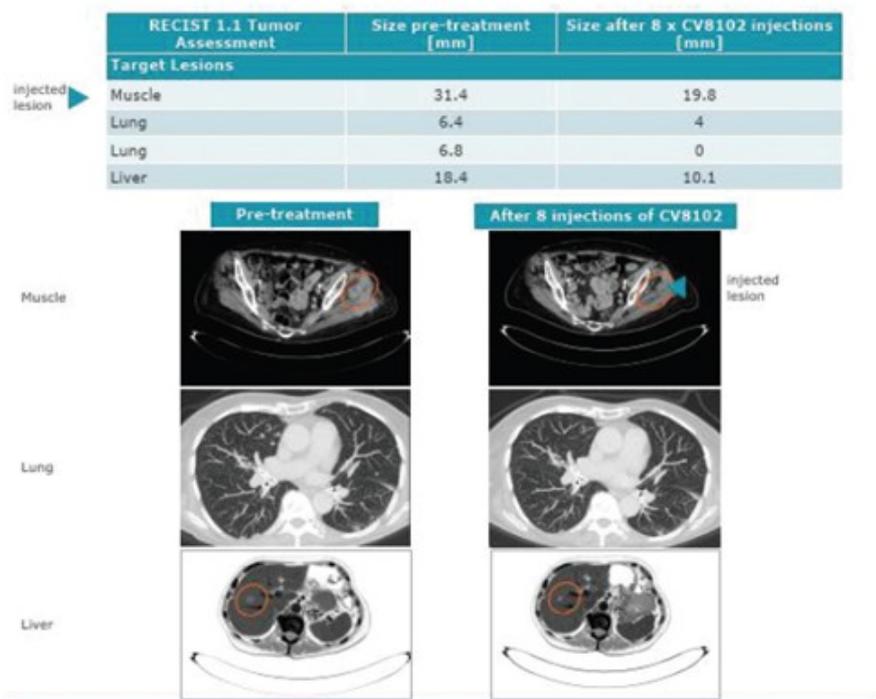
The number of treated patients and follow-up time in this cohort were more limited as compared to the single-agent cohort. The patient population was also more heavily pretreated compared to the patients enrolled in the single-agent cohort (88% vs. 58% were pretreated with anti-PD-1 antibodies and 44% vs. 9% with anti-CTLA-4 antibodies).

Combination response data:

- A 90-year-old female patient with Stage IVc melanoma and metastatic lesions in the lung and liver was treated with eight intratumoral injections of CV8102 (600 µg) in combination with the anti-PD-1 antibody Pembrolizumab.

The patient was pretreated with Nivolumab in combination with Ipilimumab followed by Nivolumab monotherapy that resulted in progressive disease four months prior to study entry.

After eight injections, the patient showed a partial response according to RECIST 1.1 with regression of the injected lesion in a muscle and multiple non-injected lung and liver lesions.



- A 84-year old male patient with stage IV melanoma was treated with eight intratumoral injections of CV8102 (900 µg) in combination with the anti-PD-1 antibody Nivolumab.

The patient was pretreated with Nivolumab resulting in progressive disease prior to study entry.

After eight injections, the patient showed a partial response according to RECIST 1.1 with regression of injected and non-injected lesions.

Expanded Phase 1 Clinical Trial of Intratumoral CV8102

In February 2021, we initiated the expansion of our Phase 1 study to confirm the safety, tolerability and efficacy of CV8102 at a 600 µg dose, the selected dose to be advanced in a Phase 2 clinical trial. Furthermore, the expansion part of the Phase 1 trial will evaluate the effects of CV8102 on systemic and intratumoral immune markers, which will provide additional clinical insights on CV8102’s mode of action.

The expansion part of the Phase 1 trial enrolled 30 patients with PD-1 refractory melanoma, who receive intratumoral injections of CV8102 in combination with PD-1 antibodies, as well as 10 patients being treated with CV8102 only. As of June 21, 2021, 9 of the 30 combination patients were recruited and all of the CV8102 only patients were recruited. Enrollment was completed in October 2021. Initially, CV8102, with or without co-administration of anti-PD-1 treatment, will be injected weekly for five weeks, followed by three injections at two- or three-week intervals depending on the anti-PD-1 antibody schedule. Patients showing evidence of clinical benefit are eligible for further injections for up to 12 months.

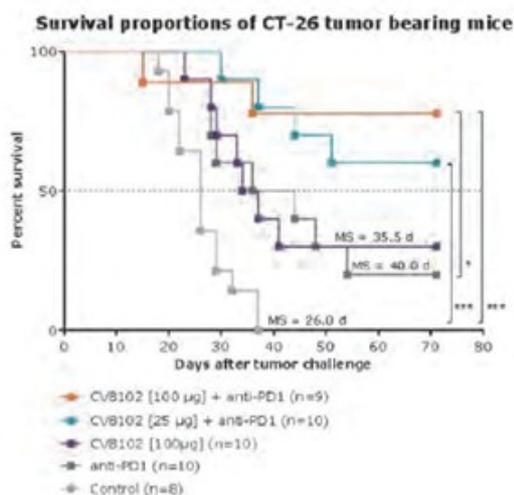
CV8102 with Rabies Vaccine

We completed a Phase 1 clinical trial to investigate the safety and tolerability of intramuscular administered CV8102 and an intramuscular administered combination of CV8102 and rabies vaccine in humans. CV8102 was injected intramuscularly on days 0 and 21, either alone or mixed with fractional doses of the licensed rabies vaccine (Rabipur) as model antigen. The primary endpoint was to assess the safety and reactogenicity of various dose levels of CV8102 alone or combined with a licensed rabies vaccine in healthy 18 to 40 year-old male volunteers. A secondary endpoint was to assess the immune-enhancing potential of bedside-mixes of CV8102 with fractional doses of the licensed rabies vaccine by measuring induction of rabies virus neutralizing titers. Fifty-six volunteers received 50 to 100 µg CV8102 alone, bedside-mixed CV8102 and rabies vaccines, or the rabies vaccine alone. When given alone or mixed with the rabies vaccine, CV8102 caused mostly Grade 1 or 2 local or systemic reactogenicity, but no related SAEs. Given 100 µg CV8102 was associated with marked C-reactive protein, or CRP increases, further dose escalation was stopped. Combining 25 to 50 µg of CV8102 with fractional doses of the rabies vaccine significantly improved the kinetics of virus neutralizing titer responses, and 50 µg CV8102 also improved the magnitude of virus neutralizing titer responses to 1/10 of the rabies vaccine but caused severe but self-limiting influenza-like symptoms in two of 14 subjects. In conclusion, two intramuscular doses of 25-50 µg CV8102 appeared well tolerated with an acceptable reactogenicity profile while significantly enhancing the immunogenicity of fractional doses of the licensed rabies vaccine.

CV8102 Key Preclinical Data

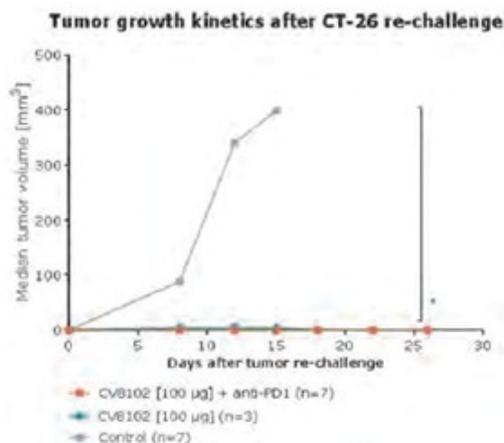
In preclinical tumor models, CV8102 showed dose-dependent antitumor activity as single-agent and synergistic activity in combination with systemic anti-PD-1 antibodies, including therapeutic activity in the A20 tumor model that did not respond to systemic anti-PD-1 antibody therapy alone.

Synergistic activity observed in CV8102 and anti-PD-1 combination therapy



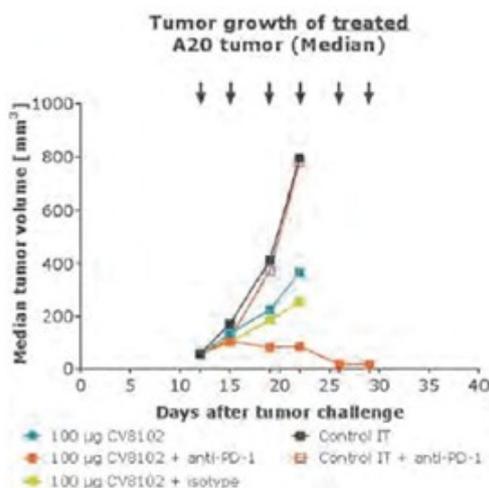
In a Kaplan-Meier curve, the graph above demonstrates the effect of monotherapy CV8102 treatment and combination of CV8102 with anti-PD-1 treatment. In the murine CT26 tumor model, an established colon carcinoma model, treatment led to an increased survival time, an increased proportion of animals surviving, and a memory effect (protective immunity of animals who achieved a complete remission after tumor re-challenge). In this model, the anti-PD-1 monotherapy as well as the CV8102 show limited improvement in survival times, whereas the combination of CV8102 and anti PD-1 resulted in a significant prolongation of survival times.

CV8102 ± anti-PD-1 treatment conferred protective immunity against tumor re-challenge in CT26 model



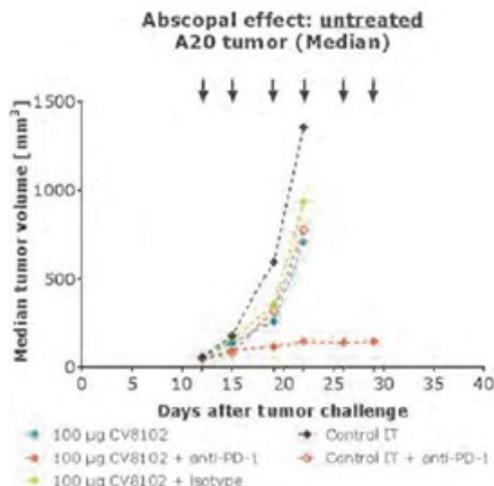
The graph above takes those animals from the previously described experiment that survived and were cured either with CV8102 alone or with combination therapy. The control arm represents animals that did not have any pretreatment. Animals treated with prior CV8102 and CV8102 treatment in combination with anti-PD-1 that were tumor-free following the prior experiment were re-challenged with the same tumor and showed no observed regrowth of the tumor. Those animals that survived and were cured and then re-challenged had a protective immunity against the tumor, which is an effect of the original treatment with CV8102 alone or in combination with anti-PD-1.

CV8102 ± anti-PD-1 treatment led to complete tumor remission in anti-PD-1 resistant A20 tumor model



The graph above represents a study performed in the A20 tumor model, which is non-responsive to anti-PD-1 therapy. The anti-PD-1 monotherapy did not result in any inhibition of tumor growth. Treatment with CV8102 monotherapy showed some inhibition of tumor growth and combination therapy of CV8102 and anti-PD-1 demonstrated synergistic anti-tumor activity.

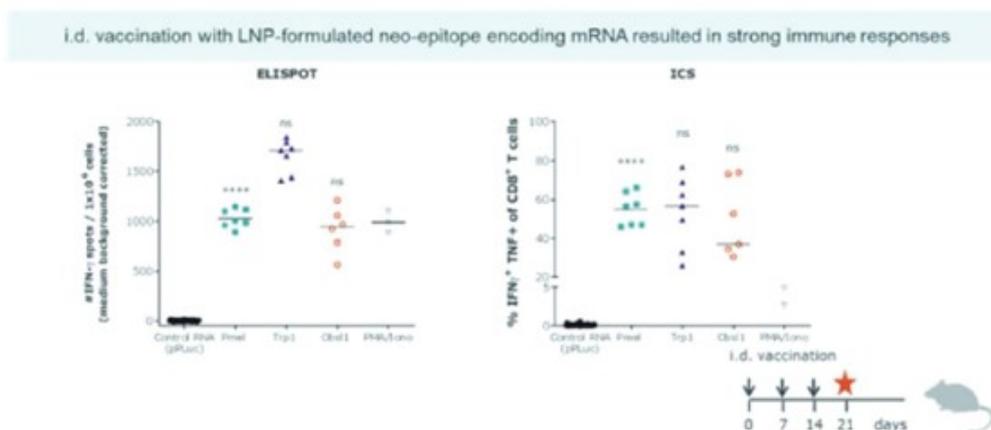
CV8102 ± anti-PD-1 treatment led to complete remission of abscopal untreated tumors in A20 model



The graph above depicts an experiment that was conducted simultaneously to the prior A20 model experiment in such a way that the animals received tumor injections in both flanks (left and right), but intratumoral treatment occurred only in the left flank. This graph shows data from the untreated flanks and demonstrates the abscopal effect which mirrors that observed in the prior experiment, whereby anti-PD-1 monotherapy has no effect, CV8102 alone exhibits limited improvement in survival times, and the combination of CV8102 and anti-PD-1 results in complete remission in four out of 10 animals.

Discovery of new therapeutic cancer vaccine candidates

Our discovery efforts in oncology are also focusing on novel therapeutic cancer vaccines candidates. In preclinical studies, we have demonstrated that LNP formulated mRNA vaccines encoding are able to induce T cell responses against model neoantigens as well as tumor associated self-antigens.



The graphs above demonstrate the induction of antigen-specific T cell responses after intradermal vaccination of mice with LNP-formulated mRNA encoding for selected neoepitopes. Animals vaccinated with LNP-formulated mRNA encoding reporter protein served as negative controls. Stimulation of splenocytes harvested 7 days post last vaccination with respective peptides demonstrated strong induction of antigen-specific T cells in Elispot (depicted in the left-hand graph) and FACs analysis (depicted in the right-hand graph).

RNA-Based Prophylactic Vaccines

COVID-19 Vaccines Program

Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that can lead to respiratory illness, including Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, or MERS-CoV, and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS-CoV. Coronaviruses are transmitted between animals and people and can evolve into strains not previously identified in humans. On January 7, 2020, a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was identified as the cause of pneumonia cases and deaths in Wuhan, China, and an exponentially increasing number of cases have since then been found worldwide. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization designated COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, an international pandemic. As of April 26, 2022 the disease has infected approximately 508 million people around the world. More than 6 million have died to date.

Second-generation COVID-19 Vaccines Program

In February 2021, we announced a new collaboration with GSK for our COVID-19 vaccine program, which went into effect in April 2021 pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and manufacture second-generation mRNA vaccines targeting the original SARS-CoV-2 strain as well as emerging variants. Second-generation vaccines candidates are based on an advanced mRNA backbone, which can flexibly encode for different COVID-19 variants and which features targeted optimizations designed to improve intracellular mRNA stability and translation for increased and extended protein expression. The optimizations potentially allow for strong and early immune responses at low doses, which will also support the development of multivalent vaccines to target rapidly spreading COVID-19 variants as well as combination vaccine approaches. The second-generation backbone differs significantly from the mRNA backbone for our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. The first candidate from the second-generation COVID-19 program is CV2CoV. CV2CoV is a non-chemically modified mRNA, encoding the prefusion stabilized full-length spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus formulated within Lipid Nanoparticles, or LNPs. On May 13, 2021, we announced that CV2CoV is able to induce high levels of antigen production in an in vitro setup as well as strong and dose-dependent immune responses in a preclinical study in rats. These data were complemented in June, 2021, by preclinical data published in Nature Communications demonstrating full protection by CV2CoV and CVnCoV from lethal infection caused by SARS-CoV-2 ancestral strain BavPat1 or the Beta variant (B.1.351) in a transgenic mouse model. On August 16, 2021 we announced availability of a preprint manuscript with preclinical data investigating immune responses as well as the protective efficacy of CV2CoV in comparison to first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, against SARS-CoV-2 challenge in non-human primates. The study, conducted in collaboration with Dan Barouch, MD, Ph.D., of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, assessed cynomolgus macaques vaccinated with 12µg of either the first or second-generation vaccine candidate. Better activation of innate and adaptive immune responses was achieved with CV2CoV, resulting in faster response onset, higher titers of antibodies and stronger memory B and T cell activation as compared to our first-generation candidate, CVnCoV. Higher antibody neutralizing capacity was observed with CV2CoV across a broad range of variants, including the Beta, Delta and Lambda variants. During challenge with the original SARS-CoV-2 virus, animals vaccinated with CV2CoV were found to be better protected compared to CVnCoV based on effective clearance of the virus in the lungs and nasal passages. A direct comparison of CV2CoV with a licensed mRNA vaccine in non-human primates was able to show that neutralizing antibody levels measured following full vaccination of animals with either 12µg of CV2CoV or a 30µg standard dose of the licensed mRNA vaccine were highly comparable. Full data was published in Nature on November 18, 2021. Following these preclinical data, we announced the start of a Phase 1 clinical trial with CV2CoV on March 30, 2022. Within the jointly developed COVID-19 vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform also to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. In line with this mRNA development strategy, CureVac and GSK are working on chemically modified mRNA technologies and expect to start a Phase 1 clinical trial with a modified second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate later in 2022. Based on Phase 1 study results, a pivotal study for the advanced clinical development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate may be initiated in the fourth quarter of 2022, also contingent on discussion with regulatory authorities. Candidates addressing relevant COVID-19 variants featuring the same mRNA backbone are currently in preclinical testing. On April 21, 2022, the preclinical data for the second-generation mRNA backbone was extended by a study conducted in collaboration with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, comparing immune responses and protective efficacy of monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding Beta and/or Delta variants, primarily in a transgenic mouse model and a Wistar rat model.

CV2CoV-based Bivalent Beta/Delta Candidate: Mice Challenge Studies with SARS-CoV-2 Beta and Delta Variant

On April 21, 2022, data of a preclinical study conducted in collaboration with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut comparing monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding B.1.351 (Beta) and/or B.1.617.2 (Delta) SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein, primarily in a transgenic mouse model and a Wistar rat model was uploaded to the bioRxiv preprint server.

For the preclinical study, we designed unmodified mRNA vaccines encoding the Spike protein sequences from the Beta and Delta variants, which are distant variants with non-overlapping mutations in the RBD domain, as well as the ancestral strain; CV2CoV.351, CV2CoV.617 and CV2CoV, respectively. The vaccines containing a total of 0.5 µg mRNA per dose were administered intramuscularly; the bivalent vaccine (CV2CoV.351 and CV2CoV.617 together) contained 0.25 µg mRNA of each variant, i.e., half the dose of the monovalent vaccines. K18-hACE2 transgenic mice received 20 µL of a low dose monovalent CV2CoV, CV2CoV.351, CV2CoV.617 or bivalent vaccine (CV2CoV.351 and CV2CoV.617) containing a total of 0.5 µg mRNA or NaCl (sham) on Day 0 and Day 28. Following challenge with Beta and Delta variants ($10^{4.4}$ TCID₅₀) on Day 56, all vaccinated mice were protected from SARS-CoV-2-induced lethality and virus spread, while all Beta-challenged and 67% of Delta-challenged sham-vaccinated animals succumbed to infection.

Neither SARS-CoV-2 genomic RNA or sub-genomic RNA (sgRNA) were detectable in oral swabs collected on Day 4, or in lung, cerebellum and cerebrum samples taken on Day 10 in all but one of the Beta-challenged, bivalent-vaccinated animals, indicating that productive infection was prevented. The suppression of viral replication in the upper respiratory tract by the monovalent vaccines differed depending on the challenge virus. While the bivalent vaccine reduced viral load in the conchae equivalent to that observed with the matched monovalent vaccine after Beta challenge, replication of the Delta variant in the conchae was abolished (no detectable sgRNA) in all vaccinated groups.

Monovalent and bivalent mRNA vaccines encoding ancestral, Beta and Delta derived Spike protein sequences protect against SARS-CoV-2 variants

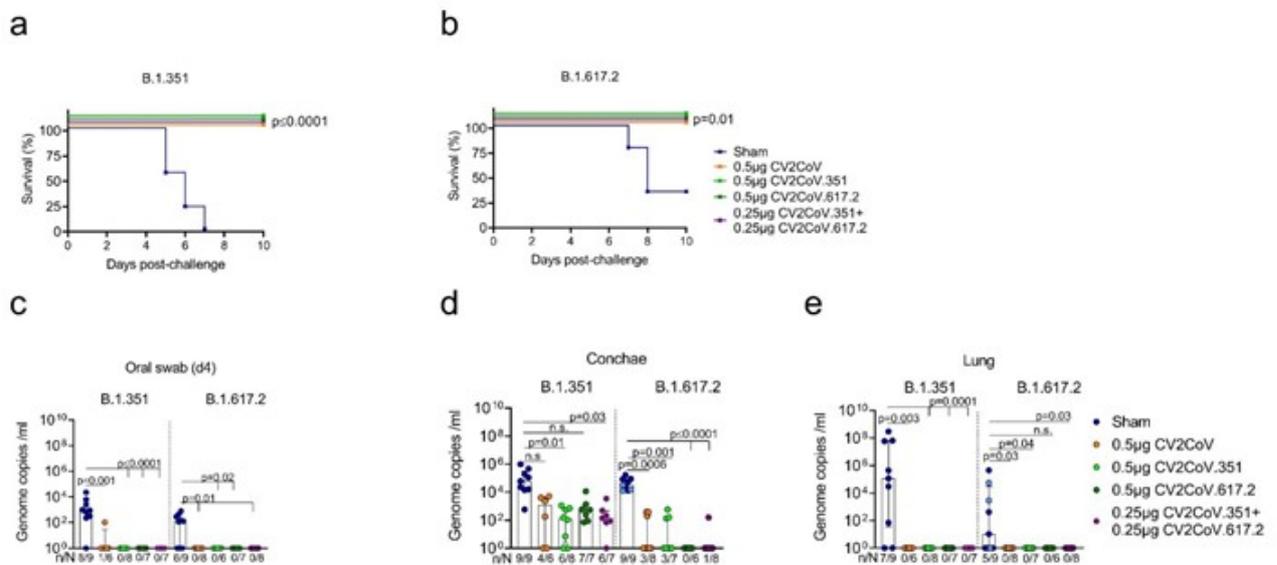


Figure: K18-hACE2 mice vaccinated on day 0 and 28 with a total of 0.5 µg CV2CoV (ancestral, orange), 0.5 µg CV2CoV.351 (Beta, light green), 0.5 µg CV2CoV.617.2 (Delta, dark green), CV2CoV.351 + CV2CoV.617.2 (0.25 µg of each; purple) or NaCl (sham; blue) were challenged i.n. with 10^{4.4} TCID₅₀ SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.351 (Beta) or B.1.617.2 (Delta) at day 56. (a,b) Survival curves (Kaplan-Meier) for K18-hACE2 mice challenged with B.1.351 (Beta) (a) or B.1.617.2 (Delta) (b) with follow-up for 10 days post challenge. (c-g) RT-qPCR results from Day 4 oral swabs (c) or Day 10 conchae (d) and lung (e). Sham group samples were obtained at Day 10 (light blue) or at the humane endpoint (dark blue). Number of RT-qPCR positive and total number of animal sample are shown on the x-axis. Each dot represents one individual mouse.

Scatter plots are labelled with median and interquartile range. p-values were determined by two-sided log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test (a,b) or one-way ANOVA and Dunn's multiple comparison test (c-e). Differences were considered significant at *p* < 0.05 with exact *p* values shown.

It was shown that the bivalent mRNA vaccine induced similarly high neutralizing antibody titers as the Beta and Delta monovalent vaccines with their respective homologous challenges, despite the bivalent vaccine containing half the mRNA dose of each monovalent vaccine (0.25 µg vs. 0.5 µg). Irrespective of the challenge, the bivalent mRNA vaccine-induced neutralizing antibody titers were statistically significantly higher than those induced by CV2CoV, whereas with the monovalent mRNA vaccines the neutralizing antibody titers were statistically significantly higher with the respective homologous challenges only.

In separate experiments, serum from Wistar rats vaccinated with CV2CoV or CV2CoV.617.2 mRNA vaccines (monovalent; 8 µg), or vaccines combining CV2CoV.617.2 with either CV2CoV or CV2CoV.351 (bivalent; 4 µg of each) on Day 0 and Day 21 contained high level nAb titers against Delta. Neutralizing antibody titers were notably diminished against Omicron BA.1 in all but the bivalent vaccine group containing Beta and Delta Spike protein sequences. Including the Beta Spike protein sequence in the vaccine resulted in nAb titers that were 2× higher against Omicron BA.1 than those induced by Delta alone, whereas the nAb titers induced by vaccines without Beta Spike protein were 3–9 times lower against Omicron BA.1 than those induced by Delta. The bivalent formulation contained a half dose of each mRNA compared with the monovalent vaccines with better antigen coverage; this strategy may be advantageous in case of the emergence of additional antigenic distant variants.

Bivalent SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines induce abundant virus neutralizing titers and robust lung T cell responses

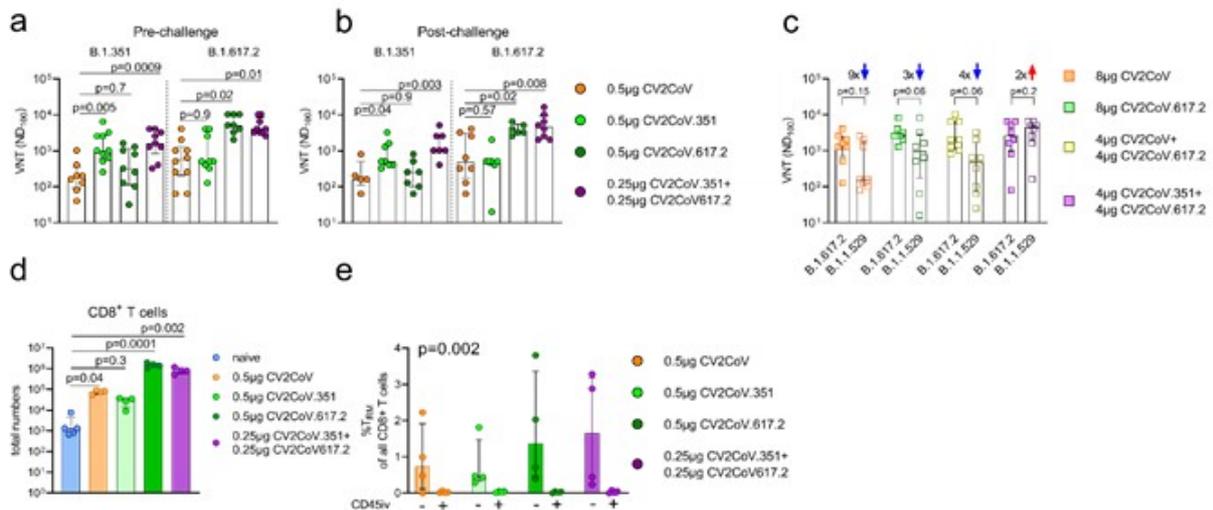


Figure: (a,b) Neutralizing antibody (nAb) titers (at Day 56 (Pre-challenge, a) and Day 66 (Post-challenge, b). Mice were vaccinated as described in figure above. (c) nAb titers at Day 42 (pre-challenge; Wistar rats), the numbers above the bars indicate the fold-differences. Rats were vaccinated on day 0 and 21 and nAb titers against B.1.617.2 (Delta) or B.1.1.529 (Omicron, BA. 1) were tested. Each dot represents an individual animal. (d-e) Induction of low-dose mRNA vaccine induced T cell responses. Lung parenchyma T cells at Day 56 post vaccination were investigated by in vivo injection of 3 μ g anti-mouse CD45 antibodies (CD45iv) for 3 minutes before harvesting of lung tissue. (d) Total number of CD45iv⁻ CD8⁺ CD3⁺ T cells in all vaccine groups compared to naïve mice. (e) Frequency of CD8⁺ TRM cells after vaccination and defined as CD45iv⁻ CD3⁺ γ TCR⁺ CD8⁺ CD44^{high} CD62L⁻ CD103⁺ CD69⁺ T cells.

Scatter plots are labelled with median and interquartile range. p-values were determined by one-way ANOVA and Dunn's multiple comparison test against CV2CoV (orange) (a-c) or against a group of naïve animals (d). (e) p-values were determined by two-way ANOVA and Dunn's multiple comparison test comparing CD45iv⁻ versus CD45iv⁺. Differences were considered significant at $p < 0.05$ with exact p values displayed in the figure.

In summary, SARS-CoV-2 evolution is a challenge for vaccine-based strategies for disease control. Our study demonstrates that a low-dose, bivalent, unmodified mRNA vaccine is highly efficacious in pre-clinical mouse and rat models and suggests that dose-sparing, multivalent vaccines combining mRNA encoding the Spike protein from the variants with unrelated lineages may induce heterologous protection and thus increase the breadth of immune responses. Given their exceptional flexibility in antigen formulation, mRNA vaccine platforms offer advantages regarding adaptability to circulating *Variants of Concern* and opportunities to design improved vaccines.

CV2CoV and CVnCoV: Non-human Primate Challenge and SARS-CoV-2 Variant Studies

On November 18, 2021, full data of a study assessing cynomolgus macaques vaccinated with 12 μ g of either the second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, or first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, conducted in collaboration with Dan Barouch, MD, Ph.D., of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, was published in Nature.

To assess humoral immune responses, induction of binding antibodies following vaccination with either candidate was investigated by performing receptor-binding domain (RBD)-specific enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs) at multiple time points following immunization. At week 2, binding antibody titers were detected only with CV2CoV and not with CVnCoV while one week after the second vaccination at week 4, the antibody titers were increased in both groups. By week 8, the binding antibody titers had increased in the CVnCoV group but were still >50 times lower than those in the CV2CoV group. Induction of neutralizing antibody titers were shown to follow a trend similar to that of the binding antibody titers. Neutralizing antibody responses were assessed by pseudovirus neutralization assay using the vaccine-matched SARS-CoV-2 wild-type strain. At week 2, neutralizing antibodies were detected only with CV2CoV and not with CVnCoV, while week after the week 4 second vaccination, the neutralizing antibody titers were increased, for CVnCoV and CV2CoV, respectively. By week 8, the neutralizing antibody titers had increased in the CVnCoV group but were still >20 times lower than those in the CV2CoV group.

Neutralization capacity of both vaccine candidates against a range of relevant COVID-19 variants was investigated at week 6. The median pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers were measured against the D614G, Alpha (B.1.1.7) and Beta (B.1.351) variants and amounted to 121, 101 and 189, respectively, for CVnCoV while they were 4,962, 1,813 and 755 for CV2CoV.

CV2CoV elicits high levels of binding and neutralizing antibody responses in macaques

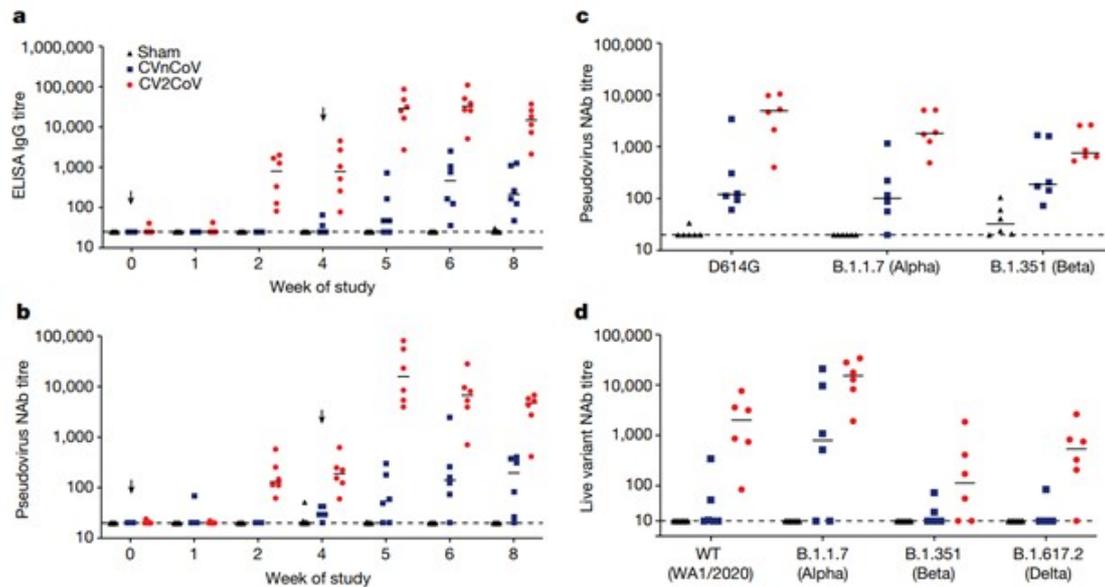


Figure: Animals ($n = 6$ per group) were vaccinated twice with $12 \mu\text{g}$ of CVnCoV or CV2CoV on day 0 and on day 28 or remained untreated as negative controls (sham). (A, B) Titers of RBD-binding antibodies (A) and pseudovirus neutralizing antibodies (NAb) against the ancestral SARS-CoV-2 strain (B) were evaluated at different time points after the first (weeks 0, 1, 2 and 4) and second (weeks 5, 6 and 8) vaccinations. (C, D) Sera collected on day 42 (week 6) were analyzed for pseudovirus (C) and live-virus (D) neutralizing antibody titers against virus with the D614G mutation and the Alpha (B.1.1.7), Beta (B.1.351) and Delta (B.1.617.2) variants. Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median and the dotted line shows limit of detection.

Further testing of neutralizing capacity against an extended range of variants including the Lambda (C.37), Kappa (B.1.617.1) and Delta (B.1.617.2) variants showed median pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers of 516, 158 and 36, respectively, for CVnCoV, while they were 1,195, 541 and 568 for CV2CoV. Taken together, these data show that CV2CoV induces substantially higher pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers against SARS-CoV-2 variants than CVnCoV. Additionally assessed live-virus neutralizing antibody titers were largely consistent with those for the pseudovirus: the live-virus neutralizing antibody responses elicited by CV2CoV were higher than those elicited by CVnCoV against the wild-type and Delta (B.1.617.2) strains, with similar trends for Alpha (B.1.1.7) and Beta (B.1.351).

CV2CoV elicits high levels of neutralizing antibody titers against further variants

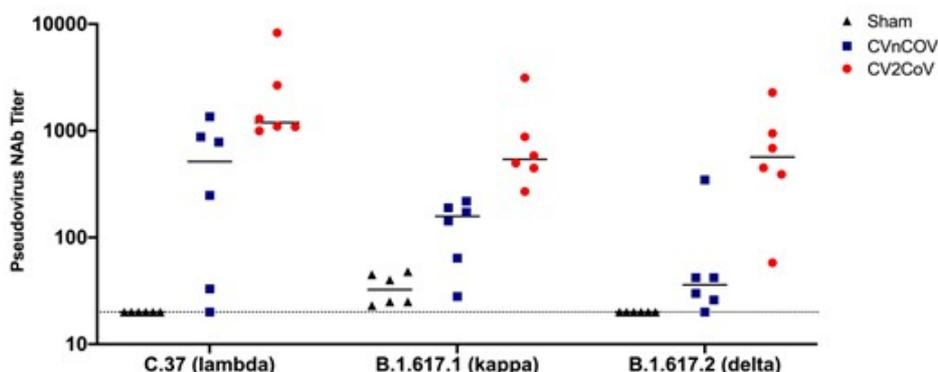


Figure: Animals ($n = 6$ per group) were vaccinated twice with $12\mu\text{g}$ of CVnCoV or CV2CoV on day 0 and day 28 or remained untreated as negative controls (sham). Sera isolated on day 42 (week 6) were analyzed for pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers against Lambda (C.37), Kappa (B.1.617.1) and Delta (B.1.617.2) variants. Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median and the dotted line shows limit of detection.

Within the study, we also compared the pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers induced in macaques by two immunizations with $12\mu\text{g}$ of CV2CoV to those induced by two immunizations with $30\mu\text{g}$ of a licensed clinical mRNA vaccine obtained as leftover product from pharmacies. At peak immunity at week 5, the neutralizing antibody responses induced by CV2CoV were comparable to those induced by the licensed mRNA vaccine.

CV2CoV elicits comparable levels of neutralizing antibody titers to licensed mRNA vaccine

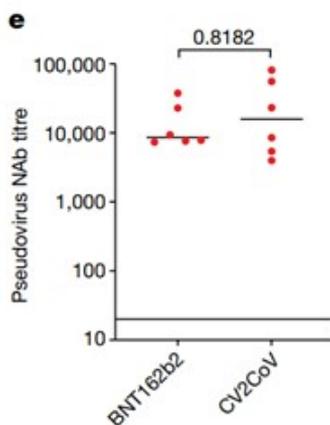


Figure: Sera collected from non-human primates immunized with $12\mu\text{g}$ of CVnCoV or $30\mu\text{g}$ of a licensed clinical mRNA vaccine on day 35 (week 5) after boosting were analyzed for pseudovirus neutralizing antibody titers against the ancestral WA/2020 (WT) strain. Each dot represents an individual animal and bars depict the median; the lower line shows the limit of detection.

The study also included assessment of cellular immune responses. Most SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific B cells reside within the memory B cell pool. We used flow cytometry to assess memory B cell responses in the blood of non-human primates vaccinated with CVnCoV, CV2CoV or sham. Higher numbers of RBD-specific and spike-specific memory B cells were detected in the CV2CoV-vaccinated animals as compared with those vaccinated with CVnCoV at week 6. T cell responses were assessed by interferon γ (IFN γ) and interleukin (IL)-4 enzyme-linked immunosorbent spot (ELISPOT) assay using pooled spike peptides at week 6. IFN γ responses were detected in both groups but were higher in the CV2CoV group. IL-4 responses were not detectable, suggesting that CVnCoV and CV2CoV induce T helper type 1-biased responses.

Memory B and T cell Immune responses following immunization with either CV2CoV or CVnCoV

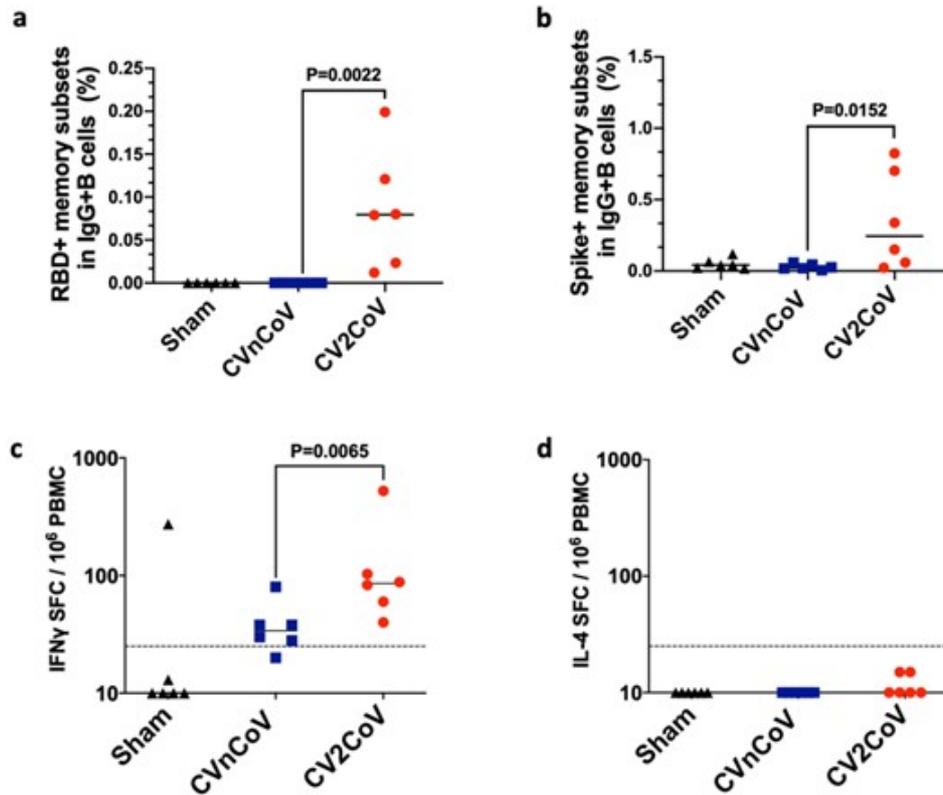


Figure: Peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) from negative control (sham), CVnCoV or CV2CoV vaccinated animals ($n = 6$ per group) isolated on day 42 were stained for (A) RBD and (B) Spike-specific activated memory B cells and analyzed by high-parameter flow cytometry. IFN γ responses to pooled spike peptides were analyzed via ELISPOT (C). IL-4 responses (D) were not detectable. Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median and the dotted line shows limit of detection. Statistical analysis was performed using two-tailed nonparametric Mann-Whitney test. SFC = spot forming cells.

All animals were challenged at week 8 with 1.0×10^5 median tissue culture infectious doses (TCID₅₀) of the SARS-CoV-2 WA1/2020 strain via the intranasal and intratracheal routes. Viral loads were assessed in bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) and nasal swab samples collected on days 1, 2, 4, 7 and 10 following challenge by quantitative PCR with reverse transcription specific for subgenomic RNA (sgRNA). The sgRNA levels in the BAL and nasal swab samples in the sham group peaked on day 2 and largely resolved by day 10. The sham controls had peak medians of $6.02 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per ml in the BAL and $7.35 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per swab in the nasal swab samples on day 2. The CVnCoV-immunized animals showed peak medians of $4.92 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per ml in the BAL and $6.42 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per swab in the nasal swab samples. The CV2CoV-immunized animals exhibited peak medians of $2.90 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per ml in the BAL and $3.17 \log_{10}$ -transformed sgRNA copies per swab in the nasal swab samples, with resolution of sgRNA levels in the BAL samples by day 2 in most animals and by day 4 in all animals. Overall, CV2CoV resulted in significantly lower peak viral loads than CVnCoV in both the BAL and nasal swab samples.

Assessment of protective efficacy following challenge infection with SARS-CoV-2

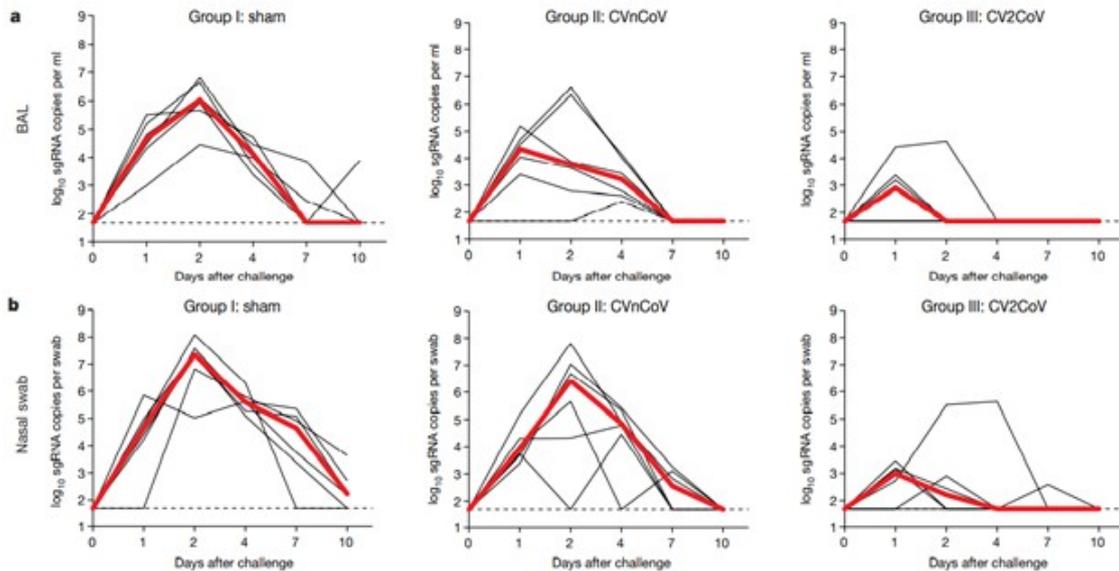


Figure: Negative-control animals (sham) and animals ($n = 6$ per group) vaccinated on day 0 and day 28 with $12 \mu\text{g}$ of CVnCoV or CV2CoV were challenged with 1.0×10^5 TCID₅₀ of SARS-CoV-2 (USA-WA1/2020) via the intranasal and intratracheal routes. (A, B) BAL (A) and nasal swab (B) samples collected on days 1, 2, 4, 7 and 10 after challenge were analyzed for levels of replicating virus by RT-PCR specific for sgRNA. Thin black lines represent individual animals and thick red lines depict the median; the dashed line shows the limit of detection.

We next evaluated the immune correlates of protection. The \log_{10} -transformed ELISA and neutralizing antibody titers at week 6 were inversely correlated with the peak \log_{10} -transformed sgRNA copies per ml in the BAL samples and with the peak sgRNA copies per nasal swab in the nasal swab samples. Consistent with prior observations from our laboratory and others these findings suggest that binding and neutralizing antibody titers are important correlates of protection for these SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in non-human primates.

Titers of binding and neutralizing antibodies elicited following CVnCoV and CV2CoV vaccination

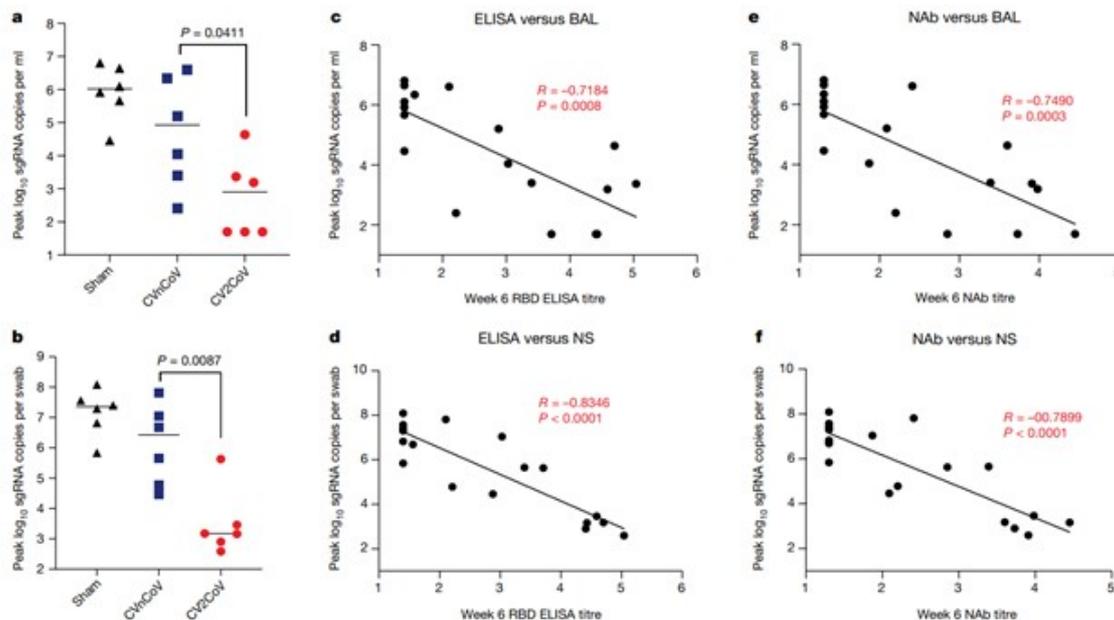


Figure: Titers of binding and neutralizing antibodies elicited following CVnCoV and CV2CoV vaccination ($n = 6$ per group) correlate with protection against SARS-CoV-2. (A, B) Summary of peak viral loads following SARS-CoV-2 challenge in BAL and nasal swab (NS) samples. Animals were challenged with 1.0×10^5 TCID₅₀ of SARS-CoV-2 derived from strain USA-WA1/2020. (C-F) Antibody correlates of protection for binding antibodies (C, D) and neutralizing antibodies (E, F). Statistical analysis was performed using the two-tailed non-parametric Mann-Whitney test, and correlation was analyzed by two-sided Spearman rank-correlation test. The bars indicate median values.

In summary, the data show that optimization of non-coding regions of the mRNA backbone in a SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine can substantially improve its immunogenicity against multiple viral variants and can enhance its protective efficacy against SARS-CoV-2 challenge in macaques. CV2CoV elicited substantially greater humoral and cellular immune responses and provided significantly improved protective efficacy against SARS-CoV-2 challenge as compared with CVnCoV in macaques. Prime immunization with CV2CoV induced binding and neutralizing antibodies in all macaques by week 2, and these responses had increased substantially by 1 week after the boost immunization. As previously reported for other vaccines, the neutralizing antibody titers against certain SARS-CoV-2 variants, such as the Beta (B.1.351) and Delta (B.1.617.2) variants, were lower than those against the parental strain WA1/2020. Although our challenge virus in this study was SARS-CoV-2 WA1/2020, the neutralizing antibody titers elicited by CV2CoV to viral variants exceeded the values we previously reported as threshold titers for protection (50–100). However, future studies will be required to directly assess the protective efficacy of CV2CoV against SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern in non-human primates. CV2CoV also induced both antigen-specific memory B cell responses and T cell responses. Although the correlates of protection in this study were binding and neutralizing antibody titers, it is likely that CD8⁺ T cells contribute to viral clearance in tissues. Memory B cells might contribute to the durability of antibody responses; B cell germinal center responses and the durability of protective efficacy following CV2CoV vaccination remain to be determined. Previous studies with rodents and non-human primates have demonstrated protection by CVnCoV. However, protection in macaques was primarily observed in the lower respiratory tract. In the present study, CVnCoV provided only modest viral load reductions in BAL and nasal swab samples compared with sham controls. In contrast to CVnCoV, CV2CoV induced >10-fold-higher neutralizing antibody responses against multiple viral variants and provided >3 log reductions in sgRNA copies per ml in BAL and >4 log reductions in sgRNA copies per swab in nasal swab samples compared with sham controls.

CV2CoV and CVnCoV: Human ACE2 Transgenic Mice Challenge Studies with SARS-CoV-2 Beta Variant

On June 30, 2021, preclinical data demonstrating the protection efficiency of CV2CoV and CVnCoV from the SARS-CoV-2 ancestral strain BavPat1 and the Beta variant (B.1.351) was published by Nature Communications. The study was carried out in a transgenic mouse model, expressing the human ACE2 receptor, the receptor through which SARS-CoV-2 enters human cells. For immunization of the mice, 8µg of the CVnCoV vaccine candidate was administered. For CV2CoV, a dose titration ranging from 0.5µg to 8µg was performed. Both vaccine candidates were administered following a two-dose schedule on days 0 and 28. Mice were challenged 4 weeks after the second vaccination with more than 10⁵ TCID₅₀ of SARS-CoV-2 BavPat1 or B.1.351. Overall, CVnCoV and CV2CoV vaccinations were shown to induce robust antibody titers with variant neutralizing capacity and to provide full protection against infection and mortality during challenge infection.

For the analysis of antibody titers, sera from all mRNA-vaccinated mice were collected on days 28 and 55. Analysis showed strong induction of RBD binding antibodies irrespective of the mRNA amount. Robust RBD binding antibody titers were reflected by high virus neutralization titers (VNT). Even a low dose of 0.5µg of CV2CoV elicited high levels of humoral responses in K18-hACE2 transgenic mice. However, consistent with other available variant studies, neutralization capacity of VNT titers was significantly lower for the Beta variant (B.1.351, mean titer = 525) compared to BavPat1 (mean titer = 10,151) for both vaccine candidates.

To analyze the potential of CVnCoV and CV2CoV to protect from SARS-CoV-2 challenge infection despite impacted VNT titers, immunized K18-hACE2 mice were studied applying a high-dose challenge model, which induces severe clinical disease resembling COVID-19 in humans. On day 4 following the challenge infection, non-vaccinated control animals (sham group) started succumbing to the BavPat1 infection. B.1.351 infection led to a delayed onset of severe disease compared to BavPat1, with 20% survival on day 10 after inoculation. By contrast, vaccination with 8µg CVnCoV or 0.5µg to 8µg of CV2CoV resulted in complete protection (100% survival) against the lethal challenge infection with BavPat1 and B.1.351, with no significant weight loss or disease symptoms throughout the course of the challenge infection.

CVnCoV and CV2CoV protect K18-hACE2 mice against SARS-CoV-2 variants BavPat1 and B.1.351

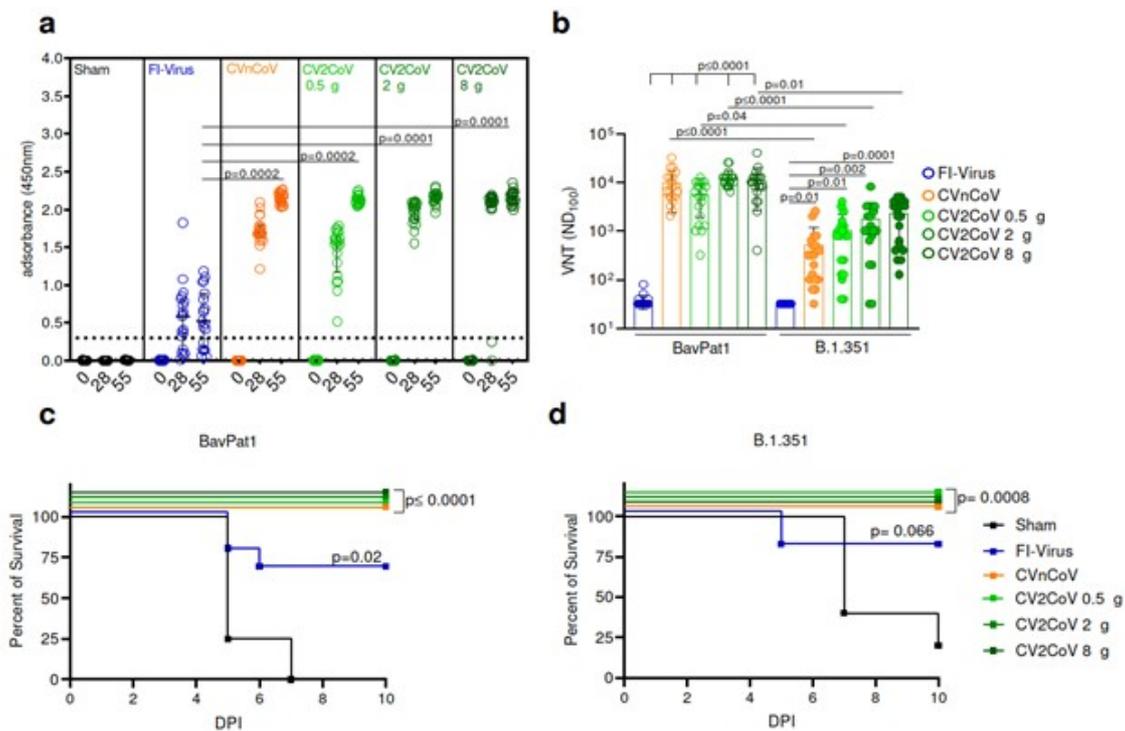


Figure: K18-hACE2 mice vaccinated with 8µg CVnCoV (orange) or 0.5µg (light green), 2µg (green) or 8µg (dark green) CV2CoV received 10^6 FI-Virus (blue, formalin-inactivated and adjuvanted SARS-CoV-2-preparation) or NaCl (black, SHAM group) on day 0 and day 28 followed by i.n. challenge with $10^{5.9}$ TCID₅₀ of SARS-CoV-2 variants BavPat1 or $10^{5.5}$ TCID₅₀ B1.351. (A) RBD-Elisa with sera from K18-hACE2 mice on day 0, 28 and 55 of respective groups: median and interquartile range are presented. Dashed line indicates threshold for positive anti-RBD antibody level. (B) Virus neutralization assay using day 55 sera from all groups. Bars indicate mean with SD. (C and D) Survival curves (Kaplan-Meier) for K18-hACE2 mice from all groups challenged either with BavPat1 (C) or B.1.351 (D) and followed up for 10 days post-infection (DPI). (A and B) Each dot represents one individual mouse sample. Each sample was tested once (RBD-Elisa) or in triplicates (VNT), and assays were repeated at least once. (C and D) Each line represents a groups of mice as shown in A and B from a single experiment (n=5 Sham, n=10 all other groups). (A and B) Scatter plots are labeled with median (height of the bar) and interquartile range. P-values were determined by non-parametric one-way ANOVA and Dunn's multiple comparisons test (A and B) or two-sided log-rank (Mantel-Cox) test (C and D). Differences were considered significant at $p < 0.05$ with exact p-values displayed in the figure.

Viral replication and hence viral RNA load following challenge infection was determined via RT-qPCR in saliva, the upper respiratory tract (URT) (conchae), the lower respiratory tract (LRT) (trachea, caudal lung and cranial lung) and the central nervous system (brain, cerebellum/cerebrum). In saliva, non-vaccinated control animals showed 4/4 and 4/5 positive samples after infection with BavPat1 or B.1.351, respectively. In contrast, after CVnCoV or CV2CoV vaccination, no viral genomes were detected in the saliva of either challenge group irrespective of the vaccine or vaccine dose. Similarly, the URT provided a niche for viral replication in non-CVnCoV or CV2CoV treated animals. In the CVnCoV and CV2CoV-vaccinated group challenged with BavPat1, we observed a significant reduction of detectable viral replication in all groups with a maximum of 5/10 animals showing low genome copy numbers in the conchae. No animal in the LRT and only one sample from the brain was positive at a low level for SARS-CoV-2 genomic RNA, indicating complete protection from infection by BavPat1 in all groups.

For B.1.351, 5-7/10 CVnCoV or CV2CoV-vaccinated animals exhibited residual viral replication in the conchae. Here, viral levels were reduced without reaching statistical significance. In contrast, both CVnCoV and CV2CoV almost completely prevented replication of this variant in the LRT and the brain, with low viral copy numbers close to the limit of detection in the lung of 7/80 animals, and only 1/40 and 2/40 animals in the cerebellum and cerebrum, respectively.

CVnCoV prevents replication of SARS-CoV-2 variants BavPat1 and B.1.351 in K18-hACE2 mice

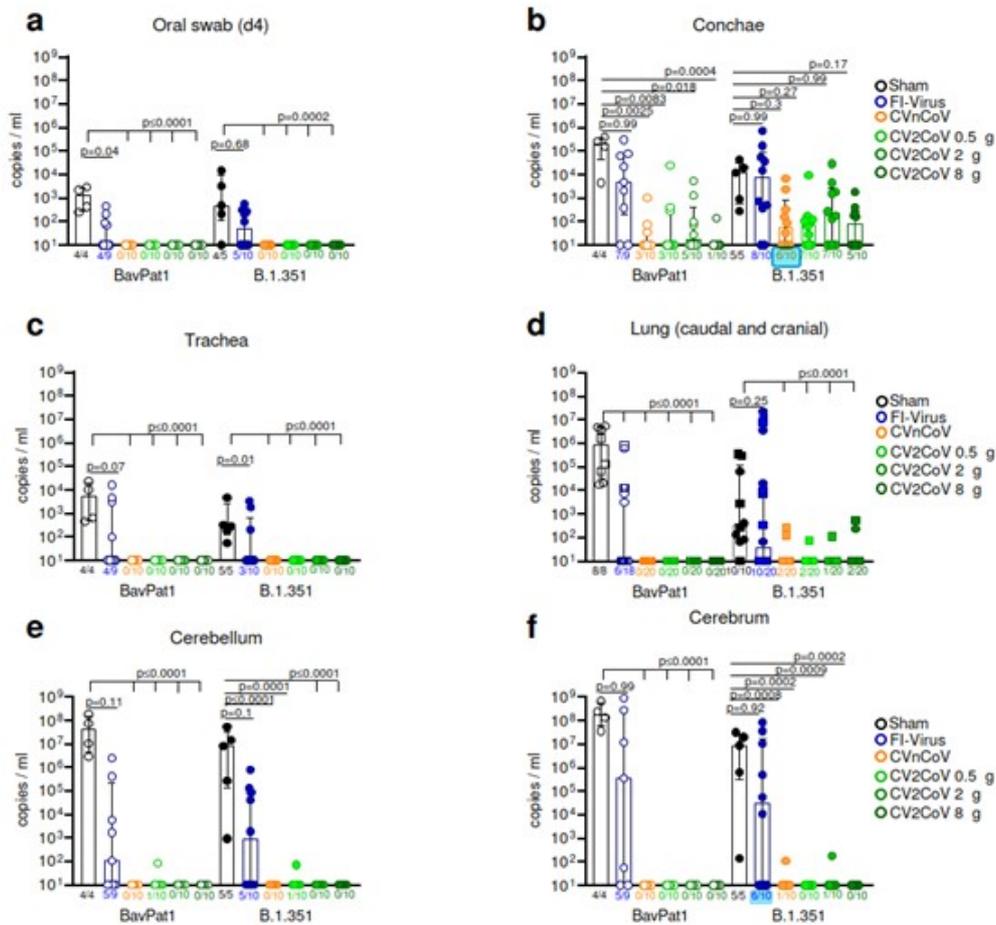


Figure: K18-hACE2 mice vaccinated with 8µg CVnCoV (orange) or 0.5µg (light green), 2µg (green) or 8µg (dark green) CV2CoV received 10⁶ FI-Virus (blue, formalin-inactivated and adjuvanted SARS-CoV-2-preparation) or NaCl (black, SHAM group) on day 0 and day 28 followed by i.n. challenge with 10^{5.9} TCID₅₀ of SARS-CoV-2 variants BavPat1 or 10^{5.5} TCID₅₀ B1.351. RT-qPCR for genomic RNA of SARS-CoV-2 was performed with either (A) oral swab samples at day 4 or from organ samples of (B) the upper respiratory tract, (C and D) the lower respiratory tract (caudal lung = circle; cranial lung = squares), and (E and F) the brain at day 10 or at the humane endpoint. Each dot represents one individual mouse. Each sample was tested once, and assays were repeated at least once. P-values were determined by nonparametric one-way ANOVA and Dunn's multiple comparisons test. Scatter plots are labeled with median (height of the bar) and interquartile range. Differences were considered significant at p < 0.05 with exact p-values displayed in the figure. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

In summary, we believe the preclinical data collected for second-generation vaccine candidate CV2CoV and CVnCoV in human transgenic ACE2 mice is important complementary data to assess the impact of Variants of Concern. The emergence of new strains with immune escape potential pose a threat to global vaccination efforts, since currently licensed COVID-19 vaccines were developed based on the ancestral SARS-CoV-2 strains. The described challenge study in a human transgenic mouse model contributes to our preclinical studies with SARS-CoV-2 variants specific data and provides evidence on the protection efficiency of CV2CoV. Our data demonstrate that 8µg of CV2CoV and 0.5 to 8 µg of CVnCoV fully protects mice from lethal infection caused by BavPat1 and B.1.351. Both CV2CoV and CVnCoV immunization resulted in abundant RBD binding and virus neutralizing antibodies, and conferred a complete and robust protection, including protection from viral replication in the lung and the brain. Only very limited viral replication was observed in the URT of mRNA-vaccinated animals challenged with B.1.351. The reduced neutralizing capacity of sera from CV2CoV and CVnCoV-vaccinated transgenic mice against B.1.351, and the insufficient prevention of replication in the conchae, might reflect the detected transmission rates of this variant in human populations previously exposed to the ancestral strain. Nevertheless, this study provided the first evidence for the efficacy of a vaccine to prevent disease and viral dissemination from the site of infection against an emerging SARS-CoV-2 variant in a sensitive, well-established and accepted *in vivo* model.

CV2CoV in Wistar Rats

On May 13, 2021, we announced first preclinical data in a rat model showing that our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, induced high levels of antigen production in an *in vitro* setup as well as strong and dose-dependent immune responses in vaccinated rats. CV2CoV is designed to exhibit improved intracellular mRNA stability and translation for increased and extended protein expression on the basis of a new mRNA backbone. These improvements aims to increase vaccine-induced immune responses to compensate for potentially reduced virus neutralization responses and efficacy against different virus variants. In addition, emerging immune escape variants might necessitate multivalent vaccines, in which each component needs to be efficacious at a lower dose.

In vitro, we were able to show that CV2CoV supports higher levels of protein expression in cell culture than first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. Flow cytometry-based analysis of protein expression levels of the mRNA components in CV2CoV compared to CVnCoV in HeLa cells transfected with identical amounts of mRNA demonstrated a significant increase of protein expression upon transfection with CV2CoV compared to CVnCoV. This effect was evident in both intracellular and cell surface expression of the S protein. CV2CoV displayed a 3.3 fold increase in the geometric mean in intracellular and a 1.8 fold increase in the geometric mean in cell surface expression compared to CVnCoV analyzed by flow cytometry.

CV2CoV mRNA enhances protein expression

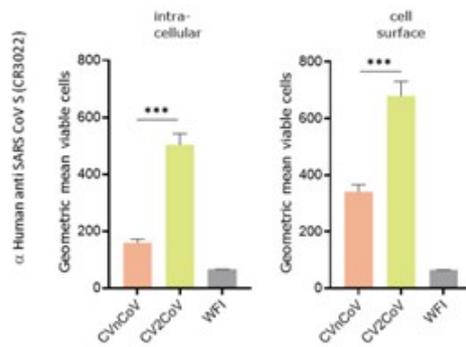


Figure: Flow cytometric analysis using an S-specific antibody either with or without membrane permeabilisation allowing detection of intracellular or cell surface bound S protein. Geometric mean fluorescence intensity (GMFI) of transfected HeLa cells are expressed as mean + standard deviation (SD) of duplicate samples of two independent experiments. T-test was used to compare groups.

We next characterized the immunogenicity of CV2CoV in a small animal model. Wistar rats were vaccinated twice on day 0 and day 21 with five different doses ranging from 0.5µg to 40µg of CV2CoV. NaCl vaccinated animals served as negative controls. Rats vaccinated with 0.5µg, 2µg or 8µg of CV2CoV elicited a strong dose dependent binding antibody response directed against the S receptor binding domain (RBD). High values of RBD reactive antibodies without a clear dose response were detectable upon vaccination with 20µg and 40µg of CV2CoV possibly due to saturating dose levels employed. RBD binding antibodies developed rapidly and were detectable two weeks after a single vaccination in all dose groups. Both IgG1 and IgG2a titers increased over time and a clear boost effect was detectable upon a second vaccination.

CV2CoV triggers high levels of binding antibody responses in rats

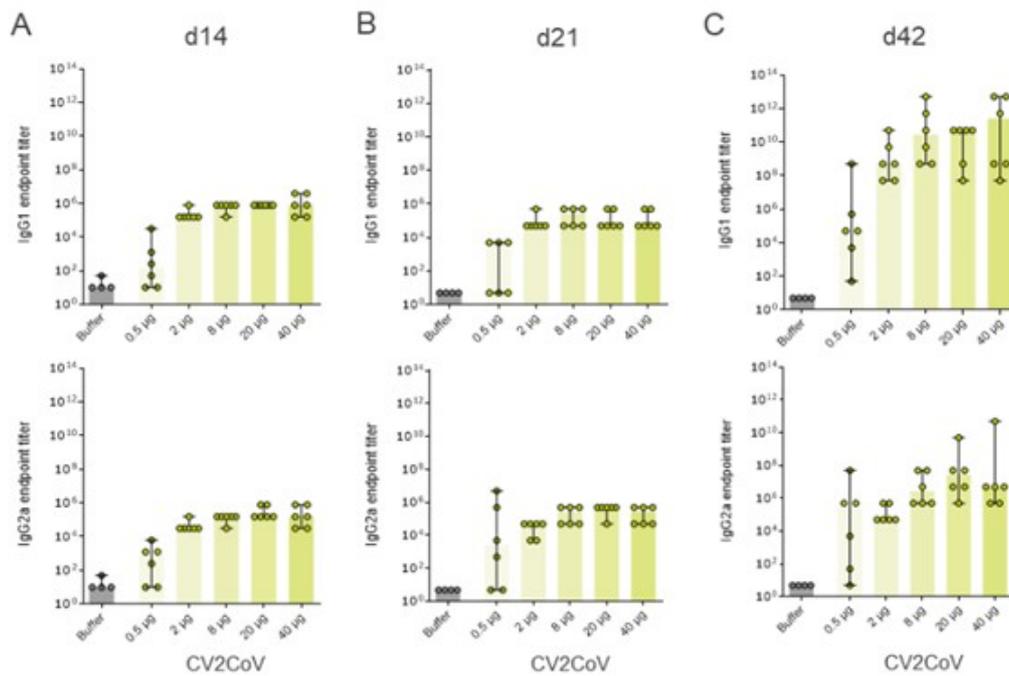


Figure: Female and male Wistar rats ($n=6$ per group) were vaccinated IM on day 0 and d 21 with five different doses ranging from 0.5 μ g to 40 μ g of CV2CoV. Wistar rats ($n=4$) vaccinated with 0.9% NaCl (Buffer) on day 0 and day 21 served as negative control. SRBD protein specific binding antibodies, displayed as endpoint titers for IgG1 and IgG2a in serum upon one vaccination ((A) day 14 and (B) day 21) or two vaccinations ((C) day 42). Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median.

Induction of virus neutralizing titers in rat sera was assessed in a cytopathic effect-based assay and showed that CV2CoV induced significant, dose dependent neutralizing titers two weeks after a single vaccination in all animals vaccinated with a dose of 2 μ g or higher. On day 14, CV2CoV induced homologous titers ranging from 1:42 in the 2 μ g group to 1:193 in the 40 μ g group. Neutralizing titers increased over time and the second vaccination led to a substantial increase in neutralizing titers in all dose groups except for two animals in the 0.5 μ g group. On day 42 post vaccination, neutralizing titers in animals that had received $\geq 2\mu$ g exceeded the upper range of detection in the assay, i.e. a dilution of 1:5120.

CV2CoV induces high titers of virus neutralizing antibodies (VNT) against SARS-CoV2 in rats

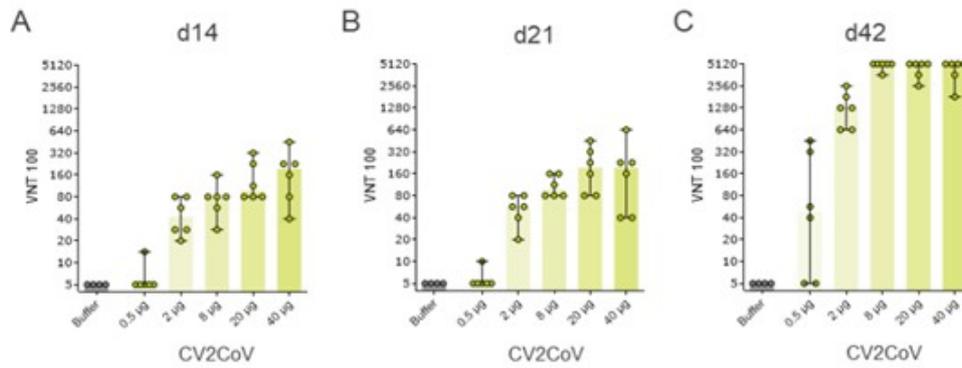


Figure: Female and male Wistar rats ($n=6$ per group) were vaccinated IM with five different doses ranging from $0.5\mu\text{g}$ to $40\mu\text{g}$ of CV2CoV on day 0 and day 21. Animals ($n=4$) vaccinated with NaCl (Buffer) served as negative controls. SARS-CoV-2 100% neutralization titers (VNT100) in serum samples taken on day 14, day 21 and day 42 were analyzed. Highest dilution step was 1:5120. Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median.

CV2CoV's ability to induce robust levels of neutralizing antibodies was highlighted by its ability to cross-neutralize three different SARS-CoV-2 variants. Neutralizing titers in the day 42 sera against heterologous SARS-CoV-2 variants B.1.1.298, Alpha (B.1.1.7) and Beta (B.1.351) originating from Denmark, the UK and South Africa, respectively, compared to ancestral SARS-CoV-2 (B.1) were analyzed. In the $8\mu\text{g}$ dose group, CV2CoV induced median titers of 1:2438 (B.1), 1:4096 (B.1.1.298), 1:1935 (B.1.7) and 1:806 (B.1.351). Overall, sera from CV2CoV-vaccinated animals were able to neutralize B.1.1.298 without detectable decrease. A reduction of neutralizing titers were measured against B.1.1.7 and B.1.351, where a median decrease across dose groups $0.5\mu\text{g}$, $2\mu\text{g}$, $8\mu\text{g}$ and $20\mu\text{g}$ of 1.4 fold (B.1.1.7) and 3.3 fold (B.1.351) was detected.

CV2CoV induces high titers of cross neutralizing antibodies (VNT) against SARS-CoV-2 variants in rats

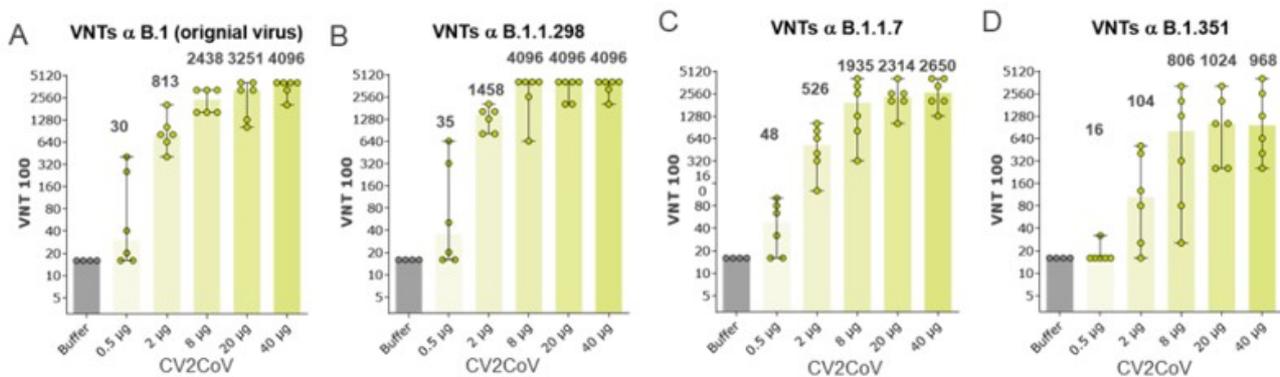


Figure: Female and male Wistar rats ($n=6$ per group) were vaccinated IM with five different doses ranging from $0.5\mu\text{g}$ to $40\mu\text{g}$ of CV2CoV on day 0 and day 21. Animals ($n=4$) vaccinated with NaCl (Buffer) served as negative controls. SARS-CoV-2 100% neutralization titers (VNT100) in serum samples taken on day 42 against distinct SARS-CoV-2 variants were analyzed as indicated. Highest dilution step was 1:4096. Each dot represents an individual animal, bars depict the median.

In summary, vaccination with CV2CoV induced high, dose dependent levels of RBD binding and virus neutralizing antibodies in outbred rats. Antibody responses were detectable in doses as low as 0.5µg and doses of ≥2µg resulted in robust antibody levels. Importantly, a single vaccination of ≥2µg was sufficient to induce neutralizing titers two weeks post injection. In comparison, preclinical studies in rats, hamsters and NHPs have shown that two vaccinations of CVnCoV are required to induce significant levels of VNTs, providing proof for the enhanced characteristics of CV2CoV. In addition, the serum of vaccinated rats showed significant cross-neutralization against certain *Variants of Concern*, including the B.1.1.298, Alpha (B.1.1.7) and Beta (B.1.351) variants. These abilities further support CV2CoV's application in the context of multivalent vaccines that might become necessary as the virus mutates further.

First-generation COVID-19 Vaccines Program: CVnCoV

Upon publication of the sequence of the novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) in early 2020, we designed and optimized potential antigenic constructs based on the spike protein to elicit high immunogenicity. Our initial approach was based on encoding a stabilized spike protein and we successfully conducted several preclinical studies that we started in January 2020. The results of our preclinical studies enabled us to identify a first-generation vaccine candidate against SARS-CoV-2, CVnCoV, to advance to clinical testing. We initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial in healthy volunteers in June 2020, a Phase 2a clinical trial in older adults above 60 years old in September 2020 and a pivotal Phase 2b/3 clinical trial in December 2020. Our pivotal Phase 2b/3 trial for CVnCoV, which included approximately 40,000 participants, reported interim analysis outcomes following a first interim analysis on May 28, 2021, based on 59 adjudicated COVID-19 cases and a second interim analysis on June 16, 2021, based on 134 adjudicated COVID-19 cases in the unprecedented context of at least 13 variants circulating within the assessed study population subset. Primary data was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021. Overall, CVnCoV demonstrated a vaccine efficacy of 48% against COVID-19 disease of any severity. In the highly dynamic variant environment, the HERALD trial met the prespecified success criteria for efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 of any severity and for efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, as defined in the protocol. The primary efficacy analysis included 12,851 participants in the CVnCoV group and 12,211 in the placebo group. The mean observation period, starting 15 days after administration of the second dose, was 48.2 days. Vaccine efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity was 48.2% in the overall primary efficacy analysis set of SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants, and 52.5% in those aged 18–60 years. Vaccine efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19 was 70.7% overall and 77.2% in participants aged 18–60 years. There were too few participants aged 61 years or older who developed COVID-19 to allow a meaningful estimate of efficacy in this age group.

On October 12, 2021, we announced the strategic decision to withdraw our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, from the approval process with the European Medicines Agency, or EMA, and to focus our COVID-19 vaccine program on the development of second-generation mRNA vaccine candidates in collaboration with GSK. The decision was aligned with the evolving dynamics of the pandemic response toward greater need for more differentiated vaccines. The rolling submission with the EMA was originally initiated in February 2021 to assess CVnCoV's compliance with standards for vaccine efficacy, safety and pharmaceutical quality as a prerequisite for a formal market authorization application. Later in 2021, the EMA informed us that it would not start reviewing the provided CVnCoV data packages before 2022. As a result, we estimated that the earliest possible approval of CVnCoV would come in the second quarter of 2022. By this time, we expected candidates from the second-generation vaccine program to be progressing through clinical development. Consequently, CVnCoV was also withdrawn from a rolling submission with Swissmedic, Switzerland's authority responsible for the authorization and supervision of therapeutic products, initiated in April 2021, to review the safety, efficacy and pharmaceutical quality of CVnCoV as a prerequisite for market authorization.

Two clinical studies with first-generation candidate, CVnCoV, are still ongoing with the scheduled safety follow-up times for all trial participants as per the respective trial protocols, i.e. the Phase 2b/3 (HERALD) study in Europe and Latin America (initiated in December 2020) and a Phase 3 study in healthcare workers in Germany (initiated in December 2020). Primary data of the Phase 2b/3 (HERALD) trial was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021.

For a Phase 1 study in Germany (initiated in June 2020), a Phase 2a study in Peru and Panama (initiated in September 2020), and a Phase 3 study in participants with comorbidities in Belgium (initiated in April 2021) all subject follow-up times have been completed as per the respective trial protocols. Data of an interim analysis of the Phase 1 trial was published in *Wiener klinische Wochenschrift* on August 10, 2021. The first clinical data readout of the Phase 2a clinical trial in Peru and Panama was uploaded to the SSRN preprint server on December 10, 2021.

Previously announced studies to be initiated with CVnCoV, including a Phase 2 clinical trial, focusing on immunogenicity in older adults above the age of 65 years old compared to younger adults and a flu-co-administration study, planned to be initiated together with Bayer AG to assess compatibility with established seasonal vaccines in an older population, were cancelled.

CVnCoV Phase 2b/3 Clinical Trial (Pivotal Trial for CVnCoV Safety and Efficacy)

We initiated a Phase 2b/3 clinical trial for CVnCoV, called HERALD, in December 2020. The study is still ongoing with the scheduled safety follow-up times for all trial participants as per the trial protocol. Primary data of the Phase 2b/3 (HERALD) trial was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021.

The study is a randomized, observer blind, placebo-controlled trial on a two-dose 12µg schedule. The initial phase 2b part of the trial was designed to characterize the safety, reactogenicity, and immunogenicity of CVnCoV, and the phase 3 part of the trial was designed to evaluate its efficacy and safety. An independent data and safety monitoring board (DSMB) conducted interim safety reviews of the phase 2b part of the trial before enrolment for the phase 3 part of the trial and will continue to monitor safety until study end. The trial has a primary safety objective and a primary efficacy objective: the demonstration of the efficacy of preventing first episodes of confirmed cases of COVID-19 of any severity in participants who have never been infected with SARS-CoV-2. Altogether, 39,680 participants were enrolled in the predefined age groups of 18 to 60 and above 60 years old and randomly assigned in the phase 2b and phase 3 parts of the trial.

Solicited and unsolicited adverse events were analyzed in the reactogenicity analysis set, which comprised participants in the phase 2b trial who received at least one dose of CVnCoV or placebo. Although the prevalence of solicited and unsolicited adverse events was higher in CVnCoV recipients than in placebo recipients, these events were transient and mostly mild-to-moderate (grade 1–2). The proportion of CVnCoV recipients reporting solicited local and systemic adverse events in the 7 days following any dose was similar to that seen in other mRNA vaccine phase 3 trials. No increase in solicited reactions was seen between the first and second CVnCoV doses. Serious adverse events and adverse events of special interest were uncommon and similar in frequency between the CVnCoV and placebo groups, although the short follow-up duration needs to be considered when interpreting these findings. The safety of the CVnCoV vaccine candidate will continue to be monitored for the duration of the trial. Taken together the findings observed in this trial provide further support for the safety of the RNActive mRNA vaccine platform.

Solicited local and systemic adverse events in the phase 2b reactogenicity analysis set

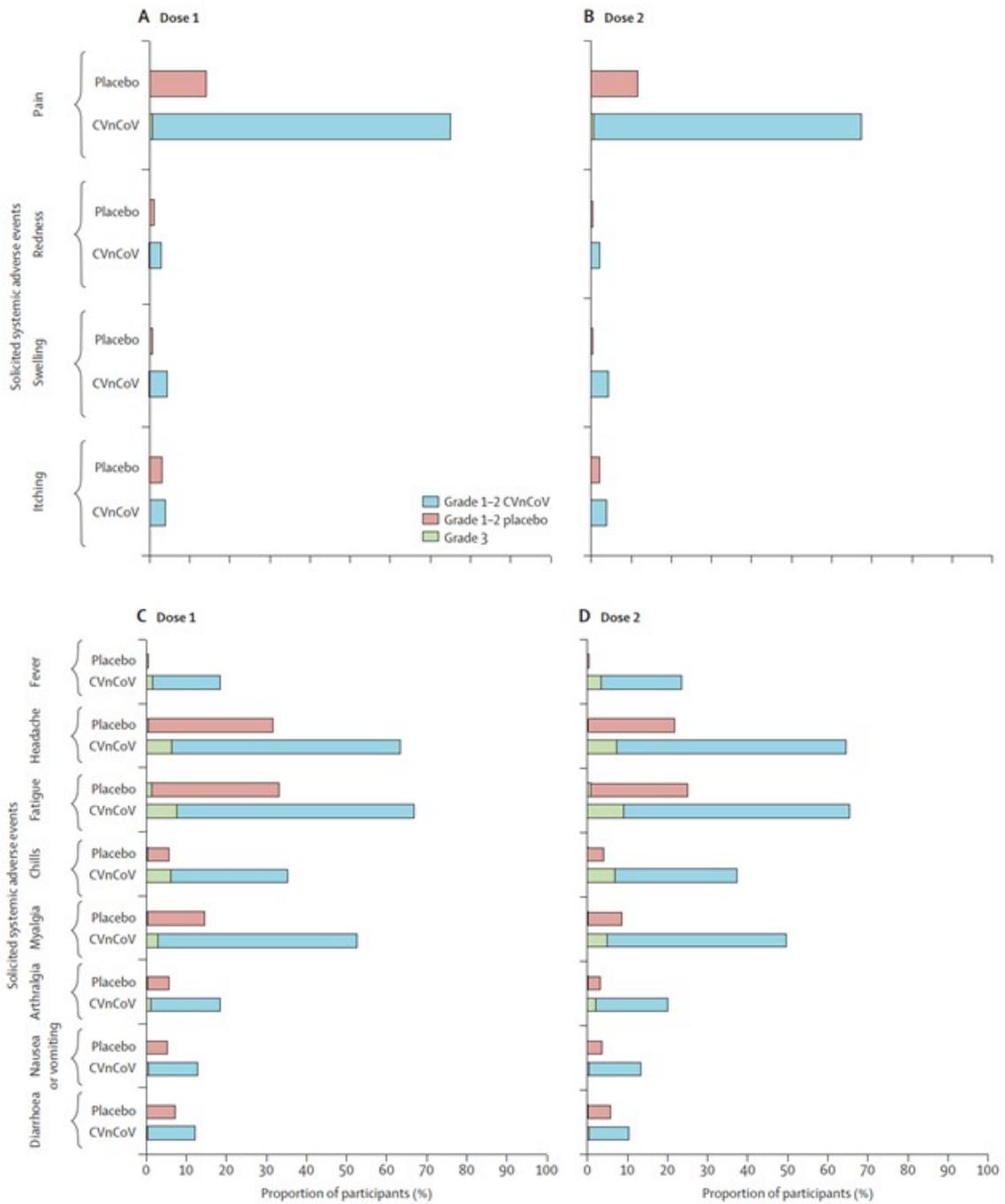


Figure. Solicited local adverse events occurring within 7 days of the first dose (A) and the second dose (B) and solicited systemic adverse events occurring within 7 days of the first dose (C) and the second dose (D).

First Interim Analysis

On May 28, 2021, we announced that the Data Safety Monitoring Board confirmed that we passed a first interim analysis in the pivotal Phase 2b/3 trial at 59 adjudicated COVID-19 cases. The DSMB confirmed that there were no safety concerns for CVnCoV. As a standard procedure within a blinded trial, we had no access to trial data. The study was recommended to continue to the next interim analysis to collect sufficient data in order to conduct a statistically significant efficacy analysis.

Second Interim Analysis

On June 16, 2021, we announced results of the second interim analysis of the pivotal Phase 2b/3 study at 134 adjudicated cases. In the unprecedented context of 13 variants circulating within the study population subset assessed at this interim analysis, CVnCoV demonstrated an interim vaccine efficacy of 47% against COVID-19 disease of any severity. It thereby did not meet the prespecified statistical success criteria. Initial analyses suggested age and strain dependent efficacy. The study was continued to the final analysis in order to provide more data in the complex variant-rich environment.

The efficacy readout from this trial needs to be viewed against the background of sequencing data, acquired in parallel to the accrual of COVID-19 cases within the trial to identify the virus strains responsible for the detected COVID-19 cases. 124 of the 134 adjudicated cases were sequenced. 10 adjudicated cases could not be sequenced due to insufficient sample material. The strain distribution illustrated below provides the variant context around the preliminary CVnCoV efficacy of 47% against any severity of disease, according to the primary study objective. Of the 124 sequenced adjudicated cases, variants of concern, including the Alpha and the Gamma strain, represented approximately 57%. This was mainly supplemented by 21% of the Lambda strain, originating from Peru, and 7% of the B.1.621 strain, originating from Colombia.

Overall, 13 variants were shown to provide direct context for the preliminary efficacy calculation. As shown in the geographic breakdown of the total number of sequenced cases, the broad variety of variants originated primarily in Latin America, which contributed about 80 cases to the 124 sequenced cases. In Europe, the 44 observed cases were strongly dominated by the Alpha strain in accordance with the general virus distribution in Europe.

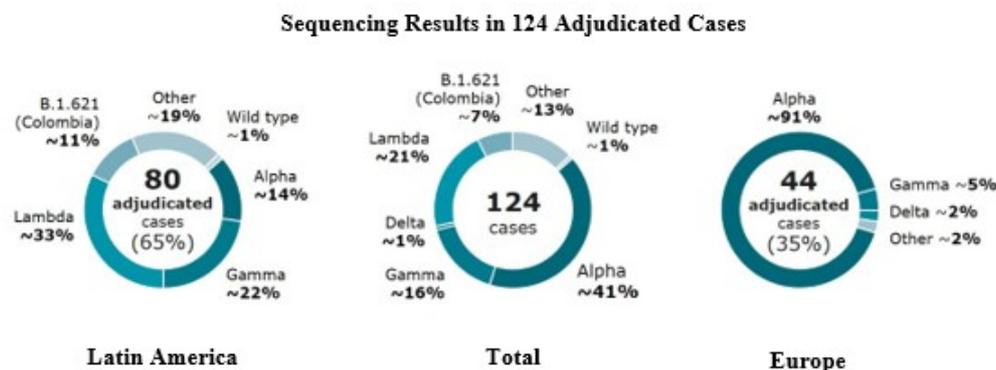


Figure. Breakdown of different variants in a total of 124 adjudicated COVID-19 cases following sequencing-based strain identification (middle). Adjudicated and sequenced cases from Latin America (left) represent 80 out of the 124 cases while adjudicated and sequenced cases from Europe (right) represent 44 out of 124 cases.

Primary Data (data cut-off from June 18, 2021)

Primary data was published in *The Lancet* on November 23, 2021. Overall, CVnCoV demonstrated a vaccine efficacy of 48% against COVID-19 disease of any severity. In the highly dynamic variant environment, the HERALD trial met the prespecified success criteria for efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 of any severity and for efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, as defined in the protocol.

The primary efficacy analysis included 12,851 participants in the CVnCoV group and 12,211 in the placebo group. The mean observation period, starting 15 days after administration of the second dose, was 48.2 days. Vaccine efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity was 48.2% in the overall primary efficacy analysis set of SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants, and 52.5% in those aged 18–60 years. Vaccine efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19 was 70.7% overall and 77.2% in participants aged 18–60 years. There were too few participants aged 61 years or older who developed COVID-19 to allow a meaningful estimate of efficacy in this age group.

HERALD was conducted in an unprecedented evolving landscape that reflects the changing reality of the global COVID-19 pandemic, with an increasing number of SARS-CoV-2 variants adding additional challenges to the assessment of COVID-19 vaccine candidates. Sequence data were available for 184 of 207 adjudicated cases in people aged 18–60 years. About 50% of cases of COVID-19 in our trial were caused by variants of concern, 35% were caused by variants of interest, as classified by WHO in September 2021, and about 3% were caused by wild-type, with the remaining 11% caused by other variants. Although we were only able to evaluate vaccine efficacy against these variants in participants aged 18–60 years, the results indicate that the vaccine had similar efficacies against Alpha, Gamma, and Lambda variants. Many newly emerged strains have shown increased transmissibility, and differences in neutralizing antibody activity against these strains might alter vaccine efficacy.

Efficacy of CVnCoV against virologically confirmed COVID-19 occurring 15 days or more after the second dose in the primary efficacy analysis set

	CVnCoV		Placebo		Vaccine efficacy (95% CI)
	n/N	Person-years	n/N	Person-years	
COVID-19 of any severity					
Overall	83/12 851	1735.29	145/12 211	1569.87	48.2% (31.0-61.4)*
18-60 years	71/11 532	1591.47	136/11 031	1449.23	52.5% (36.2-64.8)
≥61 years	12/1319	143.82	9/1180	120.64	-†
COVID-19 of any severity by region‡					
Europe	21/4091	684.22	33/3919	604.83	43.7% (-0.2 to 69.1)
Latin America	6/2876	1051.07	112/8292	965.03	49.2% (30.1-63.3)
COVID-19 of any severity by strain§					
Alpha variant (B.1.1.7/501Y.V2)	20/11 532	1591.47	42/11 031	1449.23	55.1% (23.5-73.6)
Gamma variant (P.1/501Y.V3)	9/11 532	1591.47	26/11 031	1449.23	67.1% (29.8-84.6)
Lambda variant (C.37)	13/11 532	1591.47	26/11 031	1449.23	52.8% (8.2-75.8)
Mu variant (B.1.621)	11/11 532	1591.47	17/11 031	1449.23	-†
Other	7/11 532	1591.47	13/11 031	1449.23	-†
Moderate-to-severe COVID-19					
Overall	12/12 851	1735.29	37/12 211	1569.87	70.7% (42.5-86.1)
18-60 years	9/11 532	1591.47	36/11 031	1449.23	77.2% (51.8-90.4)
≥61 years	3/1319	143.82	1/1180	120.64	-†
Severe COVID-19					
Overall	4/12 851	1735.29	10/12 211	1569.87	-†
18-60 years	2/11 532	1591.47	9/11 031	1449.23	-†
≥61 years	2/1319	143.82	1/1180	120.64	-†

Table. *For COVID-19 of any severity, the 95.826% CI is provided (due to adjustment for multiplicity across interim analyses). †Not reported; the number of cases was too low to be statistically meaningful. ‡Vaccine efficacy by region was evaluated post-hoc. §Efficacy against strains was evaluated in adjudicated and sequenced cases in participants aged 18-60 years; other strains include B.1 lineage SARS-CoV-2.

Overall, the two-dose regimen of CVnCoV had an acceptable safety profile and was efficacious in the prevention of symptomatic COVID-19 in adults. The clinical implications of CVnCoV’s 70.7% efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, nearly all cases of which were caused by variants of concern or variants of interest, suggest a high potential for a positive impact on public health. Access to vaccines protecting against moderate-to-severe disease, and thus preventing disruption to the normal functioning of hospitals and intensive care units, is essential to prevent non-COVID-19-associated morbidity and mortality.

CVnCoV Phase 2a Clinical Trial

We initiated a Phase 2a clinical trial for CVnCoV in September 2020 for which all subject follow-up times have been completed as per trial protocol. The first clinical data readout was published in Vaccines on March 25, 2022.

The Phase 2a clinical trial is a partially observer-blind, multi-centered, controlled, dose-confirmation trial, and enrolled 674 participants. In this trial, we assessed the reactogenicity and immunogenicity in younger (18–60 years of age) and older (>60 years of age) adults after two or three 12 µg CVnCoV doses. The third dose was administered as per protocol either four weeks (>60 years of age) or five months (18–60 and >60 years of age) after the second dose in a subset of subjects to assess the age-related need for a booster vaccination. Neutralizing antibody responses were measured against the SARS-CoV-2 wild-type and Delta variant after the administration of a third dose of the CVnCoV vaccine in a subset of the phase 2a trial participants. Participants’ SARS-CoV-2 serostatus was determined retrospectively after enrollment in the trial and only data from either SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants (on all time points) or pre-exposed participants at baseline were included in the analysis.

We compared the neutralizing antibody responses to the wild-type and Delta variant induced after a third dose of CVnCoV. Four weeks after the third dose administered on day 57 or day 180, neutralizing antibody geometric mean titers (GMTs) increased against both the wild-type and Delta variant in SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants above the levels observed on day 43 after the first two doses. This demonstrates that the first two doses of CVnCoV induced immune memory. The neutralizing antibody GMTs against Delta were lower than those against wild-type on day 43 after the two doses, but reached similar levels, or higher as those for the wild-type after the third dose, demonstrating that a robust immune response against Delta variant was induced. These findings are consistent with other studies showing that homologous and heterologous mRNA booster vaccines increased immune responses against SARS-CoV-2 variants. In participants aged >60 years, the day 180 dose induced higher GMTs and seroconversion rates for Delta than the day 57 dose. The results suggest that a third dose administered at a later time-point is potentially more immunogenic than the earlier third dose, at least in individuals aged >60 years. We compared the immune responses to CVnCoV by age, because older individuals are at a higher risk of serious SARS-CoV-2 disease. In younger participants, GMTs for wild-type and Delta were about 2-fold higher than those in adults aged >60 years after 2 doses of CVnCoV and about 2.5-fold higher after the day 180 dose. However, the GMTs were higher after three doses than after two in both younger and older individuals, suggesting all participants benefitted from the third dose on day 180.

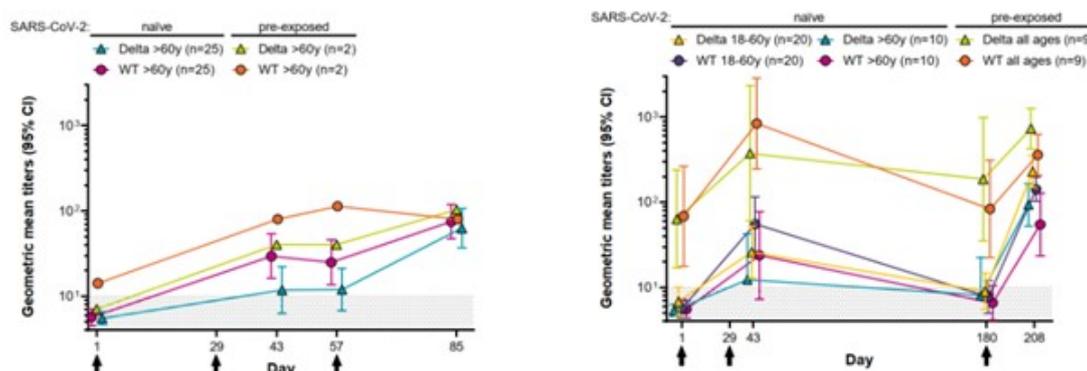


Figure. Neutralizing antibody response against wild-type SARS-CoV-2 virus and Delta variant after CVnCoV vaccination. The geometric mean titers (GMTs) of neutralizing antibodies with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) to wild-type (WT; filled circles) and Delta (filled triangles) are shown. (Left) Participants aged >60 years with a third dose on Day (D)57 and (right) participants aged 18–60 years and >60 years with a third dose on D180. SARS-CoV-2-naïve (seronegative for N protein throughout the trial period) and SARS-CoV-2-pre-exposed (seropositive for N protein at baseline) participants are indicated by color. The black arrows indicate the days of vaccinations: day 1 (baseline), day 29 (left, right) and day 57 (left) or day 180 (right)). n = number of participants with available data per group for all time points. Values above the black-dotted region (≥ 10) were considered positive.

We previously reported that two doses of CVnCoV induced seroconversion in more than 60% of individuals who were immunologically naïve for SARS-CoV-2, although GMTs waned to baseline levels on day 180 in our phase 1 and 2a studies. Here, we observed that SARS-CoV-2-pre-exposed individuals still had measurable neutralizing antibodies against both wild-type and Delta up to six months after the first two doses. This indicates that two doses of CVnCoV induced a more potent and longer-lasting immune response against the wild-type and Delta variant in pre-exposed individuals, compared with SARS-CoV-2-naïve individuals. The participants who were naturally pre-exposed by a SARS-CoV-2 infection and who received the day 180 booster had the highest day 208 wild-type and Delta neutralizing response compared to those who were naïve at baseline.

	D57 Dose >60 Years		D180 Dose >60 Years		D180 Dose 18–60 Years	
	Wild-Type	Delta	Wild-Type	Delta	Wild-Type	Delta
GMT (95% CI)						
D43	29.5 (16.3–53.5)	11.8 (6.3–22.1)	23.8 (7.3–77.5)	12.3 (3.6–42.6)	55.6 (26.8–115.2)	25.9 (12.8–52.5)
D85	74.6 (46.9–118.9)	62.8 (36.8–107.2)	-	-	-	-
D208	-	-	54.6 (23.3–128.4)	93.5 (52.4–167.0)	141.7 (101.9–197.1)	230.2 (148.8–356.1)
Seroconversion ^a , n/N (%)						
D43	16/25 (64%)	5/25 (20%)	5/10 (50%)	2/10 (20%)	15/20 (75%)	10/20 (50%)
D85	23/25 (92%)	20/25 (80%)	-	-	-	-
D208	-	-	9/10 (90%)	10/10 (100%)	20/20 (100%)	20/20 (100%)
GMFR ^b						
D43	5.2	2.1	4.3	2.3	9.8	3.8
D85	13.2	11.4	-	-	-	-
D208	-	-	9.8	17.4	25.1	33.7

In conclusion, a third CVnCoV dose induced strong neutralizing antibody responses against the SARS-CoV-2 wild-type virus in adults aged 18–60 and >60 years, demonstrating that the first two doses induced immune memory. The third dose induced similar levels of neutralizing responses against the wild-type virus and the Delta variant in both naïve and pre-exposed participants. This is in alignment with the current knowledge from licensed COVID-19 vaccines that a third dose is beneficial against SARS-CoV-2 variants. Although the development of CVnCoV has stopped, these cross-neutralizing immune responses against SARS-CoV-2 variants are promising for the next-generation SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, which are based on the same mRNA platform and are being optimized for variants.

CVnCoV Phase 1 Clinical Trial

We initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial for CVnCoV in June 2020 for which all subject follow-up times have been completed as per trial protocol. Data from an interim analysis of the Phase 1 trial was published in Wiener klinische Wochenschrift on August 10, 2021.

The Phase 1 trial was conducted as a partially blinded, placebo-controlled, dose-escalation, first in human, clinical trial to evaluate the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity after 1 and 2 doses of the investigational SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine, CVnCoV, administered intramuscularly in healthy adults 18 to 60 years of age. The Phase 1 trial was conducted at three clinical sites in Germany and one clinical site in Belgium. The Phase 1 trial data featured below is based on an interim analysis with 245 adults assigned to five dose groups between 2µg and 12µg of CVnCoV. The dose groups included 2µg (n=47), 4µg (n=48), 6µg (n=46), 8µg (n=44), 12µg (n=28) or placebo (n=32). The majority of the participants recruited in each dose group were seronegative, with several seropositive participants (i.e., participants that were previously infected with SARS-CoV-2). All of the subjects received two doses of CVnCoV on days 1 and 29.

The primary objective of the Phase 1 study was the assessment of safety and reactogenicity at all tested doses. The vaccine candidate appeared safe and to have an acceptable reactogenicity profile at all doses from 2µg to 12µg, including participants known to be SARS-CoV-2 seropositive at baseline. There were no vaccine-related serious adverse events.

In SARS-CoV-2-naïve participants there was a dose-dependent increase in incidence and severity of local solicited adverse events. Local reactions were almost exclusively cases of transient mild to moderate injection site pain with a median duration of 1 day; only 3 first doses of the 415 total administered doses of CVnCoV resulted in severe local pain. The frequency and severity of solicited systemic adverse events also increased with dosage level and were generally of higher intensity after the second dose than the first. Systemic adverse events mainly consisted of transient mild or moderate headache and fatigue, and to a lesser extent myalgia and chills, with fever being observed less frequently. Severe solicited adverse events decreased or rapidly disappeared, mostly within 24–48 h of onset. Overall, the same reactogenicity profile has been reported for other mRNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccines.

In participants who were SARS-CoV-2 seropositive at the time of vaccination the local and systemic reactogenicity profiles were similar to the SARS-CoV-2- naïve participants.

First-generation SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, was generally well tolerated

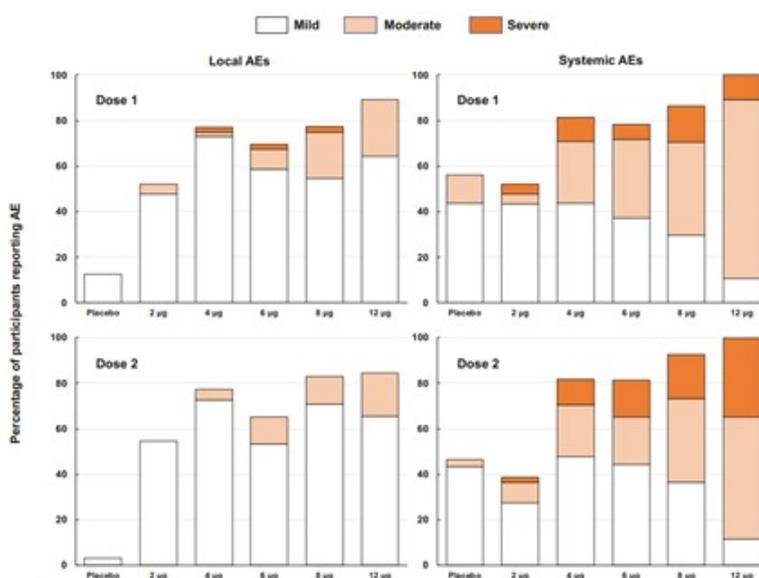


Figure. Overall incidence rates (%) of solicited local and systemic adverse events (AEs) per dose group after the first and second doses with severity classified as mild (Grade 1, white columns), moderate (Grade 2, light orange columns) or severe (Grade 3, orange columns).

Main secondary objectives were evaluations of humoral immune responses including SARS-CoV-2 spike protein-specific IgG and receptor-binding domain (RBD) IgG antibodies as well as SARS-CoV-2 virus neutralizing antibodies. The subset of seropositive participants was also included to assess whether the baseline serostatus impacted any of the assessed parameters.

Robust immune responses were observed in all groups of initially seronegative participants, with median titers comparable with those in sera from patients convalescing after COVID-19 infection. At day 29, 4 weeks after the first dose, there were small dose-dependent increases with seroconversion rates of 6–26% across vaccine groups, with more marked increases in all groups on day 36, with 50–74% seroconverting. The seroconversion rate continued to increase to 69–95% at day 43 when median titers were 1738 (IQR: 725–3094), 2239 (2175–3079), 2818 (12–6086), 3135 (56–5349), and 5118 (485–6319), in 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12µg groups, respectively. Notably, the 12µg group value at day 43 was comparable to the median titer of 6381 (5400–12432) in convalescent sera.

The applied human convalescent patient sera panel consisted of 67 convalescent patients, who exhibited multiple symptoms and of which 16 patients (24%) were hospitalized. Binding and neutralizing antibody titers of these convalescent patients are based on blood samples collected mainly at the peak time of humoral response, between four to eight-weeks after diagnostic confirmation of a SARS-CoV-2 infection.

The ELISA IgG antibody titers against RBD generally reflect the same dose-dependent profile as IgG titers against the spike protein, with substantial increases in titers 7 days (day 36) after the second dose when seroconversion rates were 17–65%. There was a further increase by day 43 when the seroconversion rates were 82% and 91% in the 8 and 12µg groups with median titers of 1228 (1325–2542) and 1572 (535–2971), respectively, comparable to the median of 1448 (726–5391) observed in convalescent sera.

First-generation SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, elicited humoral immune responses

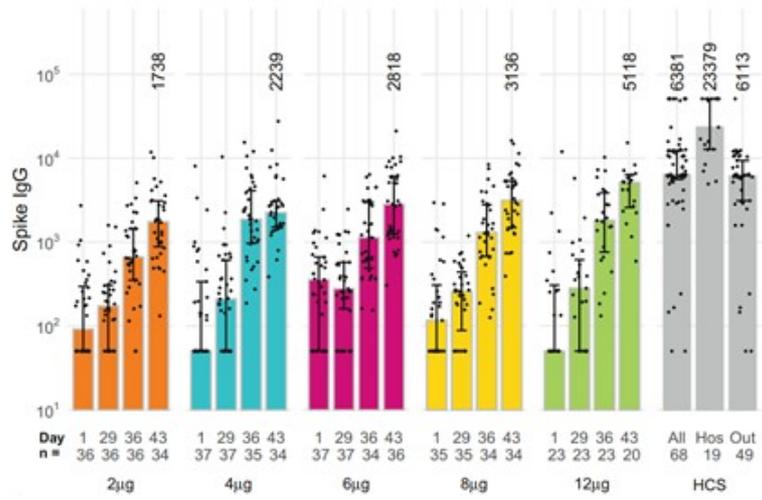


Figure. Anti-Spike protein IgGs in the different study groups and convalescent sera measured by ELISA. Bars show median values per group at each study time point, individual GMT values for each sample are shown as diamonds. Numbers show median values at day 43, two weeks after the second vaccination, for each group and the convalescent sera panel.

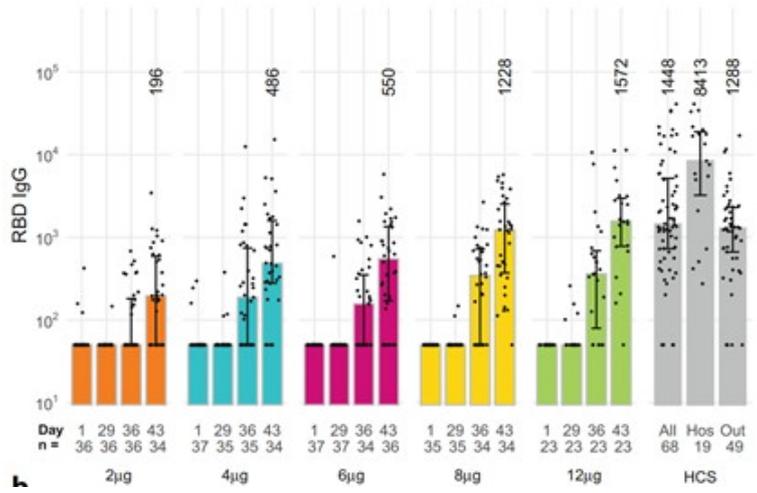


Figure. Anti-RBD IgGs in the different study groups and convalescent sera measured by ELISA. Bars show median values per group at each study time point, individual GMT values for each sample are shown as diamonds. Numbers show median values at day 43, two weeks after the second vaccination, for each group and the convalescent sera panel.

The observations of IgG antibody responses to the spike protein and RBD correlated with SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing titers. This response was less obviously dose-dependent from the available samples, but across the groups 31–59% had seroconverted at day 36 from baseline, increasing to 56–83% at day 43. At day 43 median MN₅₀ in the 8 µg and 12 µg groups (57 MN₅₀, 7–113 and 57 MN₅₀, 28–113) overlapped with the range observed in convalescent sera which had a median titer of 113 MN₅₀, 57–453.

Since an imbalance between neutralizing versus binding antibodies could hypothetically lead to immune-mediated disease enhancement, we calculated the ratios of neutralizing and IgG antibodies to spike protein and RBD in 12µg vaccinees at day 43 and convalescent sera. As the ratios in vaccinees were very close to those in convalescent sera after natural infection we hypothesized that the CVnCoV mechanism of action mimics the natural immune response to RNA viruses.

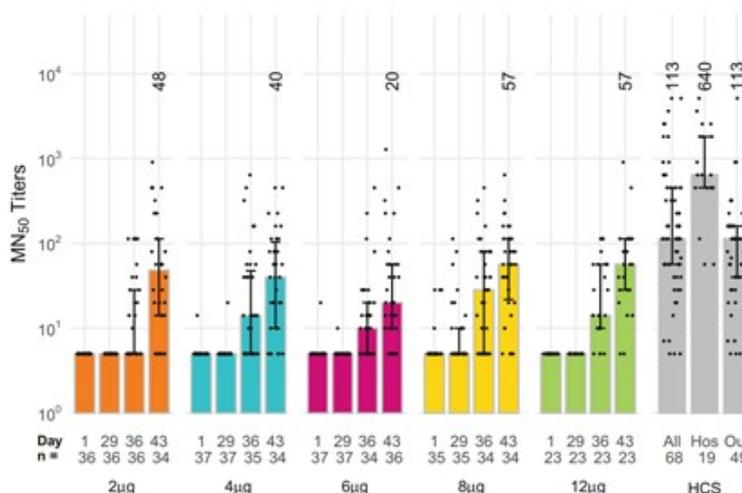


Figure. Anti-SARS-CoV-2 virus-neutralizing titers in the different study groups and convalescent sera measured by micro-neutralization. Bars show median values per group at each study time point, individual GMT values for each sample are shown as diamonds. Numbers show median MN₅₀ values at day 43, two weeks after the second vaccination, for each group and in the convalescent sera panel.

In initially SARS-CoV-2-seropositive participants the lowest doses of CVnCoV, 2µg or 4µg induced increases in antibody titers against the spike protein and RBD binding antibodies and neutralizing antibodies within 1 week after the first vaccination. Median RBD titers increased from 204 (IQR: 87, 366) at day 1 to 2494 (1399, 3204) at day 8 in the eight seropositive participants who received a 2µg dose of CVnCoV; in the 4µg group the respective increase was from 183 (50, 2296) to 3737 (999, 6814). There was no further increase after the second dose and median titers at day 43 were 3017 (IQR: 1576, 5828) and 5107 (2772, 9889) in the 2µg or 4µg groups, falling within the same range as the seronegative participants after two 12µg doses. In seropositive subjects median MN₅₀ titers were 108 (IQR: 40, 339) and 273 (113, 386) at day 1 in the 2µg or 4µg groups (n= 8 in each), increasing to 679 (IQR: 453, 905) and 1093 (640, 1920) at day 8, respectively. After small further increases at day 36 following the second dose to 1545 (IQR: 773, 1810) and 1810 (1543, 3840) titers then remained stable at least up to day 43.

First-generation SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, boosted preexisting immune response

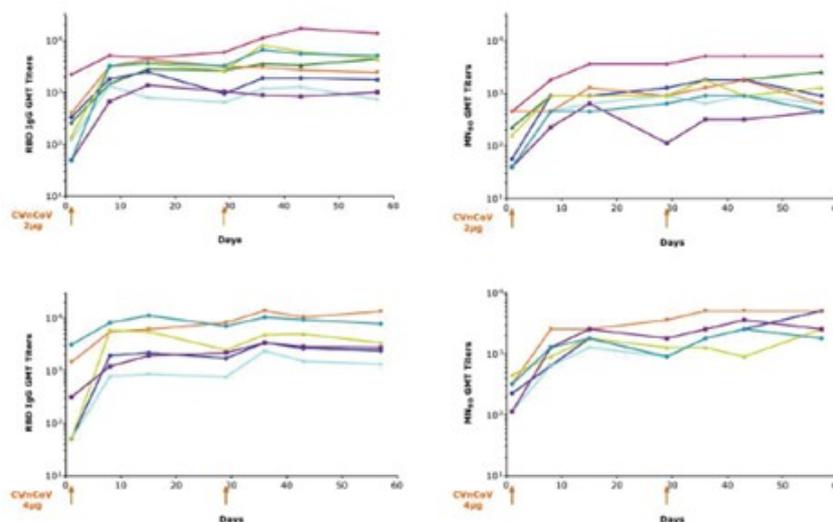


Figure. Boosting of antibody responses in seropositive subjects. Seropositive subjects were vaccinated either with 2µg (upper panel) or 4µg (lower panel) of CVnCoV on day 1 and 29. RBD binding antibodies as well as SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies were analyzed at multiple time points. Lines show individual subjects in both dose groups.

In summary, all investigated dosages elicited an immune response against SARS-CoV-2. Induction of an adaptive humoral immune response was demonstrated by the increase in neutralizing antibodies; 56–77% of participants achieved MN₅₀ seroconversion 2 weeks after 2 doses of 2–8µg and 83% after 2 doses of 12µg. Neutralizing activity was associated with marked spike protein-specific and RBD-specific IgG antibody responses; notably 100% of 12µg recipients seroconverted to either spike protein or RBD by day 43. The spike protein IgG and neutralizing antibody responses were low but detectable after the first vaccination, but all markedly increased within 7 days of the second vaccination indicating efficient priming by the first dose.

CVnCoV was well tolerated in SARS-CoV-2 seropositive participants in whom immune memory appeared to have been induced by the natural infection. Low doses of CVnCoV (either 2 or 4µg) were able to induce greater than 10-fold increases in antibody titers within 1 week, even in participants with low baseline antibody titers, while there was little or no response in seronegative participants 1 week after the first dose. Furthermore, a second vaccination in that population did not lead to a further increase in antibody titer, suggesting that persons with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection might not benefit from additional vaccinations and could be limited to a single dose application.

Furthermore, as part of the Phase 1 study, we administered higher doses of 16 µg and 20 µg to investigate the boundaries of the safety window and for completion of the assessments of the present groups. Subjects of all study groups were being followed up with until one year post-vaccination.

CV7202: Rabies Vaccine

CV7202 is our rabies vaccine candidate encoding the rabies virus glycoprotein, RABV-G protein formulated with LNPs. RABV-G is one of only five proteins encoded by the rabies virus. As a dominant part of the virus surface and its role in virus entry into the host cell, RABV-G is the only target of virus-neutralizing antibodies conferring protection against challenge.

A Phase 1 clinical trial for CV7202 initiated in the fourth quarter of 2018 has been completed with all follow-up times as per trial protocol. Data of the Phase 1 trial was published in *Vaccine* on January 22, 2021.

Rabies Disease Background

Rabies is an infectious viral disease that is almost always fatal following the onset of clinical symptoms. In up to 99% of cases, domestic dogs are responsible for rabies virus transmission to humans.

Rabies can affect both domestic and wild animals. It is spread to people through bites or scratches, usually via saliva. According to the World Health Organization, rabies remains an important disease, leading to close to 60,000 human deaths every year worldwide, with 95% of human deaths occurring in Asia and Africa regions, where dog rabies is endemic.

There are commercially available rabies vaccines that are both safe and effective. They can be used to prevent rabies before and for a period of time after exposure to the virus (such as by a dog or bat bite). However, these vaccines require multiple vaccinations both before and after virus exposure. Additional major limitations for the commercially available rabies vaccines are cost and access, particularly in the developing world, as well as supply shortages.

CV7202 Phase 1 Clinical Trial

The Phase 1 clinical trial for CV7202, initiated in the fourth quarter of 2018, was conducted as a non-randomized, open-label, controlled, dose-escalation, multi-center Phase 1 study evaluating safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of different dosages of CV7202 administered as intramuscular injections in healthy adults 18 to 40 years of age in one- or two-dose regimens. A control group received Rabipur according to the standard schedule. The primary objective was assessment of safety and reactogenicity up to 28 days after administration by intramuscular injection of either a first or second dose of in a range of increasing dosages starting at 5 µg. Main secondary objectives was evaluation of safety follow-up to two years after vaccination, and comparison of the immune response to CV7202 with the licensed rabies vaccine, Rabipur[®], administered in its recommended three dose schedule. Following observation of excess reactogenicity to 5µg CV7202 the protocol was modified to assess lower (1µg and 2µg) rather than higher dosages.

Patient demographics:

The study enrolled a total of 53 subjects in three CV7202 groups, 1µg (n=16), 2µg (n=16) and 5µg (n=10), and one Rabipur group (n=11) as control. In both the CV7202 1µg and 2µg groups, all subjects received a single dose of CV7202 on day 1 with half the cohort (n=8) in each dose group receiving a second dose dose of CV7202 on day 29. In the CV7202 5µg group, the 10 subjects received a single dose of CV7202 on day 1. Of the 11 subjects enrolled in the Rabipur group received, 10 subjects received the licensed three-dose primary vaccination schedule on days 1, 8 and 29, respectively.

Interim safety results:

Following observations of high reactogenicity when using the 5µg dose of CV7202 we found 1 and 2µg dosages were better tolerated, with no safety concerns. Preliminary investigation of the 5µg response suggests that high innate immune responses driven by type 1 interferon and cytokines and strong induction of toll-like receptor signaling pathways observed in most participants, might have contributed to unfavorable reactogenicity and immunogenicity profiles. In this small trial, CV7202 appeared to be safe, with no vaccine-related serious adverse events or withdrawals due to adverse events. Although over half the recipients of the highest dose of CV7202 reported severe solicited systemic or unsolicited adverse events, the reactogenicity profiles of the lower doses of CV7202 (1 and 2µg) were more acceptable. The 2µg dose elicited a limited number of severe adverse events in the first 24 h post-vaccination. Local reactions to these dosages consisted almost exclusively of transient mild to moderate injection site pain. Systemic adverse events mainly consisted of transient mild or moderate headache, fatigue and chills, and any cases that were described as initially severe rapidly moderated and resolved, most within 48– 72 h and all within the 7-day reporting period. There were no major changes in reactogenicity after the second dose when compared with the first, although the numbers of participants are small.

Interim immunogenicity results:

We showed that all recipients, despite the low amount of mRNA included in the vaccine, had functional antibody responses after two 1 or 2 lg doses of CV7202, with GMTs of both rabies-specific neutralizing and RABV-G-specific IgG antibodies that were not significantly lower than those observed after three doses of licensed rabies vaccine. The neutralizing response profile of CV7202 displayed a strong correlation with production of RABV-G-specific IgG antibodies following two doses. There were also transient increases in IgM antibodies but not IgA after second doses of Rabipur and CV7202 (data not shown), but direct comparison of the kinetics of these responses is complicated by the different vaccination schedules—1 and 8 days for licensed vaccine and 1 and 29 days for CV7202—and no second 5 lg dose. The large IgG responses evident 7 days after the second vaccination, and their direct correlation with the neutralizing response suggest the first dose of lower dosages of CV7202 had primed B cells to respond to the second vaccination with an anamnestic response. Although responses with two doses of 1 or 2 lg CV7202 were not significantly lower than those induced by three doses of Rabipur, it may be interesting to compare CV7202 and Rabipur responses when used in the same schedule of three doses at Days 1, 8 and 29. This interim report presents the immune responses up to four weeks after the second dose, but participants will be monitored for two years to assess long-term safety and persistence of the immune response. Further investigations of antibody responses after a booster vaccination, possibly with lower doses, will be necessary to determine whether long-term immune memory has developed, together with a qualitative comparison of avidity, IgG subclasses and B cell responses for CV7202 and the licensed vaccine

Virus neutralizing titer (VNT) responses were detected in all four study groups. Following a 5µg dose of CV7202, VNT levels ≥ 0.5 IU/ml were observed from day 29 in two of nine (22%) participants and these responses were maintained up to day 57, the last timepoint assessed.

Neutralizing antibody titers in all four study groups following immunization with CV7202

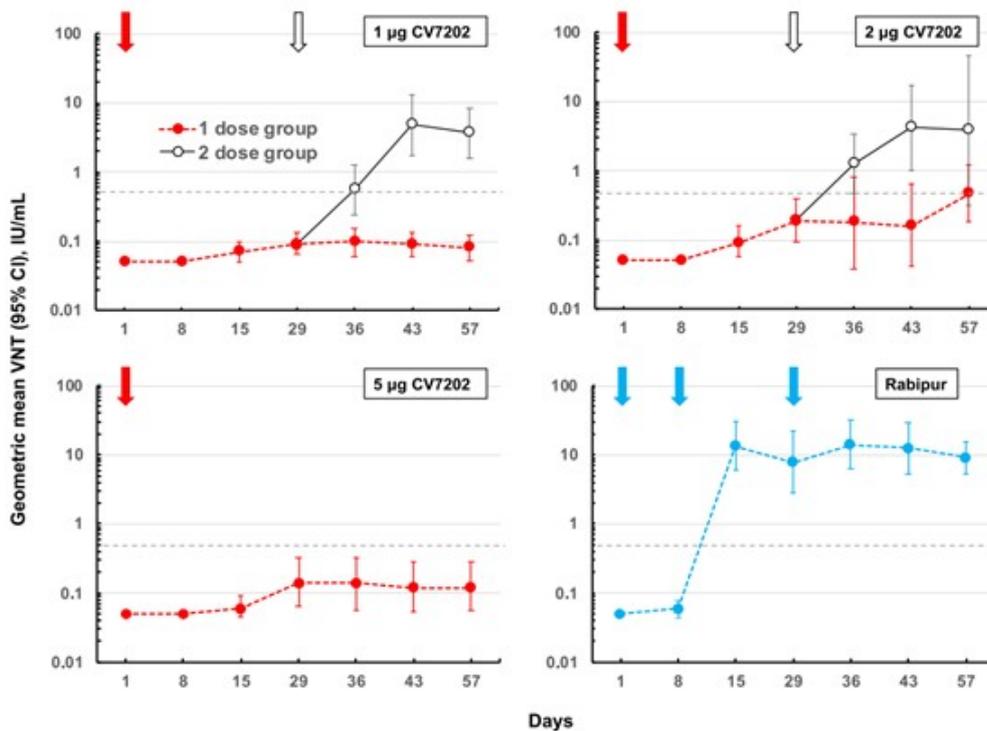


Figure. Geometric mean virus neutralizing titers (with 95% CI) in the four study groups after immunization (indicated by arrows) with CV7202 or Rabipur. Dashed line indicates level considered adequate by the WHO (0.5 IU/mL).

The 1µg and 2µg CV7202 groups also displayed small detectable responses following the first dose. These were more pronounced in the 2µg group in which 5 of 16 (31%) had VNT levels ≥ 0.5 IU/ by day 29, whereas no participants in the 1µg group displayed an adequate response (0.5 IU/mL) by day 29 after one dose. Responses were markedly increased following the second dose on day 29 such that 5 of the 8 (63%) participants who received a second dose of 1µg and 7 of 8 (83%) participants who received a second dose of 2µg had titers ≥ 0.5 IU/mL at day 36. All participants (100%) in both the 1µg and 2 µg groups reached this level at day 43. Geometric mean titers (GMTs) were higher than 0.5 IU/mL at day 36 in both groups and were further increased at days 43 and 57. Peak GMTs were achieved at day 43 with 1µg (4.8 IU/mL 95% CI:1.77–13.0) and 2µg (4.2 IU/mL 1.02–17.2) of CV7202. All participants in the Rabipur group had titers ≥ 0.5 IU/mL by day 15, 7 days after the second vaccination and this 100% rate was maintained up to day 57. Rabipur achieved a peak GMT of 13.5 IU/mL 5.95–30.6) IU/mL at day 15, 7 days after the second dose. The GMT did not further increase following a third dose of Rabipur but was maintained at 9.1 IU/mL through to day 57. Day 43 GMTs after two doses of CV7202 were not statistically significantly lower than those achieved with three doses of Rabipur.

Rate of responders in all four study groups following immunization with CV7202

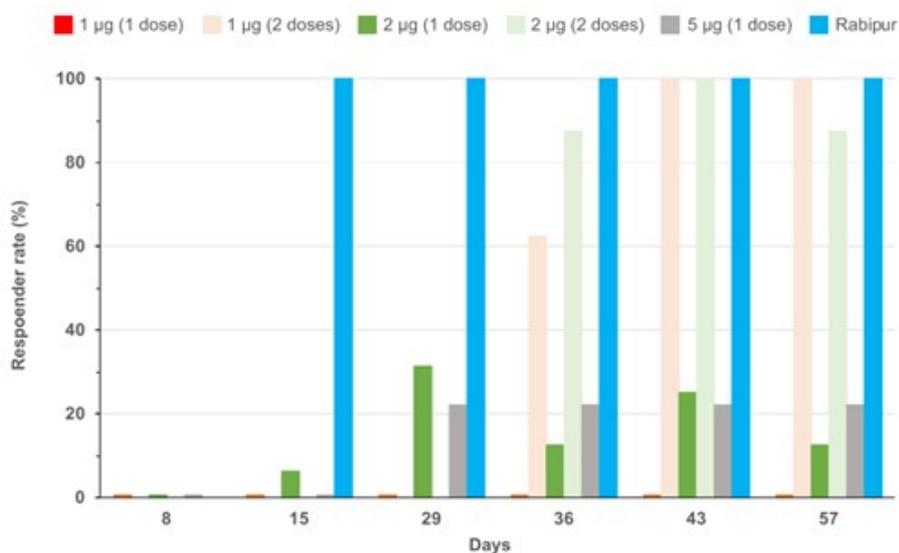


Figure. Responder rates (percentages of each group with a VNT ≥ 0.5 IU/mL) in the four study groups after immunization with CV7202 or Rabipur. Rates represent the numbers of participants achieving the protective VNT of 0.5 IU/mL. The 1 and 2 μ g CV7202 groups consisted of 16 participants each for days 8, 15 and 29, and 8 participants each for days 36, 43 and 57. The 5 μ g CV7202 group consisted of 10 participants for days 8 and 15, 9 participants for days 29, 36, 43 and 57. The Rabipur group had 10 participants at each timepoint.

Anti-RABV-G IgG antibodies displayed the same pattern of responses as VNTs. There were detectable increases after one dose with 6 of 16 (38%), 11 of 16 (69%) and 8 of 9 (89%) participants in the 1, 2 and 5 μ g dosage groups developing low levels of RABV-G-specific IgG, respectively. GMTs were 853 U/mL (95% CI: 455–1599), 1581 U/mL (899–2780), and 2409 U/mL (1113–5215) at day 29 after the first dose in the 1, 2, and 5 μ g CV7202 groups, respectively, and these levels did not further increase in one dose groups. Much larger increases were observed after second vaccinations, peaking at 34,186 U/mL (13253–88185) and 20,707 U/mL (5592–76678) at day 43 in the 1 and 2 μ g groups, respectively. There were highly significant positive Spearman correlations between VNT and IgG titers, particularly after two doses of CV7202 ($r_2 = 0.8319$, $p < 0.0001$). An IgG response was not detected one week after the first Rabipur vaccination; GMTs were 461 and 464 at days 1 and 8, respectively, but rapidly increased to 12,460 U/mL (95% CI: 6575–23611) at day 15, 7 days after the second dose. A further incremental increase to 33,373 U/mL (21236–52447) was observed after the third dose and this level was sustained to day 57. As for the VNT, RABV-G IgG GMTs at Day 43 after two doses of CV7202 were not statistically significantly lower than those achieved with three doses of Rabipur.

RABV-G-specific immunoglobulin antibodies in all four study groups following immunization with CV7202

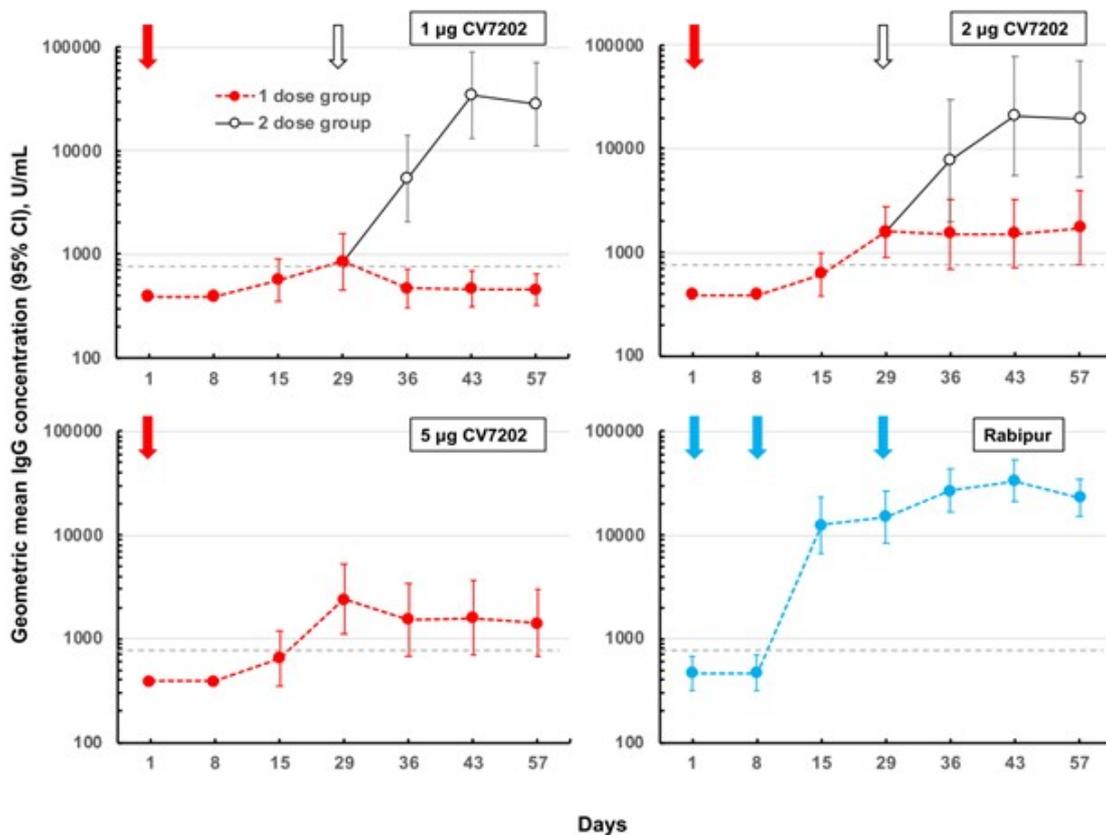


Figure. GMTs (with 95% CI) of RABV-G-specific Ig responses assessed by ELISA. IgG concentrations after immunization with one (red arrow) or two (open arrow) doses of CV7202 or three doses of Rabipur (blue arrows). Dotted lines indicate LLOQ.

Correlation of RABV-G-specific neutralizing and binding antibodies titers after 1 or 2 doses of CV7202

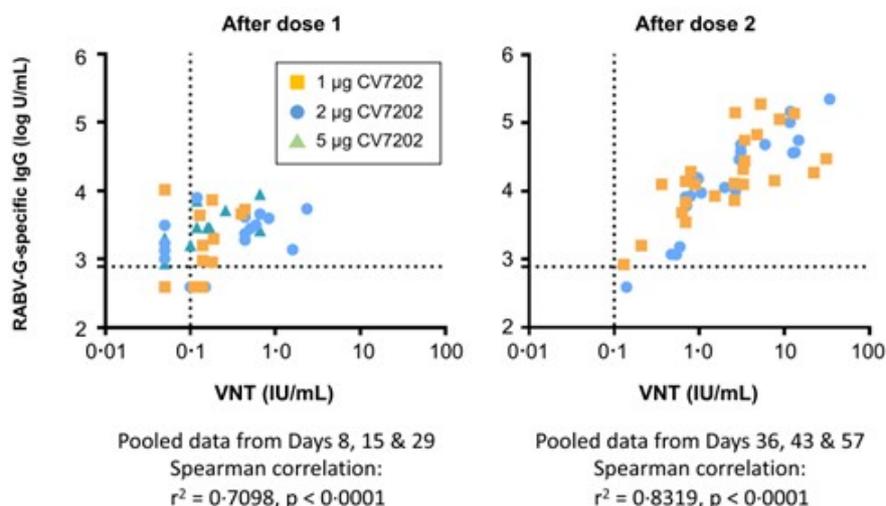


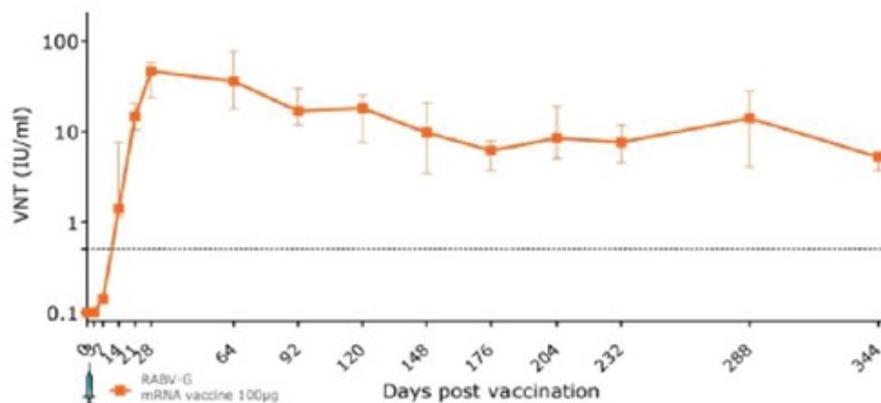
Figure. Correlation of titers of RABV-G-specific neutralizing activity (VNT) and IgG antibodies after one or two doses of CV7202.

In summary, despite the low amount of mRNA included in the vaccine, all recipients had functional antibody responses after two 1 or 2µg doses of CV7202, with GMTs of both rabies-specific neutralizing and RABV-G-specific IgG antibodies that were not significantly lower than those observed after three doses of licensed rabies vaccine. The neutralizing response profile of CV7202 displayed a strong correlation with production of RABV-G-specific IgG antibodies following two doses. The large IgG responses evident 7 days after the second vaccination, and their direct correlation with the neutralizing response suggest the first dose of lower dosages of CV7202 had primed B cells to respond to the second vaccination with an anamnestic response. Although responses with two doses of 1 or 2µg CV7202 were not significantly lower than those induced by three doses of Rabipur, it may be interesting to compare CV7202 and Rabipur responses when used in the same schedule of three doses at days 1, 8 and 29.

CV7202 Preclinical Data

CV7202 was found to be highly potent in multiple animal studies and protected against the rabies virus infection in non-human primates. CV7202 leads to rapid generation of neutralizing antibodies that exceed the threshold agreed upon by the WHO for rabies protection. These results, obtained after a single administration in non-human primates, were sustained at high levels through at least 344 days post-vaccination.

CV7202 Induces Rabies-Neutralizing Antibodies After Single Administration in Non-Human Primates



CV-SSIV: Influenza Vaccine

Disease Overview

Influenza is a highly contagious virus that causes mild to severe respiratory virus that can lead to death. According to the CDC, the burden of illness during the 2019-2020 season was estimated to include approximately 35 million people getting sick with influenza, 16 million people going to a healthcare provider for their illness, 380,000 hospitalizations, and 20,000 deaths from influenza in the United States. The WHO reports that globally there are as many as five million severe influenza cases annually, leading to as many as 290,000 to 650,000 deaths.

Limitations of Current Influenza Vaccines

Influenza viral infections can be prevented by vaccination although there are several limitations associated with current flu vaccines. Flu vaccines are not always effective, primarily because the influenza virus and its associated antigens undergo mutations or changes in its sequence over short periods of time, which is called antigenic drift. Vaccines that are developed for the predominant strain infecting people can be rendered ineffective as the virus mutates as it passes from person to person. The process of developing a standard traditional vaccine typically takes approximately eight months from strain identification to doctor’s office availability, increasing the likelihood that a significant pool of viruses circulating will be poorly recognized by antibodies in vaccinated individuals. Additionally, vaccine efficacy tends to wane over time. For these reasons, vaccination of the target population needs to be repeated every year before the start of the next influenza season, putting a significant burden on the health system. Furthermore, only a part of the population targeted to get the yearly shot is vaccinated each year, leaving many individuals unprotected.

Our Approach to Influenza Vaccine

We believe that there is a significant market for a more and broader effective vaccine for influenza that protects over several seasons and that, in case of exceptional changes in the circulating strains, could also be customized to include specific and multiple new strains. We believe that our platform offers the potential for the rapid development of safe and effective vaccines. We believe that the mRNA-based vaccines allows us to address several of the limitations of the currently available seasonal vaccines.

We believe key potential advantages of our approach to traditional seasonal vaccines include:

- Commercial seasonal vaccines usually contain three to four strains of the virus and may offer limited protection as the virus mutates. Adding more strains or further antigens, which can increase or broaden the level of protection conferred by the vaccine, might be an advantage of an mRNA-based vaccine.

- mRNA-based vaccines offer greater production flexibility to adapt to circulating seasonal strains. An mRNA influenza vaccine can be generally produced in under three months from strain identification to a finished GMP product. This rapid vaccine development process would allow treatment of a larger fraction of patients before too many changes are introduced by viral mutations.
- Traditional egg-produced vaccines rely upon high-yielding production strains and often have to contend with egg-adaptation during passage, neither aspects are an issue for mRNA-based vaccination.

We are also developing a Supra Seasonal Influenza Vaccine, or SSIV. We believe that the initial step towards the development of an SSIV is the development of a multivalent, improved seasonal influenza vaccine. Based on performance of our mRNA next-generation influenza vaccine in preclinical studies, including broadening and persistence of immunity, this multivalent formulation could be considered a first-generation multi-year, supra-seasonal influenza vaccine. The characteristics for the mRNA-based seasonal influenza vaccines are a building block in the development of an SSIV where the induction of long-lasting, potent antibody responses, and the possibility to combine several antigens in one vaccine formulation in the absence of antigenic interference are key prerequisites.

CV-SSIV Overview

Our CV-SSIV contains a mixture of antigens derived from hemagglutinin, or HA, and neuraminidase, or NA, constructs, all from seasonal strains recommended by the WHO, targeting both Influenza A and B strains. The inclusion of NA supports a vaccine with extended breadth, given that NA is more conserved compared to HA, and has the potential to confer protection against drifted seasonal but also pandemic strains in upcoming seasons.

Preclinical Data for CV-SSIV

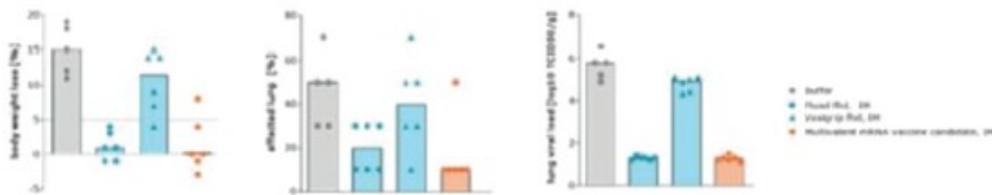
As part of our influenza program, we have evaluated mRNA-based influenza vaccines starting with a monovalent influenza vaccine followed by several seasonal multivalent influenza vaccines. Our preclinical experiments have shown that we can encode for multiple targets in our cocktail mRNA vaccines without experiencing immuno-dominance.

In these preclinical studies, it was demonstrated that our vaccines induced hemagglutinin-inhibition, or HI, titers above the accepted threshold for protective immunity in ferrets. The immunogenicity of the seasonal influenza vaccine was further evaluated in ferrets testing the breadth of antibody response against historic seasonal viral strains. The HI titer induced by mRNA vaccination against specific isolates were comparable to Fluvad produced for the same season. Fluvad is the only licensed adjuvanted seasonal influenza vaccine and has been shown to outperform standard of care split vaccine in older adults and very young children. Retrospective studies of the past season could not show a difference between both types of vaccine.

In immunogenicity studies in ferrets, our multivalent influenza vaccine candidate 2, showed no antigenic interference as judged by HI titer due to the addition of more antigens to multivalent influenza vaccine candidate 1. HI titer against influenza A virus strains were over 1:40 and neutralizing antibody against influenza B virus were detected using a microneutralization assay. Additionally, functional anti-NA antibodies were induced against influenza A strains analyzed using an assay and titers were comparable to Fluvad. Overall, the immune response to influenza A virus were comparable to Fluvad, whereas the responses to influenza B virus were lower for our multivalent vaccine candidate 2 than for Fluvad. We anticipate that this response will be significantly enhanced in humans who are influenza pre-immune.

As shown in the figure below, the seasonal multivalent vaccine candidate 2 was tested in a ferret challenge infection model. Ferrets were vaccinated with influenza mRNA vaccine candidate two delivered using LNPs or the licensed vaccine Vaxigrip (left light-blue column) and adjuvanted vaccine Fluvad (right light-blue column) via needle-based injection on day 0 and 21 (2-dose regimen). Values from individual animals (dots) and the median (bars) are reported for each group (buffer control grey column). Four weeks after the last vaccination, animals were challenged with influenza A via intratracheal route. Four days after infection, animals were euthanized and virology and pathology were investigated in respiratory tissues. Multivalent vaccine candidate 2 induced better protection in the ferret model than the licensed non-adjuvanted split vaccine (Vaxigrip) and showed comparable activity to the adjuvanted vaccine Fluvad.

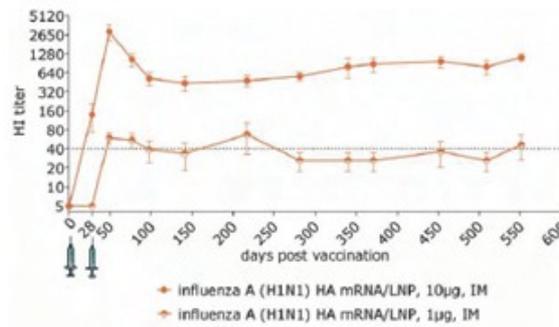
mRNA Vaccination Candidate Protected from Weight Loss and Viral Replication Comparable to the Adjuvanted Influenza Vaccine Fluvad in Ferrets



Ferrets ($n=6$, female) were vaccinated with a multivalent influenza LNP/mRNA vaccine or the licensed vaccine Vaxigrip and adjuvanted vaccine Fluvad®2017/2018 via i.m. needle-based injection on days 0 and 28. Four weeks post last vaccination animals were challenged with 106 TCID₅₀ of influenza A/Netherlands/602/2009 H1N1 via intratracheal route. Four days after infection, animals were euthanized and virology and pathology was investigated: in body weight (A), affected lung tissues (B) and viral titers in the lung (C). Values from individual animals (dots) and the median (bars) are reported for each group.

As shown in the figure below, the longevity of antibody response was evaluated in NHP immunized with a monovalent HA vaccine, Cynomolgus monkeys were vaccinated with 1 or 10 µg LNP-formulated mRNA encoding HA of influenza A via intramuscular needle-based injection on days 0 and 28. Functional antibodies were determined in the serum of the immunized animals at the indicated time points using the HI assay. Our vaccine showed HI titers above the protective threshold (>1:40) for at least 1.5 years following a two-dose primary immunization series.

LNP-Formulated Influenza A H1N1 HA mRNA Vaccine Induce High and Long Lasting Functional Antibody Titers in NHP



Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Program

Disease Overview

RSV is a leading cause of respiratory disease globally. The virus causes infections at all ages but young infants have the highest incidence of severe disease. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases estimates that by the age of two years, almost all children will have been infected with RSV in the United States. Globally, RSV has been estimated to cause approximately 33 million cases of RSV-related acute lower respiratory tract infections, or LRTI, annually in children less than five years of age, with approximately three million cases requiring hospitalization, and approximately 60,000 dying from complications associated with the infection. In addition, RSV infections can be a significant problem for certain immunocompromised adults and high-risk older adults. Adults at highest risk for severe RSV infection include older adults, especially those 65 years and older, adults with chronic heart or lung disease and adults with weakened immune systems. According to the CDC, RSV is responsible for approximately 177,000 hospitalizations and 14,000 deaths annually in people over 65 years of age within the United States.

There are no effective RSV vaccines approved to date and the only approved prophylactic treatment is palivizumab, marketed as Synagis in the United States. Synagis is a monoclonal antibody for the prevention of RSV in premature babies or babies with underlying medical conditions of bronchopulmonary dysplasia or congenital heart disease. Synagis's highly restrictive label, combined with the high cost of prophylactic therapy, has limited wider uptake.

Historical Approaches to RSV Vaccines

In 1968, a formalin-inactivated whole RSV vaccine was tested for newly infected and immunized children but was not effective and resulted in vaccine-induced amplification of disease. Since the most severe cases of RSV occur in the first months of life, past approaches have focused on increasing the maternal immune response by developing maternal anti-RSV antibodies. To date, the efforts to develop maternal anti-RSV antibodies through administration of a vaccine have been unsuccessful.

While the reasons for the failure of RSV vaccines to protect against infection remain unclear, the lack of understanding regarding the identity of the natural protective immune response in subjects has challenged the development of an effective RSV vaccine. In certain previous clinical studies, an increase in the immune response has been detected but has not resulted in any further protection against the progression of the RSV infection. Currently, there are several vaccines for RSV in development, including subunit vaccines, attenuated vaccines, and those delivering RSV antigens by recombinant vectors such as vaccinia virus or bovine-based systems.

Our Approach

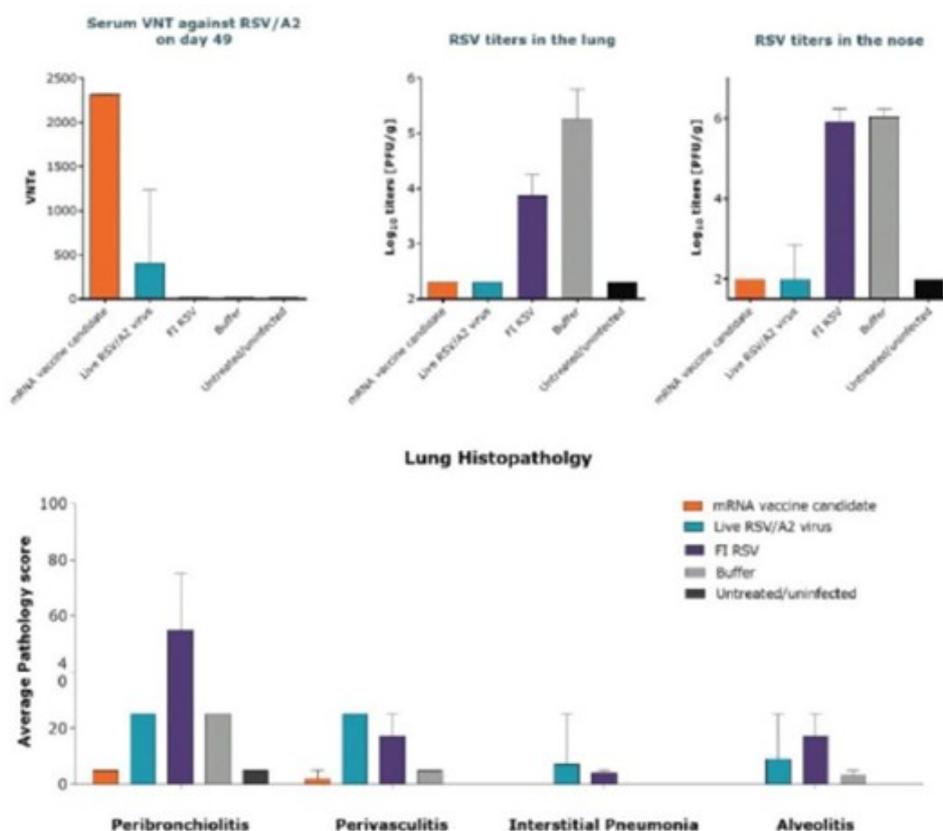
The surface of RSV contains two glycoproteins: the attachment glycoprotein, or G, and the fusion glycoprotein, or F. Deletion of RSV G leads to a viable but attenuated virus, indicating that RSV G is not essential for viral entry. In contrast, the RSV F protein is essential to the viral replication process, as it facilitates pH-independent fusion of the viral membrane with the host-cell plasma membrane, leading to infection of the host cell. Expression of RSV F on the surface of cells can also cause fusion with neighboring cells, leading to the formation of multinucleated syncytia. The F protein is expected to induce virus neutralization titer against both subtypes of RSV A and B.

Our approach for the RSV program is based on delivering mRNAs encoding for the RSV F (fusion) protein. This is considered an advantage over vaccines consisting of the glycoprotein G. Glycoprotein G determines the RSV subtypes and hence, vaccines that aim to protect against all RSV subtypes would need to include a glycoprotein from both RSV A and B each. Therefore, an approach targeting the RSV F as protective antigen has an advantage to target both RSV A and B. Consequently, we have been able to show that our vaccines encoding for RSV F induce high levels of virus neutralizing antibodies, a likely correlate of protection against RSV.

Preclinical Data

In preclinical studies, we showed that the delivery of our mRNA-based vaccines leads to the stimulation of TLR7, thus supporting affinity maturation of antibodies. In addition, we showed that antigen delivery via mRNA mediates correct protein folding and localization. For our RSV vaccine, we also analyzed the potential to minimize worsening immunopathology, a phenomenon also known as vaccine-dependent disease enhancement, or VDE, that may also be relevant for other respiratory viral infections such as for the novel SARS-CoV-2. Our RSV vaccine induces a balanced immune response, thus avoiding the Th2-biased response associated with enhanced respiratory disease or VDE.

In preclinical studies, we have demonstrated that our vaccines encoding for RSV F induce high levels of virus neutralizing antibodies, a likely correlate of protection against RSV. In a cotton rat challenge model, our RSV vaccine was compared to formalin-inactivated virus for evaluating enhanced respiratory disease and live RSV. Cotton rats vaccinated twice at day 0 and day 28 showed high RSV neutralizing antibody titers in the serum 28, 49 or 63 days post-vaccination. Animals were challenged with RSV at day 63 and subjected to histopathologic analysis at day 68. The study showed that our RSV vaccine was able to protect lungs from viral replication and significantly reduced viral titers in the nose, when measured using plaque assay five days post-RSV challenge. Evaluation of signs of VDE were analyzed by lung histopathology FI virus induced peribronchiolitis in cotton rats, which was not detectable in animals vaccinated with our RSV vaccine.



Cotton rats (n= 5 per group) were vaccinated twice (d0 and d28) as indicated. RSV neutralizing antibody titers in the serum were analyzed 28, 49 or 63 days post-vaccination (top panel). Protection was assessed by measuring viral load in lung and nose at day 5 post-RSV challenge (top right panel). Lung histopathology was analyzed at day 68 after animals were challenged with RSV at day 63 (lower panel). Upper graphs show titers measured on day 63.

In this study RSV F encoding vaccine induced high levels of virus neutralizing antibodies, a likely correlate of protection. Functional antibody responses for mRNA vaccinated groups were higher than live virus vaccinated groups. Protection in lungs and nose are shown in the top right panel (viral titers via plaque assay five days post-RSV challenge). FI virus induces peribronchiolitis in cotton rats, which is not detectable in animals vaccinated with mRNA.

Other Prophylactic Vaccines for Infectious Diseases

In partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we are developing prophylactic vaccines for prevention of other infectious diseases associated with high mortality in the developing world including malaria and rotavirus. Preclinical studies are ongoing, with encouraging results, which could lead to the decision for further clinical development of the candidate vaccines.

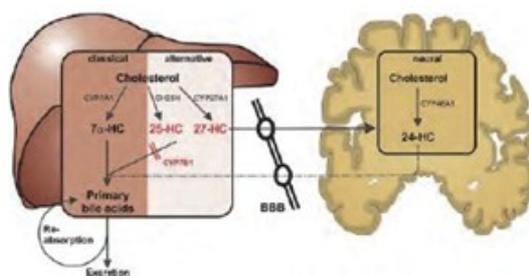
Furthermore, we are collaborating on several vaccine projects with CEPI, a public-private initiative to strengthen the vaccine research. This focuses on the development of the mRNA Printer, a mobile, automated production unit for rapid mRNA supply. This innovative platform is being designed to provide a rapid supply of LNP-formulated mRNA vaccine candidates that can target known pathogens (including Lassa fever, yellow fever and SARS-CoV-2) and prepare for rapid response to new and previously unknown pathogens.

RNA-Based Therapeutics in Molecular Therapies

mRNA-based protein supplementation offers a therapeutic approach to compensate for lack of proteins in monogenetic diseases caused by loss-of-function mutations. It offers a potentially curative treatment option, especially in diseases in which the protein is expressed predominantly in organs that can be reached by intravenous delivery (such as the liver). Despite the success of classical enzyme-replacement therapy in several metabolic disorders, this therapeutic approach is not well suited for treatment of diseases caused by the lack of functional intracellular proteins, especially if the proteins are located in or on intracellular compartments. Additionally, as therapeutic proteins are conventionally manufactured by using human, animal, or even plant cells, the pharmacological and biochemical properties of such recombinant proteins may differ from endogenously expressed enzymes. Cellular localization, folding, and post-translational modifications can especially be critical for the correct function of a therapeutic protein. Delivery of mRNA can overcome these limitations and is likely to result in expression of a functional protein at a physiological cellular location. An example of our rare disease approach is for the potential treatment of hereditary spastic paraplegia, or HSP.

Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia

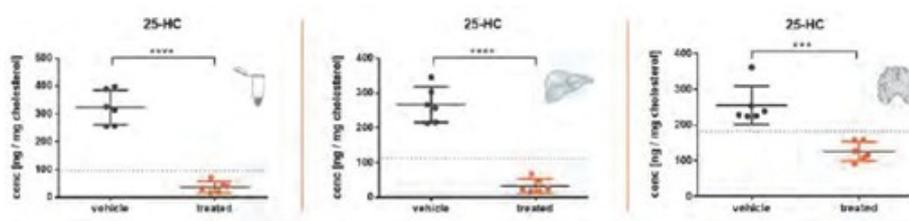
HSP is a group of inherited disorders that are characterized by progressive weakness and spasticity of the legs due to axonal degeneration of the corticospinal tract. Hereditary spastic paraplegia type 5, or SPG5, is caused by autosomal recessive loss-of-function mutations in CYP7B1, a gene encoding for the cytochrome P-450 oxysterol 7- α -hydroxylase, essential for the alternative pathway of bile acid synthesis in the liver. Mutations causing SPG5 lead to decreased enzyme activity of CYP7B1 and accumulation of oxysterols in the serum, the liver, and then the central nervous system. The accumulation of hydroxyl cholesterol, or HC, in the brain is what is believed to be the pathologic correlate of this particular disease, which leads to spasms and paraplegia as symptoms. To date, no curative treatment for SPG5 is available. Current clinical treatment strategies for SPG5 are based on the reduction of cholesterol by applying cholesterol-lowering drugs (statins), which consequently lead to a reduction of oxysterols.



Our approach is based on replacement of CYP7B1 by administration of mRNA. We have studied the intravenous application of formulated CYP7B1 mRNA in mice lacking the endogenous *Cyp7b1* gene. Comparable to the human situation in SPG5 patients, a drastic increase of these oxysterols was detected in all three compartments (serum, liver and brain) of knockout mice. Using this *in vivo* model, we were able to demonstrate that a therapeutic approach with mRNA can restore human CYP7B1 protein that exhibits physiological function and eliminates abnormal cholesterol metabolites.

As shown below, we investigated the safety and efficiency of repeated dosing with four consecutive doses of 40 µg LNP-encoded mRNA of CYP7B1 administered intravenously every five days. LNP loaded with a non-translating mRNA were applied as control (vehicle). Prior to the administration, serum samples were taken to determine basal oxysterol levels. Two days after the last injection (17 days of treatment), animals were sacrificed, and serum, liver, and brain samples were analyzed. Oxysterol analysis of these samples demonstrated a significant decrease of 25 hydroxy cholesterol, or 25 HC, in the serum and liver. mRNA expression of the human CYP7B1 in the liver led to a reduction of 25 HC in the liver by 8-fold and in serum by approximately 88%. These effects are accompanied by a reduction of the accumulation of 25 HC in the brain by more than 50%. Additionally, repetitive treatment resulted in a significant decrease of 27-HC and 3β-HCA in livers of treated compared to vehicle animals.

In addition, repeat intravenous delivery of CYP7B1 mRNA was found to be well tolerated in this study. Neither the CYP7B1 mRNA nor the restored protein nor the LNP induced liver toxicity. None of the treated animals presented signs of toxic or adverse effects. LNP particles encapsulating non-coding mRNA led to a temporary increase in oxysterol levels (25-HC and 27-HC) in liver and serum in the vehicle group, which is expected given cholesterol is an essential component of LNPs.

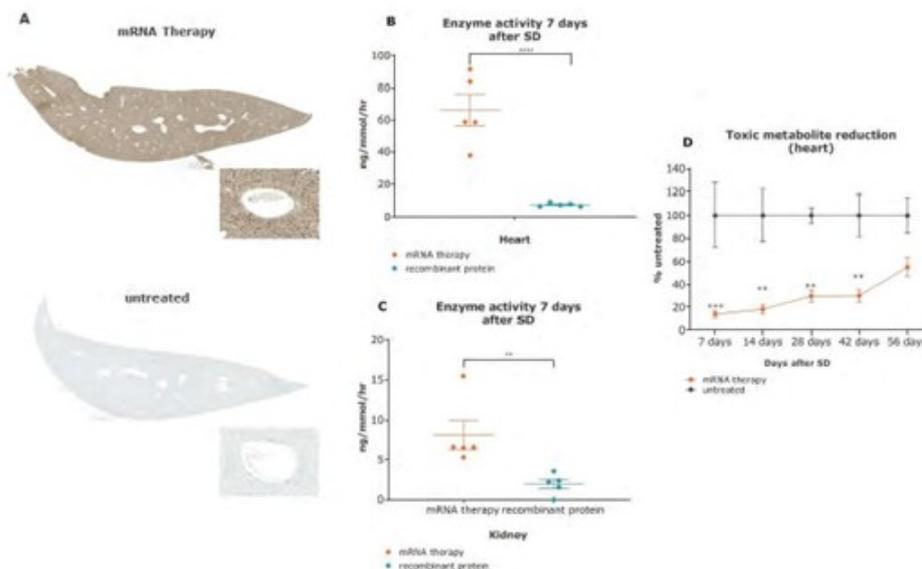


Lysosomal Storage Disorders

Lysosomal storage diseases are well-defined, single-gene disorders that are amenable to correction by systemic mRNA therapy.

We have conducted preclinical studies in an undisclosed lysosomal storage disease, or LSD, to evaluate LNP delivery of mRNA encoding the deficient enzyme to the liver, production of the enzyme by the liver, and subsequent secretion and systemic distribution of the enzyme to the primary organs affected by the disease. In this specific LSD, the enzyme deficiency results in a progressive accumulation of lipid in cellular lysosomes, which ultimately affect the functioning of the heart and kidneys. Enzyme replacement therapy, or ERT, which involves intravenous administration of recombinant enzyme, has been the standard of care for this specific LSD. In contrast to ERTs, our LNP mRNA technology specifically and efficiently targets the liver to naturally produce the missing enzyme, which is subsequently secreted into the bloodstream and distributed to the affected organs. In this specific LSD, the liver is not the target organ, but is used to produce the endogenous native enzyme.

As shown below, LNP delivered mRNA therapy produces a high and homogenous expression of the missing enzyme in the livers of knockout mice (Figure A, brownish stain). The endogenously produced enzyme is then secreted into the bloodstream with a better pharmacokinetic profile than the injected recombinant protein. The enzyme is then taken up by the target organs. In this example, the enzyme is taken up by the heart (Figure B) and kidney (Figure C) and localized into the lysosomes. Our mRNA therapy, through prolonged synthesis and secretion by the liver, led to higher enzyme activity in the organs compared to the infused recombinant enzyme (Figures B and C). This higher enzyme activity leads to a significant and prolonged reduction of accumulated lipids in the organs of mRNA-treated animals (Figure D).



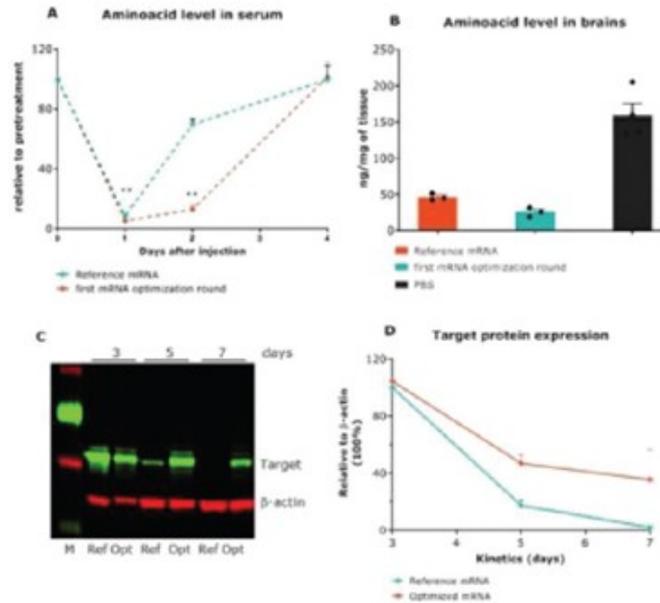
Liver-Specific Metabolic Diseases

We are applying a similar approach to inherited liver-specific metabolic disorders of amino acids, nitrogen, and essential nutrients. The goal of these studies is to restore the specific enzyme or protein that is deficient in the liver by LNP-mediated delivery of mRNA to the liver. As such, the target organ for correction is the liver, and secretion and systemic distribution of the enzyme or protein to other organs is not required for a therapeutic effect.

Our ability to optimize mRNA stability and translation, in combination with optimization of the expressed protein, is an important part of our technical expertise. Using a process of mRNA and protein optimization, we believe that we are able to extend the duration of protein expression to meet a defined target product profile.

One example of this technology is the mRNA that we are developing for a metabolic amino acid disorder. In this inherited disorder, a liver-specific intracellular enzyme is deficient resulting in decreased metabolism of the amino acid. As a result, there is a toxic build-up of the amino acid in the blood, which leads to severe consequences for the central nervous system.

A single intravenous injection of a liver-targeted LNP formulation containing the therapeutic mRNA leads to a marked decrease in the level of the amino acid in the sera of knockdown animals (Figure A), but also in the brain (Figure B). Several rounds of mRNA and protein optimization were subsequently performed. Improving the mRNA molecular structure during the first round of optimization prolonged the protein and its therapeutic effect (Figure A) compared to the reference mRNA. Protein optimization (Figures C and D) of the expressed target enzyme increased its expression/stability and/or activity *in vitro*. The combination of both optimization programs resulted in a candidate with improved characteristics.

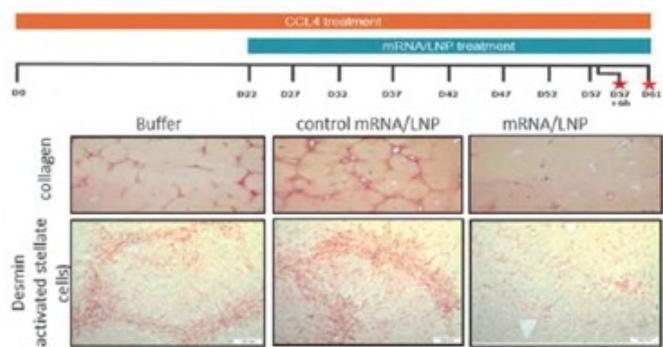


Fibrotic Liver Diseases

According to published literature, chronic liver diseases cause two million deaths a year worldwide. We have shown that the delivery of liver-specific protein factors, which are down regulated in fibrosis, can resolve liver fibrosis, a key pathological feature of NAFLD, NASH, cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma. Protein factor treatment of liver diseases is uniquely suited to mRNA medicines enabling the expression of intracellular proteins. Moreover, we believe that in this particular case, the LNP technology allows us to deliver mRNA almost exclusively to the target cells, hepatocytes.

In a CCL4 chemically induced mouse model of liver fibrosis, we delivered eight doses of LNP-mRNA at an interval of five days at 2 mg/kg. The figure below illustrates the ability of an mRNA-delivered protein factor to reduce collagen, the main fibrotic material deposited in fibrosis, and eliminate activated stellate cells, the source of collagen (stained red). To confirm the potential activity of this mRNA therapy, we obtained similar data in two other unrelated murine models: a diet-induced model and a knockout mouse model of liver fibrosis. These findings offer preclinical proof of concept for this therapeutic concept to treat acute and chronic liver diseases, as well as diseases of other organs.

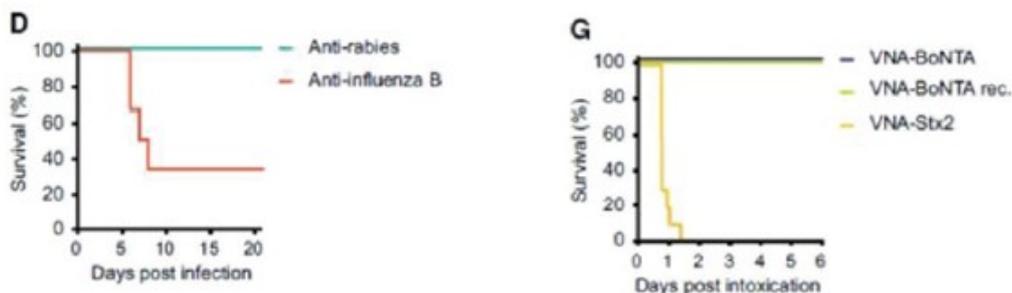
We are currently focused on significantly lowering the dose by employing two parallel strategies – mRNA sequence optimization to improve expression and optimization of the protein sequence for higher and sustained activity.



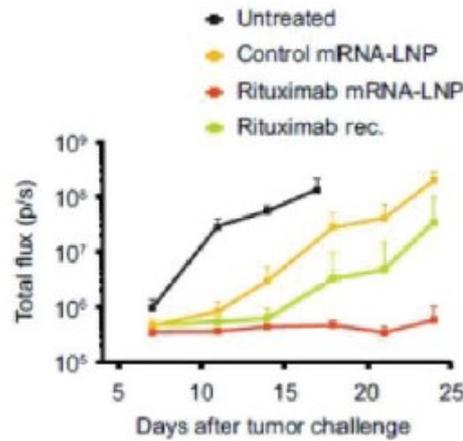
mRNA has the potential to promote expression without inducing an adverse immune response against the encoded protein. We have tested various antibodies using different designs to evaluate our platform’s potential for prophylactic and therapeutic antibodies.

We evaluated the use of mRNA for passive immunization in two indications, rabies and botulism, that can be considered prototypes for anti-pathogen and anti-toxin therapies, respectively. Single injections of mRNA-LNPs were sufficient to establish rapid, strong, and long-lasting serum antibody titers *in vivo*, thereby enabling both prophylactic and therapeutic protection against lethal rabies infection or botulinum intoxication. In both models, the high levels of *in vivo* serum expression conferred full protection in pre- and post-exposure scenarios.

The left side of the graphic below shows that mice expressing the anti-rabies mAb survived, whereas the majority of control animals which received anti-influenza mAb mRNA succumbed to the rabies infection. The right side of the graphic below shows that mice treated post-intoxication with VNA-BoNTA mRNA or recombinant VNA-BoNTA also survived.



In addition, we have demonstrated that mRNA-mediated antibody expression may be effective in the field of cancer immunotherapy, where mAbs are widely used in medical practice. In a preclinical study conducted in mice, we compared the efficacy of rituximab-encoding mRNAs to recombinant rituximab. We inoculated mice intravenously with luciferase expressing Raji lymphoma cells and started treatment with 50 µg of mRNA-LNP encoding rituximab and 200 µg of recombinant rituximab at various time points. mRNA-LNPs coding for an irrelevant antibody were used as further control. Control animals revealed strong tumor cell proliferation and had to be euthanized 17 days after inoculation due to severe symptoms. As shown in the picture below, repeated administration of mRNA-LNP for rituximab strongly decelerated or even abolished tumor cell growth compared to continued tumor growth for recombinant rituximab.



Therapeutic HNF4A mRNA to Attenuate Liver Fibrosis in Mice

On August 25, 2021, we published first preclinical data on the restoration of hepatocyte functions and attenuation of liver fibrosis and cirrhosis in multiple mouse models via an HNF4A encoding mRNA in the *Journal of Hepatology*. Owing to the extensive amount of data featured in the scientific publication, the following data excerpts represent only a selection of important findings of the preclinical studies. Full data can be accessed via the corresponding publication.

As a first step within the study, existing clinical data was collected that confirmed reduced endogenous HNF4A mRNA levels in patients with liver fibrosis, graded by the Ishak score. In two cohorts from Hannover Medical School, Germany, and Shanghai Zhongshan Hospital, China, liver tissues showed fibrosis stage-dependent reduction in HNF4A mRNA. Subsequently, it was examined whether in vitro synthesized HNF4A mRNA produces functionally active HNF4A protein. The wild-type (non-codon-optimized) or codon-optimized HNF4A mRNA were transfected into the human cervical carcinoma cell line (HeLa) cells as these lack endogenous HNF4A expression. Codon-optimized HNF4A mRNA-transfected cells showed higher HNF4A protein levels than those transfected with wild-type HNF4A mRNA. ZsGreen mRNA-transfected HeLa cells served as a control.

Human HNF4A mRNA restoration improves function of fibrotic hepatocytes

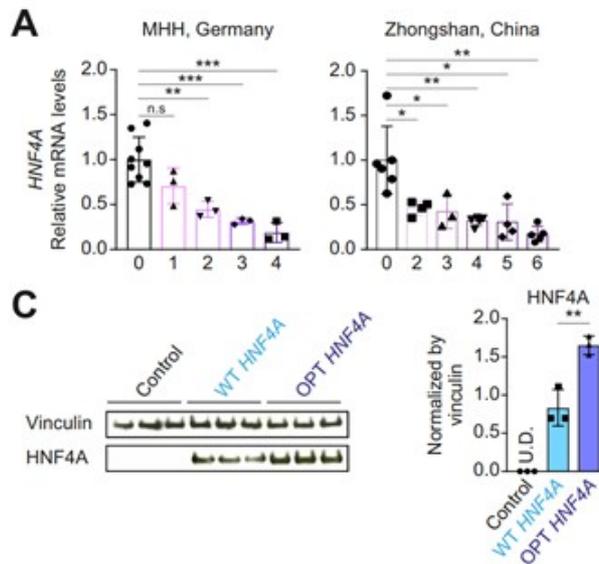


Figure. (A) qPCR analyses of human HNF4A mRNA in patients with fibrosis; 0 (n = 9), 1 (n = 3), 2 (n = 3), 3 (n = 3) and 4 (n = 3) from MHH, Germany and 0 (n = 6), 2 (n = 4) 3 (n = 3), 4 (n = 5), 5 (n = 4), 6 (n = 5) from Zhongshan Hospital, China. (C) Western blot and its quantification for wild-type (non-codon-optimized) and codon-optimized HNF4A mRNA in HeLa cells, 6 hours after HNF4A mRNA delivery.

Efficient Lipid Nanoparticle (LNP)-mediated mRNA delivery into hepatocytes of murine fibrotic livers was established. LNPs interact with apolipoprotein E at the surface of hepatocytes and are subsequently internalized via endocytosis. However, whether LNP-formulated mRNA reaches hepatocytes of fibrotic livers efficiently has remained unknown. LNP carrying mRNA encoding for Photinus pyralis luciferase (Luc/LNP) or ZsGreen (ZsGreen/LNP) were injected into CCl4-induced fibrotic and non-fibrotic control (wild-type) mice i.v. In-vivo imaging revealed robust bioluminescence exclusively in the liver from 8 hours to 120 hours after Luc/LNP injection in both groups (graphic shown below). Co-localization studies showed robust ZsGreen protein expression specifically in hepatocytes of fibrotic and control mice, but not in other hepatic cells. Our results demonstrated that LNP-formulated mRNA technology could specifically and efficiently target hepatocytes in murine fibrotic livers (data not shown below).

Targeted delivery of LNP-encapsulated mRNA into hepatocytes of fibrotic livers

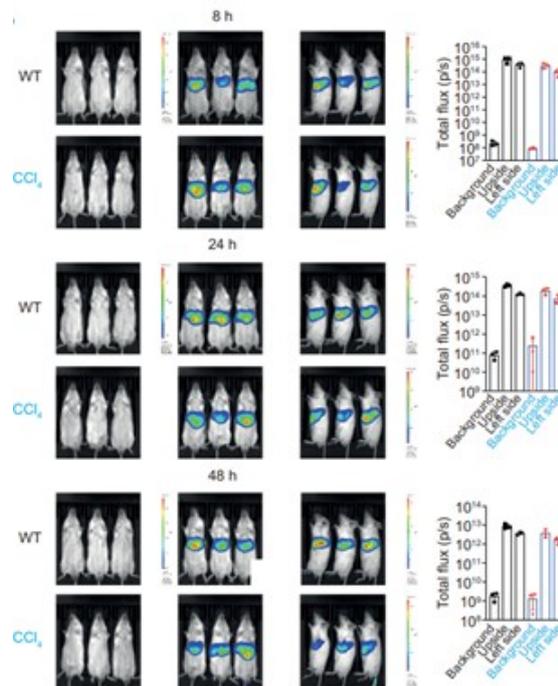


Figure. Successful mRNA delivery into hepatocytes of fibrotic BALB/c mice by LNP. Bioluminescence analyses at 8 h, 24 h, and 48 h in wild type control and CCl4-induced fibrotic mice (n = 3 mice per group) injected i.v. with 40µg luciferase mRNA-encapsulated LNP (Luc/LNP).

To address whether systemic administration of *HNF4A* mRNA inhibits liver fibrosis, mice with toxin- (repeated CCl4 injection, data shown below) or cholestasis-induced fibrosis (induced via 3,5-diethoxycarbonyl-1,4-dihydrocollidine DDC-containing diet, data not shown) were used. *HNF4A* mRNA levels significantly decreased in fibrotic livers from both models. *HNF4A*/LNP or ZsGreen/LNP (henceforth referred to as control) were injected i.v. into fibrotic mice at 2 mg/kg per injection. *HNF4A* protein expression was confirmed in *HNF4A*/LNP-injected mouse livers and was absent in control mice, since the *HNF4A* antibody was only specific to human but not mouse *HNF4A*. *HNF4A*/LNP-injected mice showed significantly reduced alanine aminotransferase (ALT) and bilirubin indicating improved liver function, and significantly reduced levels of collagen (hydroxyproline assay), suggesting decreased fibrosis in both CCl4 and DDC models. Histological analyses, desmin (profibrogenic activated stellate cell marker) and Sirius red (collagen marker) staining further confirmed reduced fibrosis in CCl4 (Fig. F, N). Our data together provide evidence that *HNF4A* mRNA delivery attenuates fibrosis in mouse models of toxin- as well as cholestasis-induced fibrosis.

Therapeutic HNF4A/LNP delivery inhibits toxin induced liver fibrosis

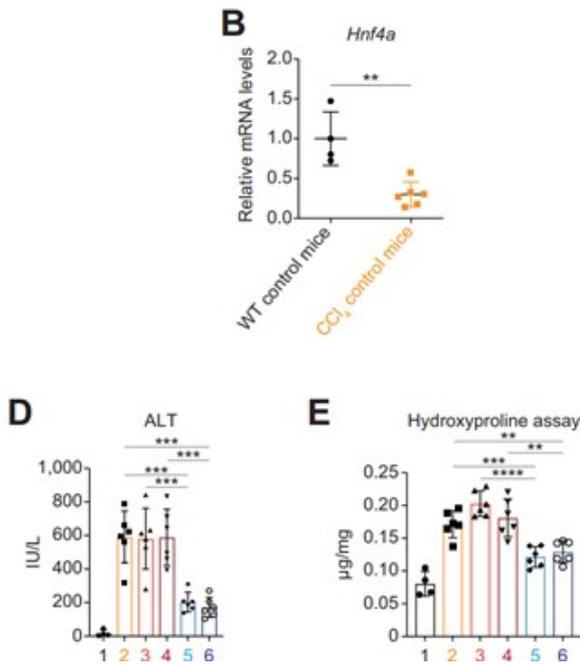


Figure. Therapeutic HNF4A/LNP delivery inhibits toxin induced liver fibrosis. CCl₄-induced liver fibrosis (n = 6 mice per CCl₄ model). (B) Hnf4a qPCRs after CCl₄ injection. (D) Liver function tests for ALT shows reduced injury upon HNF4A/LNP administration. (E) Hydroxyproline assay shows reduced collagen content.

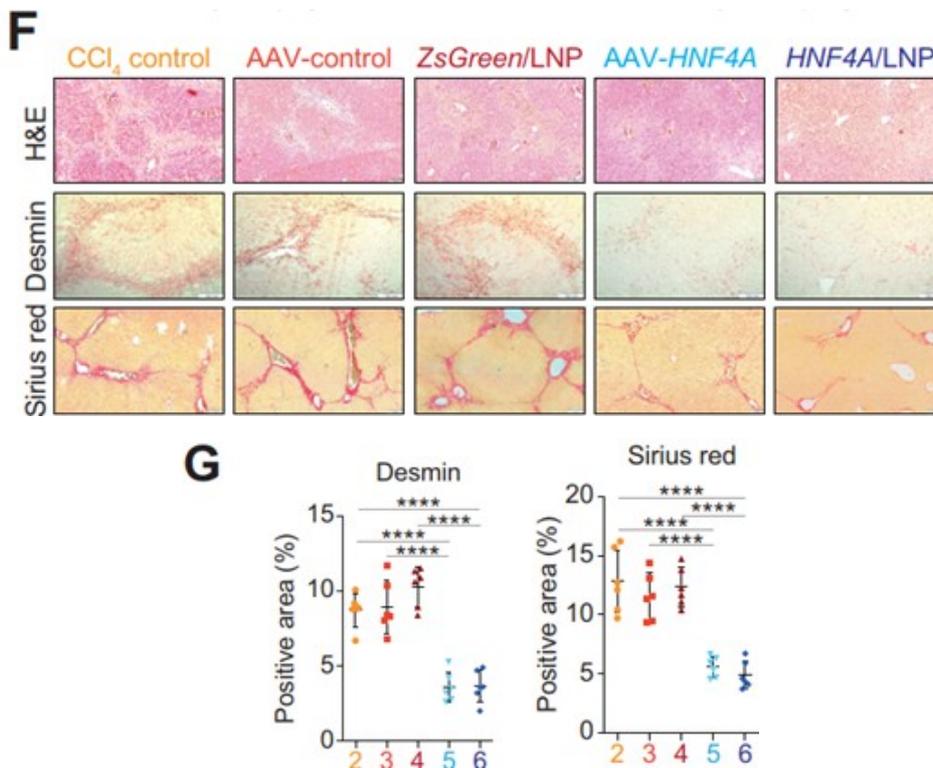


Figure. Therapeutic HNF4A/LNP delivery inhibits toxin induced liver fibrosis. CCl₄-induced liver fibrosis (n = 6 mice per CCl₄ model). (F) Immunohistochemical images of H&E, desmin, and Sirius red stainings. Scale bars, 100 μ m. (G) Quantification of Sirius red and desmin stainings.

In summary, the preclinical work shown here provides the first evidence that therapeutic mRNA delivery restores intracellular HNF4A transcription factor levels, induces endogenous Hnf4a expression, and improves metabolic activity of targeted hepatocytes. The data show that hepatocyte-specific delivery of HNF4A mRNA in injured livers attenuates fibrosis and cirrhosis in multiple independent mouse models of liver diseases. The shown data represents only a selection of important findings of the comprehensive preclinical studies. Full data can be accessed via the corresponding publication.

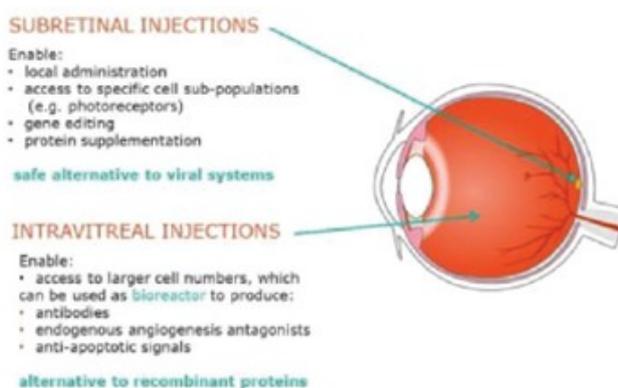
Eye Diseases

With the development of the CVCM delivery system, we were able to begin exploring the treatment of eye and lung diseases with mRNA therapy. We have strategic collaborations with SERI for the development of mRNA-based treatments for currently undisclosed eye indications. We believe that the treatment of eye diseases with mRNA therapy represents an excellent opportunity for the mRNA approach for the following reasons:

- Therapeutic protein can be produced directly and locally within the target tissue;

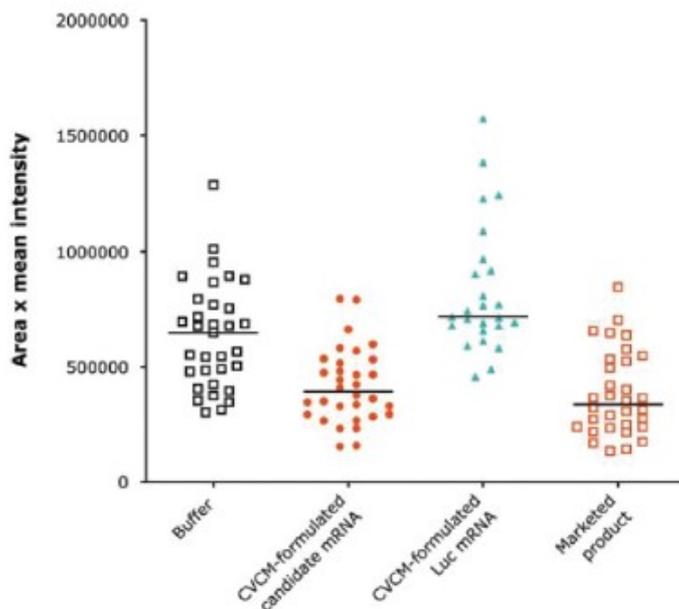
- Local treatment in the eye requires lower mRNA doses, thereby minimizing systemic exposure;
- Enables production of endogenous proteins to stop or prevent pathological processes locally in the eye, such as neo-vascularization or apoptosis;
- Enables expression of multi-domain intracellular or transmembrane proteins in key cells within the eye overcoming limitations of recombinant proteins;
- No concern with potential side effects typical for viral gene vector;
- No mRNA construct size restrictions as with viral gene vectors; and
- The eye is an immune-privileged organ.

Our proprietary CVCM delivery system allows for different routes of delivery, including subretinal and intravitreal injections, of our mRNA-based medicines for the treatment of different eye diseases. The subretinal route provides access to specific cell subpopulations such as photoreceptors, while the intravitreal route allows access to larger cell populations which can be used as a local bioreactor to produce therapeutic proteins in the eye.



In vivo studies showed that intravitreal injection of CVCM-based mRNA formulations expressed high levels of fluorescent protein in both rat and rabbit eyes. This route of administration might potentially allow the expression of secreted therapeutic proteins within the eye. Similar expression of fluorescent protein was achieved following intraretinal injection of CVCM-formulated mRNA in rats.

To further optimize the CVCM delivery system for ocular administration, formulations containing mRNA encoding product candidates were tested in a rat model. The animal model has been used in the development of therapeutics to treat retinal diseases. Multiple intravitreal injections of the CVCM-based mRNA formulations were well tolerated. As shown below, administration of CVCM formulated with mRNA encoding for product candidates at a 5 µg dose showed comparable inhibitory activity to currently marketed products at the applicable labeled dose.

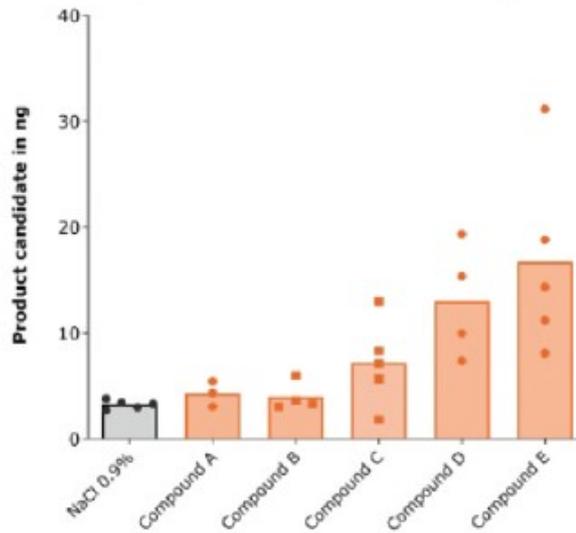


Based on the positive preclinical data demonstrating efficient delivery of mRNA to the eye using the CVCM delivery system, the agreement and collaboration with SERI moved ahead. We believe that the clinical and research expertise in eye diseases at SERI would allow us to fully leverage our mRNA and CVCM delivery technology in the discovery and validation of eye disease targets amenable to mRNA treatment. In collaboration with SERI, a high-priority rare eye condition has been identified for development. Multiple therapeutic targets have been identified for this condition and mRNAs have been generated and are currently being tested in preclinical studies, including models of disease.

Lung Diseases

The CVCM delivery system is also well suited for the delivery of mRNA to the lung administered as either an aerosol or a dry powder formulation. Proof-of-concept *in vivo* animal studies showed that CVCM mRNA formulations, administered using the intrapulmonary route, were able to transfect airway epithelial cells and produce functional therapeutic proteins in the lung. Levels of product candidate were determined in broncho-alveolar lavage fluid, or BALF, collected 12 hours after instilling different CVCM-based mRNA formulations encoding for the target protein. As shown in the below graphic, Compounds A through E showed increased levels of expressed product candidates in the murine lung compared to a control (NaCl).

Levels of Expressed Product Candidate in 50µl of BALF, 12h



Our agreement with Yale University leverages Yale’s leadership in lung discovery research with our technical capability to deliver mRNA to the lung, where it would express therapeutic proteins. The goal is to discover novel molecular targets in pulmonary diseases that could potentially be treated with mRNA therapy. With the Yale investigators, we have identified a high-priority pulmonary disease indication to pursue together with a novel therapeutic target for the treatment of the disease. Additional studies will explore new mRNA therapeutic targets to treat the disease.

Significant Agreements

Collaborations

We have entered into various licensing and commercialization agreements, including the following agreements with respect to product candidates:

Collaboration and License Agreements

2020 GlaxoSmithKline Collaboration and License Agreement

In July 2020, we entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement with GSK, which we refer to as the 2020 GSK Agreement, pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and commercialize prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA-based vaccines and antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens. Under the terms of the 2020 GSK Agreement, we granted GSK a worldwide exclusive, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license under certain of our intellectual property relating to vaccines and antibodies encoded by our proprietary mRNA targeting certain selected pathogens, or GSK Program Products, and a non-exclusive license under certain LNP technology to develop, manufacture and commercialize a certain number of such GSK Program Products for use in connection with the infectious diseases targeted under the 2020 GSK Agreement. We additionally granted GSK an exclusive option for a certain period to add additional products in the field of infectious diseases as GSK Program Products. If such additional product targets a coronavirus other than SARS-CoV-2, at our election such product will be developed and commercialized on a cost and profit split basis under the GSK COVID Agreement. GSK is permitted for a certain period to replace any of the GSK Program Products with an alternative product, up to a certain number of times, and to exchange any antigen or antibody for which we have granted GSK a license under LNP technology for an alternative antigen or antibody, up to a certain number of times. In the event we obtain rights to any intellectual property controlled by a third-party that is useful for the development, manufacture or commercialization of the GSK Program Products, but which is not necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of our technology or know-how, we must, at GSK's election, use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain a sublicense to such rights on behalf of GSK. Under the terms of the 2020 GSK Agreement, GSK granted us a royalty-free, non-exclusive license under certain GSK-controlled technology to perform certain development and manufacturing activities under the 2020 GSK Agreement. The 2020 GSK Agreement was amended and restated in April 2021, September 2021, February 2022 and March 2022. Under the September 2021 Amendment, each party also granted the other party a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive, sublicensable license under certain inventions created by such party to freely practice, use and exploit such inventions in any field.

For a certain period after the effective date, GSK has the right to reserve up to a certain number of antigens and we and our affiliates will be prohibited from granting any rights to a third-party with respect to any such antigen for use in connection with infectious diseases. Under the terms of the 2020 GSK Agreement, GSK and its affiliates and sublicensees and we and our affiliates are additionally prohibited from developing, manufacturing or commercializing, directly or indirectly, any prophylactic or therapeutic mRNA-based vaccine or mRNA-based antibody targeting a pathogen targeted by a GSK Program Product, other than as contemplated under the 2020 GSK Agreement. Such exclusivity obligation will continue on a pathogen-by-pathogen basis for the duration of the 2020 GSK Agreement, so long as such pathogen is targeted by a GSK Program Product. We are additionally prohibited from granting any third-party any license under the licensed LNP technology, or using such LNP technology ourselves, in connection with any GSK Program Product for so long as such GSK Program Product is being developed or commercialized under the 2020 GSK Agreement, except as contemplated under the 2020 GSK Agreement. We are additionally prohibited, for the period during which GSK's option to license additional GSK Program Products remains outstanding, from commercializing or granting any third-party the right to develop or commercialize any prophylactic or therapeutic mRNA-based vaccine or mRNA-based antibody targeting certain pathogens for use in connection with infectious diseases.

We and GSK are required to complete certain development activities with respect to the GSK Program Products set forth in various development plans. Among other development responsibilities, we are required to provide clinical supply and will in principle be responsible for sponsoring Phase 1 clinical trials for the GSK Program Products. We and GSK agree to decide whether the products required for clinical studies will be manufactured by us, GSK or jointly. At GSK's request, we are required to transfer to GSK all know-how necessary for GSK's development activities under the 2020 GSK Agreement and all know-how necessary for the manufacture of the GSK Program Products. GSK is generally responsible for development activities following completion of Phase 1 clinical trials and is required to use diligent efforts to secure marketing authorization following completion of all necessary clinical trials. GSK is responsible for the commercialization of approved GSK Program Products in all countries other than Austria, Germany and Switzerland and is required to use diligent efforts to commercialize approved GSK Program Products in certain major market countries. At our request, we and GSK will negotiate and agree in good faith to a distribution agreement pursuant to which we will have the exclusive right to commercialize GSK Program Products in Austria, Germany and Switzerland, and we will pay GSK royalties at the rate set out below. We and GSK are required to provide development data to the other party through a joint steering committee.

GSK paid us an up-front payment of €120 million and is required to pay us a manufacturing capacity reservation fee of €30 million following a certain regulatory milestone event, which is creditable against future milestone payments. We are eligible to receive up to between €28 million to €45 million in development milestone payments, €32 million to €35 million in regulatory milestone payments and €70 to €100 million in commercial milestone payments, depending on the GSK Program Product. Upon each exercise of its option to add additional products as GSK Program Products, GSK is required to compensate us for certain development costs and pay any accrued milestone payments. If GSK exercises its right to replace a GSK Program Product and if the replacement product was already under development by us, GSK must compensate us for certain development costs and pay any accrued milestone payments. We are eligible to receive tiered royalty payments ranging from a single-digit percentage to a low teens percentage on net sales, subject to certain customary reductions. GSK's royalty obligations continue on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis until the later of (i) the expiration of the last to expire valid claim covering such product in such country, (ii) the earlier of expiration of regulatory exclusivity for such product in such country or 12 years following the first commercial sale of such product in such country, or (iii) ten years following the first commercial sale of such product in such country provided our proprietary know-how is required for such product. In any event, GSK's royalty obligations with respect to a product will expire in all countries no later than 20 years following the first commercial sale of such product in any country in which GSK is responsible for the commercialization of approved GSK Program Products. GSK is required to compensate us for certain development and regulatory costs we may incur in connection with our performance of our obligations under the 2020 GSK Agreement and we are eligible to receive up to €20,000 in reimbursements for expenses incurred recording or registering the licenses granted under the 2020 GSK Agreement. Under any distribution agreement entered into between us and GSK in connection with our distribution of a GSK Program Product in Austria, Germany and Switzerland, we will be required to purchase supply from GSK and pay GSK a low thirties percentage royalty on net sales. Under the March 2022 amendment, GSK and CureVac agreed on certain changes to the manufacturing strategy for the products developed under the collaboration, as a part of which GSK agreed to reimburse us for certain manufacturing expenses amounting to €42 million.

The term of the 2020 GSK Agreement will continue until the expiration of the last-to-expire royalty term, unless terminated earlier by either party. GSK has the right to terminate the 2020 GSK Agreement in its entirety or on a program-by-program basis for convenience following a certain notice period. We and GSK both have the right to terminate the 2020 GSK Agreement on a program-by-program basis before the first commercial sale of a GSK Program Product under such program in the event of the other party's material breach following a cure period or after the first commercial sale of a GSK Program Product under such program if the other party fails to make any payments due, commits any willful and material breach of the restrictions on any license granted to such party, commits a material breach of its non-compete obligations or commits a persistent and material breach of its confidentiality obligations following a cure period. We additionally have the right to terminate on a program-by-program basis after the first commercial sale of a GSK Program Product under such program if GSK commits a material breach of its commercialization diligence obligations following a cure period.

Upon expiration, the licenses granted to GSK under the 2020 GSK Agreement will become fully paid-up, perpetual and non-exclusive. In the event GSK terminates the 2020 GSK Agreement or a program under the 2020 GSK Agreement for convenience or we terminate a program under the 2020 GSK Agreement for cause, we will have the right to elect to continue with the development and commercialization of such program ourselves. If we decline to continue with the development and commercialization of a terminated program, all licenses granted under the 2020 GSK Agreement will terminate. If we elect to continue with the development and commercialization of a terminated program, all licenses granted by us to GSK will terminate and GSK must grant us an exclusive license under any intellectual property developed under the 2020 GSK Agreement and, at our election, a non-exclusive license under technology, which was used by GSK for the development, manufacture or commercialization of such terminated product. In the case of termination for GSK's convenience and if we elect to obtain such nonexclusive license, we will be required to pay GSK a single-digit percentage royalty on net sales. In the case of our termination for cause, the grant of rights and transition of the assets from GSK will be subject to a payment to GSK to be mutually agreed by the parties. In the event GSK terminates a program under the 2020 GSK Agreement for cause, GSK will have the right to elect to continue the development and commercialization of such program. If GSK declines to continue with the development and commercialization of a terminated program, all licenses granted under the 2020 GSK Agreement will terminate. If GSK elects to continue development and commercialization, all licenses granted to GSK under the 2020 GSK Agreement will survive termination and all payment obligations will remain in effect except that GSK will have the right to suspend payments until the amount of damages suffered by GSK has been agreed and set off against such payments.

GlaxoSmithKline COVID Collaboration and License Agreement

In April 2021, we entered into a new collaboration agreement with GSK, which we refer to as the GSK COVID Agreement, pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and manufacture next-generation mRNA vaccines targeting the original SARS-CoV-2 strain as well as emerging variants, including multivalent and monovalent approaches, such as our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV. These vaccine candidates may either be used to protect unvaccinated individuals or to serve as boosters in the event that SARS-CoV-2 immunity gained from an initial vaccination reduces over time.

Under the terms of the GSK COVID Agreement, we granted GSK a worldwide, exclusive, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license under certain of our intellectual property relating to mRNA-based vaccines targeting SARS-CoV-2 and a non-exclusive license under certain LNP technology to develop, manufacture and commercialize certain SARS-CoV-2 pathogen vaccine products, or the GSK COVID Products, for use in connection with the prevention or treatment of diseases caused by the SARS-CoV-2 pathogen. The GSK COVID Products consist of (i) next-generation SARS-CoV-2 pathogen vaccine products (other than CVnCoV), (ii) vaccine products targeting coronaviruses other than SARS-CoV-2 for which GSK exercises its exclusive option pursuant to the 2020 GSK Agreement and where we elect to develop and commercialize such product on a cost and profit split basis under the GSK COVID Agreement and (iii) next-generation SARS-CoV-2 pathogen vaccine products (other than CVnCoV) that also target one or more pathogens that the parties are targeting under the 2020 GSK Agreement, which we refer to as Combination Products. In the event we obtain rights to any intellectual property controlled by a third-party that is useful for the development, manufacture or commercialization of the GSK COVID Products, but which is not necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of our technology or know-how, we must, at GSK's election, use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain a sublicense to such rights on behalf of GSK. Under the terms of the GSK COVID Agreement, GSK granted us a royalty-free, non-exclusive license under certain GSK-controlled technology to perform certain development and manufacturing activities under the GSK COVID Agreement. Under the September 2021 Amendment, each party also granted the other party a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive, sublicensable license under certain inventions created by such party to freely practice, use and exploit such inventions in any field.

GSK and its affiliates and sublicensees and we and our affiliates are prohibited from, subject to certain exceptions, developing, manufacturing or commercializing, directly or indirectly, any mRNA-based vaccine or mRNA-based antibody products targeting the SARS-CoV-2 pathogen, other than a GSK COVID Product as contemplated under the GSK COVID Agreement or CVnCoV. The exclusivity obligations remain in effect until the expiration or termination of the GSK COVID Agreement.

We and GSK are required to complete certain development activities with respect to the GSK COVID Products set forth in various development plans. The GSK COVID Agreement was amended and restated in September 2021 and March 2022. Pursuant to the amendment in September 2021, we and GSK are required to complete certain development activities with respect to the GSK COVID Products set forth in updated development plans. We and GSK agree to decide whether the GSK COVID Products required for clinical studies will be manufactured by us, GSK or jointly. Once a manufacturing and supply strategy for a given GSK COVID Product has been agreed upon between the parties, we must negotiate and agree in good faith on a commercial supply agreement pursuant to which we may be required to reserve certain manufacturing capacity for GSK. At GSK's request, we are required to transfer to GSK all know-how necessary for GSK's development activities under the GSK COVID Agreement and all know-how necessary for the manufacture of the GSK COVID Products. GSK is responsible for the commercialization of GSK COVID Products in all countries other than Austria, Germany and Switzerland and is required to use diligent efforts to commercialize approved GSK COVID Products in certain major market countries. At our request, we and GSK will negotiate and agree in good faith to a distribution agreement pursuant to which we will have the exclusive right to commercialize GSK COVID Products in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. We and GSK are required to provide development data to the other party through a joint steering committee.

Under the GSK COVID Agreement, GSK paid us an up-front payment of €75 million. Upon GSK's exercise of its option to add CVnCoV and boosters for such vaccine as GSK COVID Products, GSK is required to compensate us for certain development costs. We and GSK agreed to equally share all development costs for GSK COVID Products, subject to certain exceptions. We and GSK will share all net profits generated from sales of GSK COVID Products, other than Combination Products, under profit sharing arrangements that in certain cases vary depending upon the GSK COVID Product in question, the time of sale, the number of doses sold and the party to whom the sale is made. We are eligible to receive tiered royalty payments ranging from a sub-teen percentage to a mid-teens percentage on net sales of Combination Products, subject to certain customary reductions. We will pay GSK a high-teen percentage royalty on net sales of all Combination Products in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. All royalty obligations continue on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis until the later of (i) the expiration of the last to expire valid claim covering such product in such country, (ii) the earlier of expiration of regulatory exclusivity for such product in such country or 12 years following the first commercial sale of such product in such country, or (iii) 10 years following the first commercial sale of such product in such country provided our proprietary know-how is required for such product. In any event, GSK's royalty obligations with respect to a product will expire in all countries no later than 20 years following the first commercial sale of such product in the respective party's territory.

The term of the GSK COVID Agreement will continue until the expiration of all applicable payment obligations, unless terminated earlier by either party. GSK has the right to terminate the GSK COVID Agreement in its entirety for convenience following a certain notice period, and we have the right to opt out of the funding of the development, manufacture and commercialization of a GSK COVID Product on a product-by-product basis. In the event we opt out of funding the development of a GSK COVID Product, GSK can elect to cease the development and commercialization of the relevant product, or to continue it on the terms of the 2020 GSK Agreement. If GSK declines to continue with the development and commercialization, the agreement terminates in connection with that GSK COVID Product and all licenses granted under the GSK COVID Agreement will terminate. We and GSK both have the right to terminate the GSK COVID Agreement before the first commercial sale of a GSK COVID Product in the event of the other party's material breach following a cure period or after the first commercial sale of a GSK COVID Product if the other party fails to make any payments due, commits any willful and material breach of the restrictions on any license granted to such party, commits a material breach of its non-compete obligations or commits a persistent and material breach of its confidentiality obligations following a cure period. We additionally have the right to terminate after the first commercial sale of a GSK COVID Product if GSK commits a material breach of its commercialization diligence obligations following a cure period.

Upon expiration, the licenses granted to GSK under the GSK COVID Agreement will become fully paid-up, perpetual and non-exclusive. In the event GSK terminates the GSK COVID Agreement for convenience or we terminate the GSK COVID Agreement for cause, all licenses granted to GSK under the GSK COVID Agreement will terminate and we will have the right to elect to continue with the development and commercialization of the GSK COVID Products ourselves. If we elect to continue with the development and commercialization of the COVID Products, GSK must grant us an exclusive license under any intellectual property developed under the GSK COVID Agreement and, at our election, a non-exclusive license under technology which was used by GSK for the development, manufacture or commercialization of the GSK COVID Products. In the case of termination for GSK's convenience and if we elect to obtain such non-exclusive license, we will be required to pay GSK a royalty ranging from a sub-single-digit percentage to a low single-digit percentage on net sales. In the case of our termination for cause, the grant of rights and transition of the assets from GSK will be subject to a payment to GSK to be mutually agreed by the parties. In the event GSK terminates the GSK COVID Agreement for cause, GSK will have the right to elect to continue the development and commercialization of the GSK COVID Products. If GSK declines to continue with the development and commercialization of the GSK COVID Products, all licenses granted under the GSK COVID Agreement will terminate. If GSK elects to continue development and commercialization, all licenses granted to GSK under the GSK COVID Agreement will survive termination, provided that for GSK COVID Products other than Combination Products a one-time payment from GSK to Curevac (in replacement of a continuous profit sharing mechanism) will be mutually agreed upon by the parties. All payment obligations for Combination Products will remain in effect. In each case, GSK will have the right to suspend payments until the amount of damages suffered by GSK has been agreed and set off against such payments.

CureVac-GSK Consortium Agreement

The Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Vaccine Production Taskforce on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Health, has called for tenders relating to pandemic preparedness, which we refer to as Tender Procedure. The Tender Procedure is expected to result in framework agreements for the provision to the Federal Republic of Germany of production capacities and, upon demand, the production and supply of mRNA vaccines (referred to as lot 1) and vector- or protein-based vaccines (referred to as lot 2). Because neither we nor GSK are alone in a position to provide the full range of services requested by the Federal Republic of Germany under the Tender Procedure, we have established a consortium with GSK (referred to as the CureVac-GSK Consortium) for the purpose of participating in the Tender Procedure with the goal of entering into a framework agreement for the provision of production capacities and, upon demand, the production and supply of mRNA vaccines (lot 1), which we refer to as Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

The CureVac-GSK Consortium submitted an application and offer under the Tender Procedure for the award of a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. The CureVac-GSK Consortium entered into a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany to supply mRNA vaccines. Following a setup period of a maximum of two years, the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement grants the government access to manufacturing capacity until 2029, enabling availability of 80 million mRNA-based vaccine doses. Under the contract, the government will pay the CureVac-GSK Consortium an annual standby fee after successful completion of the setup period, which requires the companies to maintain manufacturing capacity at constant readiness.

Genmab Collaboration and License Agreement

In December 2019, we entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement with Genmab, which we refer to as the Genmab Agreement, to research and develop up to four potential differentiated mRNA-based antibody products, to be selected by Genmab, based on the combination of our proprietary RNAntibody technology with Genmab's proprietary antibody technology for the treatment of human diseases. The Genmab Agreement was amended in July 2020, December 2020 and June 2021. Pursuant to the Genmab Agreement we granted Genmab an exclusive, worldwide, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license under our mRNA technology for the development, manufacture and commercialization of an mRNA antibody product designed to express a certain Genmab proprietary antibody, which we refer to as the Genmab First Program. The parties will collaborate on research to identify an initial product candidate under the Genmab First Program. We additionally granted Genmab an exclusive, worldwide, sublicensable license under our mRNA technology for the research and preclinical development of up to four additional mRNA antibody product concepts and an option to obtain an exclusive, worldwide, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license to develop, manufacture and commercialize product candidates for up to three of such product concepts. We have the option to share in the costs and profits in connection with the development, manufacture and commercialization of one of the additional mRNA antibody product concepts under predefined terms and conditions.

We may not, directly or indirectly, offer any rights to a third-party under the technology we license to Genmab for the product concepts and targets being developed under the Genmab Agreement or conduct or participate in the development, manufacture or commercialization of any antibody product that is directed at a target being developed under the Genmab Agreement. For the Genmab First Program, these obligations will last for the duration of the Genmab Agreement. For the additional product concepts, certain time limitations apply to the above obligations. Genmab may not develop or commercialize any mRNA-based single antibody product or monoclonal recombinant antibody that is based on the Genmab First Program outside of the scope of the Genmab Agreement.

In partial consideration for entering into the Genmab Agreement, Genmab paid us an up-front fee of \$10 million and made a €20 million equity investment. Genmab additionally will be obligated to pay us a \$0.5 million reservation fee upon the selection of each additional product concept for development and \$5 million upon selection of a product from the Genmab First Program for further development and commercialization. Genmab is additionally required to pay us up to \$30 million in option exercise fees. If Genmab exercises any of its options to obtain commercial licenses for the additional mRNA antibody concepts, Genmab would fund all research and would develop and commercialize any resulting product candidates. We are additionally eligible to receive up to between \$25 million and \$43 million in development milestone payments, \$100 million and \$125 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$150 million and \$200 million in commercial milestone payments for each product, depending on the specific product concept. In addition, we are eligible to receive a mid single-digit to low teens percentage tiered royalty on aggregate net sales of licensed products, on a per product basis and subject to certain customary reductions. Genmab's royalty obligation continues on a country-by-country and product-by-product basis until the later of the expiration of the last-to-expire valid claim in the licensed patents in such country covering such licensed product, expiration of regulatory exclusivity for such product in such country or 10 years from the date of the first commercial sale of such product. If Genmab grants a sublicense to the Genmab First Program product before a certain milestone event, Genmab must pay us a one-time \$10 million payment. We are responsible for a portion of the overall costs for development with respect to the Genmab First Program product until submission of an IND within an agreed budget, and Genmab will otherwise reimburse us for costs incurred in performing certain development activities in connection with the Genmab Agreement. We are responsible for any payments to third parties related to the LNP technology we license to Genmab for use in relation to the Genmab First Program and a portion of such payments with respect to LNP technology used in the additional product concepts. In the event we exercise our right to share in the development, manufacture and commercialization of a product, we must pay Genmab a one-time payment of \$3 million and refund any option fee paid by Genmab with respect to such product. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$1.0 million in development cost reimbursements, and we have not received any reservation, product selection, option exercise or sublicense fees or milestone or royalty payments.

We are required to use commercially reasonable efforts to perform our obligations under the research and development plans established in connection with the Genmab Agreement. Genmab is required to use commercially reasonable efforts to identify and develop the Genmab First Program product and each additional product Genmab adds to the development program under the Genmab Agreement, and to further develop the Genmab First Program product and each optioned product to marketing authorization and to commercialize each product for which it obtains regulatory approval. We and Genmab are required to make available to the other party all preclinical development data for each program under development under the Genmab Agreement until filing of an IND for such program. Following IND filing for a product, we and Genmab will establish a collaboration committee where Genmab will share the status, progress and results of the development of the respective product.

The term of the Genmab Agreement will continue until the expiration of the royalty term, unless terminated earlier by either party. The Genmab Agreement may be terminated upon written notice by either party upon the other party's material breach or default of any of its obligations following a cure period. Genmab may terminate the Genmab Agreement for convenience after a certain notice period. Upon expiration of the Genmab Agreement, the license rights we granted to Genmab under the Genmab Agreement will become fully paid-up, perpetual and non-exclusive. In the event of termination for our material breach, we will grant Genmab an exclusive (even to us), worldwide and sublicensable license to exploit any product identified prior to termination, subject to Genmab's continued milestone and royalty obligations. In the event of termination by us for Genmab's material breach, or Genmab's termination for convenience, the licenses granted to Genmab will automatically terminate. Additionally, at our request, Genmab will grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free, sublicensable, perpetual and worldwide license under certain Genmab intellectual property that is created under the Genmab Agreement and that is required to develop, manufacture and commercialize our own mRNA antibody products targeting the collaboration targets under the Genmab Agreement prior to termination. Such license would not include any license to Genmab background intellectual property or the specific products or antibodies developed by Genmab.

Arcturus Development and Option Agreement

In January 2018, we entered into a Development and Option Agreement with Arcturus, which we refer to as the Arcturus Agreement, pursuant to which Arcturus granted us the right to reserve a certain number of targets and an irrevocable offer to obtain a license to a certain number of such reserved targets to develop, manufacture and commercialize products containing Arcturus's LNP technology (LMD technology) and mRNA constructs intended to express such targets. The Arcturus Agreement was amended in May 2018, September 2018 and July 2019. As of December 31, 2021, we have not accepted the offer with respect to any targets.

Under the Arcturus Agreement, Arcturus is responsible for the LNP chemistry and formulation and characterization work, and we are responsible for mRNA construct development.

Both parties will undertake certain allocated preclinical studies. Each party is required to use diligent efforts to perform its obligations under the work plans established in connection with the Arcturus Agreement, and Arcturus is required to use diligent efforts to manufacture and supply us with certain formulated products. The Arcturus Agreement provides for the establishment of a joint development committee for the discussion of development efforts under the Arcturus Agreement.

We paid Arcturus an up-front fee of \$5 million in connection with the Arcturus Agreement and must pay an extension fee of \$1 million if we exercise our option to extend the initial term of the Arcturus Agreement beyond July 2023. We are further required to reimburse Arcturus for certain costs incurred in connection with development activities and provide certain FTE funding. We are additionally required to pay up to an aggregate of \$5 million in connection with our acceptance of the irrevocable offer to obtain licenses for further development and commercialization of selected targets. Under each license agreement to be entered into in connection with our selection of targets, we will additionally be required to make certain royalty payments, which are not in excess of 10%, subject to certain customary reductions, on a country-by-country and a product-by-product basis until the later of the expiration of the last-to-expire valid patent in such country covering such licensed product, expiration of regulatory exclusivity for such product in such country or ten years from the date of the first commercial sale of such product in such country. We additionally must pay Arcturus up to \$6 million in development milestone payments, \$9 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$8 million in commercial milestone payments in connection with each license agreement we enter into under the Arcturus Agreement. As of December 31, 2021, we have made payments totaling \$5.5 million to Arcturus reimbursing Arcturus for development costs and in connection with our FTE funding obligations, and we have not accepted the irrevocable offer with respect to any target and therefore have not paid any acceptance fees or made any milestone or royalty payments to Arcturus.

Under the Arcturus Agreement, Arcturus granted us a worldwide, non-exclusive license under its LNP technology for research and preclinical development. We granted Arcturus a worldwide, non-exclusive license under our mRNA technology solely to enable Arcturus to perform development activities in connection with the Arcturus Agreement.

The Arcturus Agreement will expire in July 2023 unless earlier terminated or extended for an additional 18-month term. We have the right to terminate the Arcturus Agreement in full or on a target-by-target basis in the event of a material breach by Arcturus following a cure period. We additionally have the right to terminate the Arcturus Agreement for convenience following a certain notice period and for change of control of Arcturus. In the event we terminate for Arcturus's breach, for convenience or for Arcturus's change of control, Arcturus will transfer all deliverables created under the Arcturus Agreement to us and all licenses granted under the Arcturus Agreement will terminate. In the event we terminate for Arcturus's breach, Arcturus will transfer any technology and provide licenses as reasonably necessary for us to complete work contemplated under any work plan relating to the terminated target and the acceptance fee relating to such target and payments due under any associated license agreement will be reduced by a certain percentage. Arcturus has the right to terminate the Arcturus Agreement in the event of a material breach by us following a cure period, in which event all licenses granted under the Arcturus Agreement will terminate. Termination of the Arcturus Agreement shall not affect any then-existing license agreements between us and Arcturus.

Acuitas Development and Option Agreement

In April 2016, we entered into a Development and Option Agreement with Acuitas, which as amended we refer to as the Acuitas Agreement, pursuant to which Acuitas granted us the right to reserve a certain number of vaccine and other targets and an option to obtain a license to a certain number of such reserved targets to develop, manufacture and commercialize products containing Acuitas's LNP technology and mRNA constructs intended to express such targets. With respect to a certain number of non-exclusive licenses to vaccine targets that we obtain under the Acuitas Agreement, Acuitas additionally granted us an option to exchange each vaccine target licensed under such non-exclusive license for an alternate vaccine target for a certain period. As of December 31, 2021, we have exercised our option to obtain a non-exclusive license to 14 targets, and have not exercised our option to exchange a vaccine target licensed under any non-exclusive license.

Under the Acuitas Agreement, Acuitas is responsible for the LNP chemistry and formulation and characterization work, and we are responsible for mRNA construct development. Both parties will undertake certain allocated preclinical studies. Each party is required to use diligent efforts to perform its obligations under the work plans established in connection with the Acuitas Agreement. Acuitas is further required to use diligent efforts to manufacture and supply us with certain formulated products. The Acuitas Agreement provides for the establishment of a joint development committee for the discussion of development efforts under the Acuitas Agreement. We are required to reimburse Acuitas for certain costs incurred in connection with development activities and certain FTE costs.

We are further required to pay Acuitas annual target reservation and maintenance fees of up to \$1.4 million if we reserve the maximum number of targets permitted under the Acuitas Agreement. We are additionally required to pay an option exercise fee ranging from \$50,000 to \$2 million upon each exercise of our option under the Acuitas Agreement, subject to certain additional fees ranging from \$10,000 to \$200,000 for the exercise of our option for certain other vaccine targets. We paid Acuitas a \$5 million up-front fee in connection with an amendment to the Acuitas Agreement dated July 2020 and, upon each exercise of our option to exchange a vaccine target licensed under any non-exclusive license, we paid an exchange fee of \$3 million. We paid Acuitas a \$3 million up-front fee in connection with an amendment to the Acuitas Agreement dated December 2020 and are required to pay an additional \$250,000 in April 2022 and April 2023 for each of certain options not yet exercised. Under each license agreement we enter into in connection with our exercise of our option, we will additionally be required to make low single-digit percentage tiered royalty payments, subject to certain customary reductions, on a country-by-country and a product-by-product basis until the later of the expiration of the last-to-expire licensed patent in such country covering such licensed product, expiration of regulatory exclusivity for such product in such country or 10 years from the date of the first commercial sale of such product in such country. Under each such license we additionally must pay up to between \$1.1 million and \$9 million in development milestone payments, \$1.3 million and \$7 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$1.3 million and \$7 million in commercial milestone payments, depending on whether the license is exclusive or non-exclusive and the number of options exercised to date. As of December 31, 2021, we have exercised our option to obtain a non-exclusive license to 14 targets. As of December 31, 2021, we have paid Acuitas \$3.6 million in reservation and option exercise fees and have made payments totaling \$8.1 million reimbursing Acuitas for development costs and LNP batches and in connection with our FTE funding obligations. Payments made under the license agreements entered into in connection with our exercise of our option under the Acuitas Agreement are described below.

Under the Acuitas Agreement, Acuitas granted us a worldwide, non-exclusive license under its LNP technology for us to perform development activities, and we granted Acuitas a worldwide, non-exclusive license under our mRNA technology solely to enable Acuitas to perform development activities in connection with the Acuitas Agreement.

The Acuitas Agreement will expire in April 2025 unless earlier terminated or extended. Both parties have the right to terminate the Acuitas Agreement in whole or on a program-by-program basis in the event of a material breach by the other party following a cure period. We additionally have the right to terminate the Acuitas Agreement for convenience following a certain notice period or for Acuitas's change of control. In the event of termination for any reason, Acuitas will transfer all deliverables created under the Acuitas Agreement to us and in the event we terminate for reasons other than for Acuitas's material breach, we must make any payments owed to Acuitas up to the time of termination. In the event we terminate for Acuitas's material breach or for Acuitas's change of control, Acuitas will transfer any technology and provide licenses as reasonably necessary for us to complete work contemplated under the Acuitas Agreement and, in the case of termination for Acuitas's material breach, Acuitas must refund to us any target reservation and maintenance fees for the remainder of the contract year in which such termination is effective.

Acuitas Non-exclusive License Agreements

For each option we have exercised under the Acuitas Agreement, we have entered into a non-exclusive license agreement with Acuitas with respect to such optioned product, all based on the same form agreement, which we collectively refer to as the Acuitas License Agreements. Under the Acuitas License Agreements, Acuitas grants us a non-exclusive, non-transferable, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) worldwide license under Acuitas's LNP technology to develop, manufacture and commercialize licensed products directed to the optioned targets. We may convert the non-exclusive licenses to exclusive licenses subject to certain additional financial obligations.

We must pay Acuitas up to between \$1.1 million and \$1.6 million in development milestone payments, \$1.3 million and \$1.8 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$1.3 million and \$1.8 million in commercial milestone payments under each Acuitas License Agreement upon the occurrence of certain milestone events. We additionally are obligated to pay Acuitas annual fees ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for any additional protein targeted by a vaccine product licensed under an Acuitas License Agreement after a certain milestone event. We are further required to pay Acuitas a low single-digit tiered percentage royalty on net sales of licensed products, subject to certain potential customary reductions. Our royalty obligations continue under each Acuitas License Agreement on a country-by-country and product-by-product basis until the later of the expiration of the last-to-expire licensed patent claim covering such licensed product in such country, expiration of any regulatory exclusivity period for such product in such country and 10 years following the first commercial sale of such product in such country. As of December 31, 2021, we have made \$100,000 in development milestone payments to Acuitas with respect to the license agreement relating to Rabies RAV-G, and we have made \$1.4 million in development milestone payments (Phase I, Phase II and Phase III milestone payments) to Acuitas with respect to the license agreement relating to the SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein S and have not made any royalty payments.

Each Acuitas License Agreement will continue on a product-by-product and a country-by-country basis until there are no more payments owed to Acuitas for such product in such country. Either party may terminate an Acuitas License Agreement in the event of a material breach by the other party following a cure period. We additionally have the right to terminate the Acuitas License Agreements for convenience following a certain notice period. Upon expiration of an Acuitas License Agreement, the licenses granted to us under such Acuitas License Agreement will become fully paid-up and will remain in effect. In the event of our termination of an Acuitas License Agreement for Acuitas's material breach, the rights and licenses granted to us under such agreement will become perpetual and irrevocable. Alternatively, instead of exercising our right to terminate in the event of Acuitas's material breach, we may elect to instead continue the license but reduce our milestone and royalty payment obligations to Acuitas by a certain percentage. In the event of termination of an Acuitas License Agreement by us for convenience or by Acuitas for our material breach, the licenses granted under such agreement will terminate, except that we will have the right to sell off any remaining inventories of licensed products for a certain period of time.

CRISPR Therapeutics Development and License Agreement

In November 2017, we entered into a Development and License Agreement with CRISPR Therapeutics, which, as amended by an amendment entered into in June 2020, we refer to as the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement, pursuant to which we will develop novel Cas9 mRNA constructs for use in gene editing therapeutics. Under the terms of the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement, we granted CRISPR Therapeutics a worldwide, exclusive (even to us), sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license under certain intellectual property rights that are reasonably necessary or useful to develop, manufacture or commercialize products comprising Cas9 mRNA constructs, and under any patents controlled by us that arise from inventions discovered under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement to develop, manufacture and commercialize three of CRISPR Therapeutics' *in vivo* gene-editing programs for certain diseases. CRISPR Therapeutics granted us an exclusive (even as to CRISPR Therapeutics), worldwide, cost-free sublicense to manufacture products comprising Cas9 mRNA constructs for CRISPR Therapeutics.

CRISPR Therapeutics has paid us an up-front one-time technology access fee of \$3 million and we are eligible to receive up to \$13 million in development milestone payments, \$33 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$133 million in commercial milestone payments, as well as mid single-digit percentage royalties from CRISPR Therapeutics on the net sales of licensed products on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis, subject to certain potential customary reductions. CRISPR Therapeutics' royalty obligations continue on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis until the later of the date when there are no valid patent claims under our licensed patents covering such licensed product in such country, the date when regulatory exclusivity for such licensed product in such country expires and 10 years following the date of first commercial sale of such licensed product in such country. CRISPR Therapeutics is additionally required to reimburse us for our FTE costs and reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred performing development activities under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement. In the event CRISPR Therapeutics exercises its right to sublicense under the agreement, CRISPR Therapeutics must pay us a low teens to mid-twenties percentage of any non-royalty sublicense income, depending on the timing of the sublicense and whether the sublicense is granted through an affiliate of CRISPR Therapeutics. As of December 31, 2021, we have received €3.6 million in payments for the supply of materials and FTE cost, development reimbursements and up-front one-time technology access fee and no milestone, royalty or sublicense fee payments.

We are required to use commercially reasonable efforts to perform our development obligations under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement and to supply certain materials to CRISPR Therapeutics. CRISPR Therapeutics is required to use commercially reasonable efforts to perform its obligations under the development plan and to develop and commercialize licensed products. We and CRISPR are required to keep the other party informed regarding the progress and results of performance of all development activities under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement.

The term of the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement will continue on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis, until the last-to-expire royalty term expires in such country for such product, unless terminated earlier by either party. The CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement may be terminated (i) by CRISPR Therapeutics for convenience following a certain notice period, (ii) by us if CRISPR Therapeutics or any of its affiliates, either directly or indirectly, challenges or assists a third-party to challenge the licensed patent rights or in the event CRISPR Therapeutics undergoes a change of control, or (iii) by either party in the event of the other party's material breach following a cure period (including on a program-by-program basis) or in the event of the other party's insolvency. Upon expiration, the license granted to CRISPR Therapeutics converts into a fully paid-up, royalty-free, perpetual and irrevocable license. Upon termination, the licenses granted to CRISPR Therapeutics will terminate and, in the case of termination for CRISPR Therapeutics' material breach or insolvency or for convenience by CRISPR Therapeutics, CRISPR Therapeutics must transfer all Cas9 mRNA constructs and related data to us.

Boehringer Ingelheim Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement

In August 2014, we entered into an Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim, which we refer to as the Boehringer Agreement, whereby we granted Boehringer Ingelheim exclusive global rights for development and commercialization of our investigational therapeutic mRNA vaccine BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) formulated with our protamine technology, and products containing such vaccine for all uses for cancer in humans. We received an up-front payment of €30 million, as well as, an option fee payment of €5 million and an additional €7 million in development milestone payments and as of December 31, 2021, we received €7.6 million for the supply of materials and reimbursing us for development costs. In June 2021, Boehringer Ingelheim provided notice of its intention to terminate the Boehringer Agreement, with such termination becoming effective on November 17, 2021.

Boehringer Ingelheim solely owns any intellectual property arising out of the collaboration that is both only dependent upon or covered by Boehringer Ingelheim's preexisting intellectual property and does not relate to the development or manufacture of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) or other RNA-based products owned or in-licensed by us, as well as any intellectual property that is solely directed to the composition of matter, the formulation or use of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) and not applicable to any other vaccine. We own any intellectual property arising out of the collaboration that is dependent upon or covered by our preexisting intellectual property and not Boehringer Ingelheim's preexisting intellectual property, and is not solely directed to the composition of matter, the formulation or use of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202), as well as any intellectual property that is directed to the development or manufacture of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) or other RNA-based products owned or in-licensed by us. All other intellectual property developed under the Boehringer Agreement is jointly owned by us and Boehringer Ingelheim.

Upon termination of the Boehringer Agreement, the rights and licenses granted by us to Boehringer Ingelheim reverted back to us, provided that Boehringer Ingelheim has the right to sell off existing inventory of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) for a certain period. In addition, Boehringer Ingelheim must assign to us all regulatory approvals or applications and grant us a non-exclusive, cost-free, perpetual and worldwide license to intellectual property held by Boehringer Ingeheim that has been used in the development, manufacture or commercialization of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) or any other product developed under the Boehringer Agreement.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Partnership

In May 2014, we entered into a grant agreement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a vaccine for rotaviruses. Under the terms of the grant, as amended by an amendment entered into November 2020, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will provide up to \$2.8 million in funding, and we are required to perform certain activities specified in a project collaboration plan. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$2.8 million in funding under the agreement. We own all intellectual property created using grant funding; however, we must make any Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded products available at an affordable price in a list of clearly defined low and lower middle-income countries. The term of the rotavirus agreement continues until June 2022. Both parties have the right to terminate the agreement for convenience following a notice period or in the event of the other party's material breach following a cure period. Our global access commitments survive termination or expiration of the agreement.

In March 2015, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation made an equity investment of \$40 million to support continued development of our RNA technology platform and the construction of an industrial-scale cGMP production facility, and we entered into the Global Access Commitments Agreement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in February 2015 pursuant to which we are required to take certain actions to support the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's mission. In particular, we are required to conduct development activities for up to three concurrent projects to be proposed by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, subject to our right to reject proposed projects where we believe there is a reasonable likelihood of a material adverse effect on us. The costs of such projects will be allocated on a project-by-project basis in proportion to the allocation of the expected benefits. All intellectual property developed in connection with such projects will be owned by us.

Under the terms of the Global Access Commitments Agreement, any Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded products will be made available by us at an affordable price in a list of clearly defined low and lower middle-income countries, while we will be able to market such products in developed countries on our own or through licensees. In addition, the new manufacturing facility will have dedicated capacity to focus on products resulting from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-related projects for distribution in such low and lower middle-income countries.

Our global access commitments are perpetual, however, our obligation to commence new development programs expires in February 2025. In the event that we commit a material breach of the Global Access Agreement, following a cure period, we must grant the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, fully paid-up, royalty-free license under any intellectual property controlled by us covering any Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded products to develop, manufacture and commercialize such products in low and lower middle-income countries, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will have certain withdrawal rights with respect to its equity investment in us. For more information on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's withdrawal rights, see "Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions — B. Related Party Transactions — Investment and Shareholders' Agreement."

In November 2016 in connection with and subject to the terms of the Global Access Agreement, we were awarded a grant for up to \$0.9 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a vaccine for picornaviruses. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$0.7 million in funding under the grant agreement. We granted the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, fully paid-up, sublicensable license to make, use, sell, offer to sell, import, distribute, copy, modify, create derivative works, publicly perform and display any products developed using grant funding; however, in the event we demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that we are able to meet its global access requirements, such license will be modified or terminated. The term of the picornavirus grant continues until June 2022; however, our global access commitments survive.

In November 2017, also in connection with and subject to the terms of the Global Access Agreement, we were awarded two additional grants for up to \$1.9 million and \$1.5 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a universal influenza vaccine and a malaria vaccine, respectively. By an amendment entered into November 2020, our grant for the development of a malaria vaccine was increased by an additional \$0.8 million. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$1.9 million and \$2.2 million, respectively, in funding under each grant agreement. The programs will leverage our advanced RNAActive® prophylactic vaccine technology to develop mRNA-based universal influenza and malaria vaccines. The malaria grant agreement continues until December 2022 and the universal influenza grant agreement expired in March 2022. We and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are currently assessing options to continue the influenza grant agreement.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation can terminate any of the three grant agreements entered into in connection with the Global Access Agreement early if it is not reasonably satisfied with our progress on a specific project, there are significant changes to our leadership, another issue arises which threatens a specific project's success, there is a change in our control or tax status, or we fail to comply with the grant agreement. Our global access commitments survive termination or expiration. Any grant funds that have not been used for, or committed to, the underlying project upon expiration or termination of a grant agreement must be returned to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In July 2020, we amended the Global Access Agreement and entered into a Letter Agreement with GSK and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Pursuant to this letter agreement, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation released us of our global access commitments with respect to certain prophylactic and therapeutic vaccines based on our mRNA technology platform to be developed under the 2020 GSK Agreement. This release will remain in effect for a vaccine or medicine only for so long as it is in development or being commercialized under the 2020 GSK Agreement. The letter agreement does not release us from any of our obligations to initiate or continue projects under the Global Access Agreement or related grant agreements and GSK granted to us and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual license under intellectual property arising from certain activities under the 2020 GSK Agreement to make vaccines arising from those projects available in low and lower middle-income countries as set forth in the Global Access Agreement.

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations Framework Partnering Agreement

In February 2019, we entered into a framework partnership agreement with CEPI, which as amended we refer to as the CEPI Agreement, to develop our RNA Printer using certain intellectual property controlled by us covering the development and manufacture of mRNA products as well as certain additional intellectual property licensed to us. In connection with the CEPI Agreement we have entered into work orders for the preclinical development of a Lassa virus vaccine, a yellow fever vaccine and our rabies virus vaccine. In addition, we entered into a work package for the preclinical development and a Phase 1 clinical trial for our first-generation SARS-CoV-2 vaccine, CVnCoV.

We are required to use reasonable efforts to achieve certain development milestones and are responsible for conducting certain clinical trials. We are required to share clinical trial data with CEPI, subject to the terms of specific work packages entered into in connection with the CEPI Agreement. In the event of an infectious disease outbreak, where such outbreak can be addressed by a Lassa virus, SARS-CoV-2 or future vaccine developed under the CEPI Agreement, we must manufacture such vaccine for use in the area affected by the outbreak on economic terms that satisfy CEPI's equitable access guidelines or otherwise allow CEPI or a third-party to supply such vaccine in the affected area. For the initial term of the CEPI Agreement and for a certain period thereafter, in the event of an outbreak that cannot be addressed by a vaccine already developed under the CEPI Agreement, CEPI may request, and we may agree, that we will develop a product targeted against such outbreak, or we will assist CEPI to develop a candidate product against such outbreak. In the event we decline to enter into such a development agreement, we will grant CEPI the right to develop and stockpile such vaccines under certain of our background intellectual property and intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement. We are additionally required to use reasonable efforts, at CEPI's request, to submit certain optimized antigen nucleotide sequences for up to three specified pathogens in order for CEPI to start its own product development program. We have a right of first refusal to manufacture any pharmaceutical products developed by CEPI using the antigen nucleotide sequences we provide. In certain scenarios, including if we fail to provide Lassa virus, SARS-CoV-2 or future vaccines developed under the CEPI Agreement at prices that comply with CEPI's equitable access guidelines, we must grant CEPI a license under certain of our background intellectual property and intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement to, among other things, develop our automation solution for use in treating such infectious diseases and to develop, manufacture and market such pharmaceutical products for use in geographic areas where there is a disease outbreak.

In connection with a December 2020 amendment to the CEPI Agreement, we agreed to provide CVnCoV to organizations operating under the COVAX Facility, a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to SARS-CoV-2 tests, treatments and vaccines. Under this amendment, we agreed to supply a certain percentage of our total capacity for distribution of CVnCoV to organizations participating in the COVAX Facility.

We are required to grant certain approved manufacturers all necessary rights to use certain of our preexisting intellectual property and intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement to further develop our automation solution and manufacture products for the treatment of certain diseases in geographic areas where there is an outbreak on economic terms that satisfy CEPI's equitable access guidelines. We must provide all necessary commercially reasonable support to such approved manufacturers to facilitate such efforts.

CEPI agreed to contribute up to \$34 million in funding for projects undertaken under the CEPI Agreement and an additional \$15.3 million in connection with development of CVnCoV. In the event of our commercial use of the pharmaceutical products developed under the CEPI Agreement, other than CVnCoV, we must notify CEPI and agree in good faith how such commercial benefits are to be equitably managed between the parties. As of December 31, 2021, we have received €26.4 million in funding for projects undertaken under the CEPI Agreement.

We solely own all intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement but are required to obtain CEPI's consent prior to exploiting any intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement if such exploitation is in conflict with or goes against CEPI's mission or policies.

The CEPI Agreement terminated in February 2022, except with respect to certain ongoing projects, which are contemplated to be completed in March 2023. Either party may terminate the CEPI Agreement if the other party commits a material breach or in the event of the other party's insolvency following a cure period. CEPI has the right to terminate the CEPI Agreement immediately upon written notice in the event we take any action incompatible with CEPI's mission, we and CEPI are unable to reach agreement on a development or marketing plan or on a project lead, we undergo a change of control, we are unable to achieve certain milestones or certain material safety or quality issues arise. In the event that CEPI terminates the CEPI Agreement, we will grant CEPI a license under our background intellectual property and intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement to, among other things, develop and use our RNA Printer for use in treating certain infectious diseases and to manufacture products developed under the CEPI Agreement. In the event we terminate the CEPI Agreement for CEPI's material breach, CEPI must make all outstanding payments due to us under any work package relating to expenditures that we have already committed. Regardless of the cause of termination, our obligations in the event of an infectious disease outbreak will terminate and we must transfer any vaccines developed under the CEPI Agreement as well as all regulatory applications and regulatory approvals relating to such vaccines to CEPI and we retain the right to continue using intellectual property developed under the CEPI Agreement for any purpose. In certain situations, we may be required to return funding provided by CEPI. See note 3.7 to our financial statements contained elsewhere in this Annual Report for further information on the terms of the funding provided by CEPI.

Tesla Grohmann Development and Intellectual Property Agreement

In November 2015, we entered into a development and intellectual property agreement with Tesla Grohmann, which we refer to as the Tesla Grohmann Agreement, pursuant to which Tesla Grohmann agreed to design, develop and manufacture certain automated manufacturing machines on our behalf. We are obligated to pay Tesla Grohmann a fee for each machine delivered by Tesla Grohmann and up to \$50 million to \$60 million in commercial milestone payments as well as certain development costs under each associated work order. As of December 31, 2021, we have paid Tesla Grohmann €13 million to €14 million in development costs under various work orders, and we have not paid any fees for machines provided under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement or made any milestone payments.

The parties jointly own any intellectual property developed under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement, and Tesla Grohmann granted us a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable as to existing machines, worldwide license to use, sublicense and distribute Tesla Grohmann background intellectual property that is incorporated into any machine developed under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement and an exclusive (only with respect to the machines, and until a certain period after the first commercial use of a machine, after which the license shall be non-exclusive), royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable as to existing machines, worldwide license under Tesla Grohmann's interest in any jointly owned intellectual property. We granted Tesla Grohmann a non-exclusive, non-transferable, no-charge license during the term of the Tesla Grohmann Agreement under our background intellectual property for Tesla Grohmann's performance of its obligations under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement and a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable as to existing machines, worldwide license under our interest in any jointly owned intellectual property to perform its obligations under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement and for applications and uses unrelated to the machines developed under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement.

The Tesla Grohmann Agreement continues on a machine-by-machine basis until 10 years after the first commercial use of such machine. Either party may terminate any work order entered into in connection with the Tesla Grohmann Agreement for convenience upon written notice to the other party, and either party may terminate a work order for the other party's material breach following a cure period, or for the other party's insolvency. In the event Tesla Grohmann terminates a work order for convenience or we terminate for Tesla Grohmann's material breach or insolvency, Tesla Grohmann must grant us a non-exclusive, fully paid-up, worldwide, irrevocable, perpetual, transferable and sublicensable license under Tesla Grohmann background intellectual property and Tesla Grohmann's interest in intellectual property developed under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement for us to complete, either on our own or with another supplier, the work under such terminated work order. In the event we terminate for convenience, we must pay Tesla Grohmann a termination fee. In the event Tesla Grohmann terminates for our material breach or insolvency, we must pay Tesla Grohmann a termination fee and grant Tesla Grohmann a non-exclusive, fully paid-up, sublicensable, worldwide irrevocable and perpetual license under our background intellectual property and our interest in the intellectual property developed under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement to manufacture machines relevant to the applicable work order.

Eli Lilly License and Collaboration Agreement

In November 2017, we entered into a global immuno-oncology collaboration with Eli Lilly, which we refer to as the Eli Lilly Agreement, focused on the development and commercialization of cancer vaccine products that can work as pre-manufactured vaccines for a well-defined patient subpopulation, to be selected by Eli Lilly, based on our proprietary RNAActive® technology. In June 2020, we entered into a termination agreement with Eli Lilly, which we refer to as the Eli Lilly Termination Agreement.

Under the terms of the Eli Lilly Agreement, we granted Eli Lilly a worldwide, exclusive (even as to us), sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license to develop, manufacture and commercialize licensed products comprised of mRNA constructs that express certain selected neoantigens for human use. We also granted Eli Lilly a worldwide, non-exclusive, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license to perform development activities under the Eli Lilly Agreement, including work required to select targets and related neoantigens. Eli Lilly granted us a worldwide, exclusive, non-sublicensable (except to our affiliates), royalty-free license under our licensed intellectual property solely to manufacture and supply Eli Lilly with vaccines for early clinical use. Eli Lilly also granted us a worldwide, non-exclusive, non-royalty bearing, non-sublicensable (except to our affiliates), fully paid-up license to perform development activities under the Eli Lilly Agreement. In 2017, we received an up-front payment of \$50 million and an equity investment of €45 million and, as of December 31, 2021, we have received €14.6 million in payments for the supply of materials and reimbursements for development costs. Pursuant to the Eli Lilly Termination Agreement, all licenses granted under the Eli Lilly Agreement terminated and Eli Lilly has no further payment obligations to us under the Eli Lilly Agreement.

Under the terms of the Eli Lilly Termination Agreement, Eli Lilly is required to provide us access to certain analyses and data developed under the Eli Lilly Agreement and to transfer to us certain materials produced under the Eli Lilly Agreement. Eli Lilly additionally reassigned to us a certain composition of matter patent, which had been assigned from us to Eli Lilly under the Eli Lilly Agreement. We additionally have the option, for a certain period following the effective date of termination, to obtain a non-exclusive, royalty-bearing license under certain Eli Lilly intellectual property used in connection with the initial shared neoantigen product developed under the Eli Lilly Agreement to develop and commercialize such product and pay Eli Lilly a single-digit percentage royalty on net sales. Pursuant to the terms of the Eli Lilly Termination Agreement, we also granted Eli Lilly a right of first negotiation with respect to the initial shared neoantigen product developed under the Eli Lilly Agreement for a certain period following a certain milestone event.

Sponsored Collaboration Agreements

Yale Collaborative Research Agreement

In July 2019, we entered into a Collaborative Research Agreement, which as amended we refer to as the Yale Agreement, for research in mRNA-based pulmonary therapeutic candidates with Yale University, or Yale. Under the Yale Agreement, as amended by an amendment entered into June 2021, Yale will perform discovery research on targets related to pulmonary diseases and present therapeutic candidates to us for preclinical and subsequent clinical development. We are required to reimburse Yale for \$0.8 million in costs incurred in connection with research activities conducted under the Yale Agreement and for certain patent prosecution and maintenance costs. As of December 31, 2021, we have provided \$0.4 million in funding to Yale under the Yale Agreement.

Each party will solely own inventions it solely develops and will jointly own jointly developed inventions. Yale is required to grant us an exclusive license under Yale's interest in any intellectual property developed under the Yale Agreement, subject to Yale's retained right to use such intellectual property for academic purposes. Under any such license agreement, we will be required to pay Yale up to \$1.2 million in development milestone payments and \$1.5 million in commercial milestone payments, an annual maintenance fee of between \$10,000 and \$60,000 until the first commercial sale of a licensed product and a low single-digit percentage royalty on net sales on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis until the later of the expiration of the last to expire claim covering such product in such country or 10 years after the first commercial sale of such product in such country. Yale additionally granted us an exclusive option to negotiate an exclusive or non-exclusive license to certain background intellectual property.

The Yale Agreement will continue until June 2022, unless extended by mutual agreement or earlier terminated. We have the right to terminate the Yale Agreement for convenience following a certain notice period. Both parties have the right to terminate the Yale Agreement for the other party's material breach following a cure period. If we terminate the Yale Agreement without reimbursing Yale for its research costs, Yale will have no obligation to grant us a license to intellectual property developed under the Yale Agreement.

Schepens Institute Research Agreement

In March 2019, we entered into a sponsored research agreement, as amended in April 2020, July 2021 and September 2021 (as amended, the "Schepens Agreement"), with The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc. ("SERI") and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary ("MEEI"), pursuant to which SERI and MEEI agreed to perform certain research activities for mRNA-based eye therapy candidates. Under the Schepens Agreement, SERI and MEEI granted us an exclusive option to initiate negotiations for an exclusive or non-exclusive license to SERI's interest in any inventions developed under the Schepens Agreement. SERI and MEEI additionally granted us an exclusive option to negotiate an exclusive license to certain background intellectual property. Upon the exercise of such option and upon execution of the contemplated license, we would be required to pay SERI a \$30,000 up-front payment, up to \$0.8 million in development milestone payments and \$1.8 million in regulatory milestone payments, and a low single-digit percentage royalty on net sales subject to certain minimum annual payments. We are required to provide \$1.7 million in funding to SERI and MEEI in multiple payments during the term of the Schepens Agreement. As of December 31, 2021, we have provided \$1.1 million in funding to SERI and MEEI under the Schepens Agreement.

Each party will solely own inventions it solely develops and will jointly own jointly developed inventions. We are responsible for all patent prosecution costs regarding intellectual property developed under the Schepens Agreement, and if we elect not to cover the prosecution costs for such intellectual property, SERI and MEEI will have the right to license such intellectual property to third parties, and we will have no rights in such intellectual property.

The Schepens Agreement continues until August 2022, unless extended by mutual agreement or earlier terminated. Both parties have the right to terminate the Schepens Agreement for the other party's material breach following a cure period, and SERI has the right to terminate in the event of our insolvency. We additionally have the right to terminate the Schepens Agreement for convenience following a notice period. In the event SERI terminates for our material breach or insolvency or we terminate for convenience, we must reimburse SERI for all costs incurred to date and provide certain additional funding for a three-month period. In the event we terminate for SERI's material breach, we must reimburse SERI for all noncancellable commitments.

Advance Purchase Agreements

European Commission — COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

Advance Purchase Agreement for our COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

On November 30, 2020, we entered into an APA with the EC, acting on behalf and in the name of all Member States of the European Union, which provides for the advance purchase by the Member States of 225 million doses of the vaccine to be allocated among the Member States, and the option to purchase up to an additional 180 million doses. Pursuant to the APA, we received an up-front payment of €450 million. Such up-front payment had to be used solely for the development and commercial supply of CVnCoV. We are required to return any unspent amounts of the up-front payment if, among others, we fail to successfully develop CVnCoV or if we successfully develop CVnCoV, but we do not receive EU marketing authorization or fail to supply any doses of CVnCoV to any of the Member States by late 2021, unless we and the EC mutually agree to a later date. In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which notification automatically terminated the APA. According to the APA, in such case of termination, we would only be required to return any unspent amount of the up-front payment. In the context of the APA, "spent" means either costs incurred or commitments made in connection with the purposes set forth in the APA. On March 8, 2022, we received a letter signed by the EC acknowledging and outlining that we will not be required to return any portion of the up-front payment. Due to the termination of the APA, we will not receive any further payments related to the APA.

In other respects, upon the EC's request, we will transfer any raw materials and/or primary components paid for with the up-front payment that were not used as of the termination date. Additionally, should the EC request, or should we successfully sell, any raw materials and/or primary components, then an applicable portion of such raw materials, primary components or proceeds, as the case may be, will be remitted to the EC. This repayment agreement expires at the end of 2022.

Pandemic Preparedness Agreements

Federal Republic of Germany

Pandemic Preparedness Agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany

On February 20, 2022, we submitted – together with GSK – our best and final offer in the Tender Procedure for the conclusion of framework agreements for the provision of production capacities and, on demand, for the production and supply of mRNA vaccines (lot 1). On April 8, 2022, we received a letter from the Federal Republic of Germany's counsel confirming that the Consortium (consisting of us and GSK, see above) is awarded with the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. Pursuant to the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Consortium will have to achieve, within a two years' time frame beginning from the signing of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, a state in which it is considered qualified to provide manufacturing capacities in Germany for one hundred and sixty (160) million doses of mRNA vaccine per year, including procurement of the required nonproduct specific manufacturing licenses and insurances and to have achieved "pandemic preparedness," which means that we maintain the GMP IV facility in a stand-by mode that can be activated for manufacture of a so-called selected vaccine at any time and that the Consortium, inter alia, is complying with the material requirements set out in the Pandemic Preparedness Plan (in particular with the requirements regarding the assurance of a supplier network and the availability of the particularly critical supplier products and the critical supplier products).

If qualification and pandemic preparedness is achieved the Consortium will receive a certain pandemic preparedness fee / a pandemic preparedness fee, which will be shared between us and GSK in accordance with the GSK Consortium (see above). The phase during which pandemic preparedness is to be maintained is for five years, it being understood that this term may be extended by mutual agreement up to three (3) times for a subsequent one (1)-year renewal term.

At any time during the pandemic preparedness phase, in case there is a public health emergency, the Federal Republic of Germany may exercise its preferred purchase right and/or its preferred manufacturing right. If the preferred purchase right is exercised we will have to deliver up to eighty (80) million doses of our mRNA vaccine, and if the preferred manufacturing right is exercised we will have to act as a contract manufacturer and manufacture a third-party's vaccine in our GMP IV facility. However, there are strict and narrow requirements to be fulfilled before the Federal Republic of Germany may exercise the preferred manufacturing right.

Intellectual Property

Our commercial success depends in part on our ability to obtain and maintain proprietary or intellectual property protection for our product candidates, and our core technologies and other know-how, defend and enforce our patents, preserve the confidentiality of our trade secrets, operate our business without infringing, misappropriating or otherwise violating the intellectual property or proprietary rights of third parties and prevent third parties from infringing, misappropriating or otherwise violating our proprietary or intellectual property rights. We seek to protect our proprietary and intellectual property position by, among other methods, seeking and maintaining patents in the United States and other major markets. We also rely on trade secrets and know-how to protect aspects of our business that are not amenable to, or that we do not consider appropriate for, patent protection, which we generally seek to protect through contractual obligations with third parties.

Patents

As of March 23, 2022, we own approximately 85 issued U.S. patents, 130 pending U.S. patent applications, 289 issued foreign patents (including 62 European patents, which have been validated in various European countries resulting in a total of approximately 682 national patents in European countries), 360 pending foreign patent applications (including 78 pending European patent applications) and 27 pending Patent Cooperation Treaty, or PCT, patent applications, including eight pending U.S. patent applications, 36 foreign patent applications and four PCT patent applications that are jointly owned with third parties. These patents include claims relating to our RNAoptimizer technology platform, CV8102, CV7202, CV-SSIV, our COVID-19 vaccine candidates, our CVCM delivery system and our proprietary LNP technology, as described further below.

RNAoptimizer

As of March 23, 2022, we own 25 issued U.S. patents, 21 pending U.S. patent applications, 105 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Russia, Mexico and Australia, and 106 pending foreign patent applications and 11 PCT patent applications relating to our RNAoptimizer technology, including patents and patent applications relating to ORF optimization, UTR optimization, protein optimization and formulation. Our RNAoptimizer technology is used in our CV7202, CV-SSIV and SARS-CoV-2 product candidates. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2022 and 2037, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending patent applications would be expected to expire between 2022 and 2042, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

CV8102

As of March 23, 2022, we own four issued U.S. patents, four pending U.S. patent applications, 34 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Russia, Mexico and Australia, and 23 pending foreign patent applications relating to our CV8102 product candidate. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2028 and 2036, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending applications would be expected to expire between 2029 and 2037, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

CV7202

As of March 23, 2022, we own seven issued U.S. patents, seven pending U.S. patent applications, 23 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Russia, Mexico and Australia, and 24 pending foreign patent applications relating to our CV7202 product candidate. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2022 and 2034, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending patent applications would be expected to expire between 2022 and 2037, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

CV-SSIV

As of March 23, 2022, we own 11 issued U.S. patents, 14 pending U.S. patent applications, 39 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Russia, Mexico and Australia and 60 pending foreign patent applications and one PCT patent application relating to our CV-SSIV product candidate. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2022 and 2036, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending patent applications would be expected to expire between 2022 and 2042, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

COVID-19 Vaccine Candidates

As of March 23, 2022, we own seven issued U.S. patents, 16 pending U.S. patent applications, 28 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Russia, Mexico and Australia, 53 pending foreign patent applications and four PCT patent applications relating to our COVID-19 product candidates, CVnCoV and CV2CoV. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2022 and 2041, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending patent applications would be expected to expire between 2022 and 2042, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

CVCM Delivery System

As of March 23, 2022, we own four issued U.S. patents, two pending U.S. patent applications, 14 issued foreign patents, including in Europe, Canada, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Russia, Mexico and Australia, and nine pending foreign patent applications relating to our proprietary CVCM delivery system. The issued patents are expected to expire between 2029 and 2037, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions. If granted, the pending applications would be expected to expire between 2029 and 2037, excluding any additional term for patent term adjustments or patent term extensions.

The term of individual patents depends upon the legal term for patents in the countries in which they are obtained. In most countries in which we have filed patent applications, including the United States, the patent term is 20 years from the earliest filing date of a non-provisional patent application. In the United States, a patent's term may be lengthened by patent term adjustment, which compensates a patentee for administrative delays by the USPTO in examining and granting a patent, or may be shortened if a patent is terminally disclaimed over an earlier filed patent. The term of a patent that covers a drug or biological product may also be eligible for patent term extension when FDA approval is granted for a portion of the term effectively lost as a result of the FDA regulatory review period, subject to certain limitations and provided statutory and regulatory requirements are met. For more information on patent term extension, see "— Government Regulation — Patent Term Restoration and Extension."

As with other biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, our ability to maintain and solidify our proprietary and intellectual property position for our product candidates will depend on our success in obtaining effective patent claims and enforcing those claims if granted. However, our owned and licensed pending patent applications, and any patent applications that we may in the future file or license from third parties may not result in the issuance of patents. We also cannot predict the breadth of claims that may be allowed or enforced in our patents. Any issued patents that we may receive in the future may be challenged, invalidated, narrowed, held unenforceable, infringed or circumvented. In addition, because of the extensive time required for clinical development and regulatory review of a product candidate we may develop, it is possible that, before any of our product candidates can be commercialized, any related patent may expire or remain in force for only a short period following commercialization, thereby limiting the protection such patent would afford the respective product and any competitive advantage such patent may provide. See "Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property Rights."

Trademarks

As of March 23, 2022, we own trademark registrations or registration applications for CureVac, and the CureVac logo in the United States and in certain foreign jurisdictions including Europe.

Trade Secrets and Proprietary Information

In addition to patents, we rely upon unpatented trade secrets and know-how and continuing technological innovation to develop and maintain our competitive position. However, trade secrets and know-how can be difficult to protect. We seek to protect our proprietary information, in part, by executing confidentiality agreements with our collaborators and scientific advisors, and non-competition, non-solicitation, confidentiality, and invention assignment agreements with our employees, consultants, and independent contractors. We have also executed agreements requiring assignment of inventions with selected scientific advisors and collaborators. The confidentiality agreements we enter into are designed to protect our proprietary information and the agreements or clauses requiring assignment of inventions to us are designed to grant us ownership of technologies that are developed through our relationship with the respective counterparty. We cannot guarantee, however, that we have executed such agreements with all applicable counterparties, such agreements will not be breached, or that these agreements will afford us adequate protection of our intellectual property and proprietary rights. See “Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property Rights.”

Government Regulation

Government authorities in the United States, at the federal, state and local level, in other countries and jurisdictions and in the European Union, extensively regulate, among other things, the research, development, testing, manufacture, quality control, approval, packaging, storage, recordkeeping, labeling, advertising, promotion, distribution, marketing, post-approval monitoring and reporting, and import and export of pharmaceutical products, including biological products. In addition, some jurisdictions regulate the pricing of pharmaceutical products. The processes for obtaining marketing approvals in the United States and in foreign countries and jurisdictions, along with subsequent compliance with applicable statutes and regulations and other requirements of regulatory authorities, require the expenditure of substantial time and financial resources.

Patent Term Restoration and Extension

Depending upon the timing, duration and specifics of FDA approval of product candidates, some of a sponsor’s U.S. patents may be eligible for limited patent term extension under the Hatch-Waxman Amendments. The Hatch-Waxman Amendments permit a patent restoration term of up to five years as compensation for patent term lost during product development and the FDA regulatory review process. However, patent term restoration cannot extend the remaining term of a patent beyond a total of 14 years from the product’s approval date. The patent term restoration period generally is one-half the time between the effective date of an IND and the submission date of a BLA less any time the sponsor did not act with due diligence during the period, plus the time between the submission date of a BLA and the approval of that application less any time the sponsor did not act with due diligence during the period. Only one patent applicable to an approved biologic product is eligible for the extension, only those claims covering the approved drug, a method for using it, or a method for manufacturing it may be extended, and the application for the extension must be submitted prior to the expiration of the patent. Moreover, a given patent may only be extended once based on a single product. The USPTO, in consultation with the FDA, reviews and approves the application for any patent term extension or restoration. Similar provisions are available in Europe and other foreign jurisdictions to extend the term of a patent that covers an approved drug. In the future, if and when our products receive FDA approval, we expect to apply for patent term extensions on patents covering those products, however there is no guarantee that the applicable authorities, including the FDA in the United States, will agree with our assessment of whether such extensions should be granted, and if granted, the length of such extensions. For more information regarding the risks related to our intellectual property, see “Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property Rights.”

Regulation and Procedures Governing Approval of Biological Products in the United States

In the United States, we expect our product candidates will be regulated as biological products, or biologics, under the Public Health Service Act, or PHSA, and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, or FDCA, and their implementing regulations, and other federal, state, local and foreign statutes and regulations. The failure to comply with the applicable U.S. requirements at any time during the product development process, including during nonclinical testing, clinical testing, the approval process or post-approval process, may subject an applicant to delays in the conduct of a study or regulatory review and approval, and/or to administrative or judicial sanctions and adverse publicity. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA's, refusal to allow an applicant to proceed with clinical testing, refusal to approve pending applications, withdrawal of an approval, warning or untitled letters, product recalls, product seizures, total or partial suspension of production or distribution, injunctions, fines, debarment, disgorgement of profits and civil or criminal investigations and penalties brought by the FDA or the Department of Justice or other governmental entities.

An applicant seeking approval to market and distribute a new biologic in the United States generally must satisfactorily complete each of the following steps:

- nonclinical laboratory tests, animal studies and formulation studies all performed in accordance with applicable regulations, including the FDA's Good Laboratory Practice, or GLP, regulations;
- submission to the FDA of an IND application for human clinical testing, which must become effective before human clinical trials may begin;
- approval by an Institutional Review Board, or IRB, or ethics committee representing each clinical site before each clinical trial may be initiated;
- performance of adequate and well-controlled human clinical trials to establish the safety, potency and purity of the product candidate for each proposed indication, in accordance with applicable regulations, including with GCP regulations;
- after completion of all pivotal clinical trials, preparation and submission to the FDA of a BLA requesting authorization to market the product candidate for one or more proposed indications;
- satisfactory completion of an FDA advisory committee review, if applicable;
- a determination by the FDA within 60 days of its receipt of a BLA to file the application for review;
- satisfactory completion of one or more FDA inspections of the manufacturing facility or facilities, including those of third parties, at which the product, or components thereof, are produced to assess compliance with cGMP requirements and to assure that the facilities, methods and controls are adequate to preserve the product's identity, safety, strength, quality and purity;
- satisfactory completion of any FDA audits of the clinical study sites to assure compliance with GCPs, and the integrity of clinical data in support of the BLA;
- payment of user fees and securing FDA approval of the BLA; and
- compliance with any post-approval requirements, including the potential requirement to implement a REMS and to conduct any post approval studies required by the FDA.

Nonclinical Studies and Investigational New Drug Application

Before testing any biologic product candidate in humans, the product candidate must undergo nonclinical testing. Nonclinical tests include laboratory evaluations of product chemistry, formulation and stability, as well as animal studies to evaluate the potential for activity and toxicity. The conduct of the nonclinical tests and formulation of the compounds for testing must comply with federal regulations and requirements. The results of the nonclinical tests, together with manufacturing information, analytical data, any available clinical data or literature and a proposed clinical protocol, are submitted to the FDA as part of an IND or similar application in other jurisdictions. An IND is a request for authorization from the FDA to administer an investigational new drug product to humans. The central focus of an IND submission is on the general investigational plan and the protocol(s) for clinical studies. The IND also includes results of animal and *in vitro* studies assessing the toxicology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacology, and pharmacodynamic characteristics of the product; chemistry, manufacturing and controls information; and any available human data or literature to support the use of the investigational product. An IND must become effective before human clinical trials may begin. The IND automatically becomes effective 30 days after receipt by the FDA, unless within the 30-day time period, the FDA raises concerns or questions about the product or conduct of the proposed clinical trial, including concerns that human research subjects will be exposed to unreasonable health risks, and places the trial on a clinical hold. In that case, the IND sponsor and the FDA must resolve any outstanding FDA concerns before the clinical trial can begin.

As a result, submission of the IND may result in the FDA not allowing the trial to commence or not be conducted on the terms originally specified by the sponsor in the IND. In addition, the FDA may raise concerns or questions at any time after the IND has become effective, and may impose a clinical hold even after clinical studies have initiated. If the FDA imposes a clinical hold, trials may not recommence without FDA authorization and then only under terms authorized by the FDA. A clinical hold issued by the FDA may therefore delay either a proposed clinical study or cause suspension of an ongoing study, until all outstanding concerns have been adequately addressed and the FDA has notified the company that investigation may proceed. This could cause significant difficulties in completing planned clinical trials in a timely manner.

Human Clinical Trials in Support of a BLA

Clinical trials involve the administration of the investigational product candidate to healthy volunteers or patients with the disease to be treated under the supervision of a qualified principal investigator in accordance with GCP requirements. Clinical trials are conducted under study protocols detailing, among other things, the objectives of the study, inclusion and exclusion criteria, the parameters to be used in monitoring safety, dosing procedures and the effectiveness criteria to be evaluated. A separate protocol for each clinical trial and any subsequent protocol amendments must be submitted to the FDA as part of the IND.

A sponsor who wishes to conduct a clinical trial outside the United States may, but need not, obtain FDA authorization to conduct the clinical trial under an IND. If a foreign clinical trial is not conducted under an IND, the sponsor may submit data from the clinical trial to the FDA in support of the BLA so long as the clinical trial is well-designed and well-conducted in accordance with GCP, including review and approval by an independent ethics committee, and the FDA is able to validate the study data through an onsite inspection, if necessary.

Further, each clinical trial must be reviewed and approved by an IRB either centrally or individually at each institution at which the clinical trial will be conducted. The IRB will consider, among other things, clinical trial design, patient informed consent, ethical factors and the safety of human subjects. An IRB must operate in compliance with FDA regulations. The FDA, IRB, or the clinical trial sponsor may suspend or discontinue a clinical trial at any time for various reasons, including a finding that the clinical trial is not being conducted in accordance with FDA requirements, the trial is unlikely to meet its stated objectives or that the subjects or patients are being exposed to an unacceptable health risk. Clinical testing also must satisfy extensive GCP rules, including the requirements for informed consent. The IRB also approves the form and content of the informed consent that must be signed by each clinical trial subject or his or her legal representative and must monitor the clinical trial until completed. Additionally, some clinical trials are overseen by an independent group of qualified experts organized by the clinical trial sponsor, known as a data safety monitoring board or committee. This group may recommend continuation of the study as planned, changes in study conduct, or cessation of the study at designated check points based on access to certain data from the study.

Clinical trials typically are conducted in three sequential phases, but the phases may overlap or be combined. Additional studies may be required after approval.

- Phase 1 clinical trials are initially conducted in a limited population to test the product candidate for safety, including adverse effects, dose tolerance, absorption, metabolism, distribution, excretion and pharmacodynamics in healthy humans or, on occasion, in patients, such as in the case of some products for severe or life-threatening diseases as cancer, especially when the product may be too inherently toxic to ethically administer to healthy volunteers.
- Phase 2 clinical trials are generally conducted in a limited patient population to identify possible adverse effects and safety risks, preliminarily evaluate the efficacy of the product candidate for specific targeted indications and determine dose tolerance and optimal dosage. Multiple Phase 2 clinical trials may be conducted by the sponsor to obtain information prior to beginning larger Phase 3 clinical trials.
- Phase 3 clinical trials proceed if the Phase 2 clinical trials demonstrate that a certain dose or dose range of the product candidate is potentially effective and has an acceptable safety profile. Phase 3 clinical trials are undertaken within an expanded patient population, often at geographically dispersed clinical trial sites, to gather additional information about safety and effectiveness necessary to evaluate the overall benefit-risk relationship of the investigational product and to provide an adequate basis for physician labeling and product approval.

In some cases, the FDA may approve a BLA for a product candidate but require the sponsor to conduct additional clinical trials to further assess the product candidate's safety and effectiveness after approval. Such post-approval trials are typically referred to as Phase 4 clinical trials, or Phase 4. These studies may be used to gain additional experience from the treatment of patients in the intended therapeutic indication and to document a clinical benefit in the case of biologics approved under accelerated approval regulations. Failure to exhibit due diligence with regard to conducting required Phase 4 clinical trials could result in withdrawal of approval for products. Concurrent with clinical trials, companies may complete additional animal studies and develop additional information about the biological characteristics of the product candidate.

During all phases of clinical development, regulatory agencies require extensive monitoring and auditing of all clinical activities, clinical data and clinical trial investigators. Annual progress reports detailing the results of the clinical trials must be submitted to the FDA. Written IND safety reports must be promptly submitted to the FDA and the investigators for serious and unexpected adverse events, any findings from other trials, tests in laboratory animals or *in vitro* testing that suggest a significant risk for human subjects, or any clinically important increase in the rate of a serious suspected adverse reaction over that listed in the protocol or investigator brochure. The sponsor must submit an IND safety report within 15 calendar days after the sponsor determines that the information qualifies for reporting. The sponsor also must notify the FDA of any unexpected fatal or life-threatening suspected adverse reaction within seven calendar days after the sponsor's initial receipt of the information. The FDA or the sponsor or its data safety monitoring board may suspend a clinical trial at any time on various grounds, including a finding that the research subjects or patients are being exposed to an unacceptable health risk. Similarly, an IRB can suspend or terminate approval of a clinical trial at its institution if the clinical trial is not being conducted in accordance with the IRB's requirements or if the biological candidate has been associated with unexpected serious harm to patients.

There are also requirements governing the reporting of ongoing clinical trials and completed clinical trial results to public registries. Sponsors of clinical trials of FDA-regulated products, including biologics, are required to register and disclose certain clinical trial information, which is publicly available at www.clinicaltrials.gov. Information related to the product, patient population, phase of investigation, trial sites and investigators, and other aspects of the clinical trial is then made public as part of the registration. Sponsors are also obligated to discuss the results of their clinical trials after completion. Disclosure of the results of these trials can be delayed until the new product or new indication being studied has been approved.

Review and Approval of a BLA

The results of product candidate development, nonclinical testing and clinical trials, including negative or ambiguous results as well as positive findings, are submitted to the FDA as part of a BLA requesting a license to market the product for one or more indications. The BLA must contain extensive chemistry manufacturing and controls information and detailed information on the composition of the product and proposed labeling. Data can come from company-sponsored clinical studies intended to test the safety and effectiveness of a use of the product, or from a number of alternative sources, including studies initiated by investigators. The submission of a BLA requires payment of a substantial user fee to the FDA, and the sponsor of an approved BLA is also subject to annual program fees. The FDA adjusts the Prescription Drug User Fee Act, or PDUFA, user fees on an annual basis. Fee waivers or reductions are available in certain circumstances, including a waiver of the application fee for the first application filed by a small business. Additionally, no user fees are assessed on BLAs for products designated as orphan drugs, unless the product also includes a non-orphan indication.

In addition, under the Pediatric Research Equity Act, or PREA, a BLA or supplement to a BLA must contain data to assess the safety and effectiveness of the biological product candidate for the claimed indications in all relevant pediatric subpopulations and to support dosing and administration for each pediatric subpopulation for which the product is safe and effective. The Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, or FDASIA, requires that a sponsor who is planning to submit a marketing application for a drug or biological product that includes a new active ingredient, new indication, new dosage form, new dosing regimen or new route of administration submit an initial Pediatric Study Plan, or PSP, within sixty days after an end-of-Phase 2 meeting or as may be agreed between the sponsor and FDA. Unless otherwise required by regulation, PREA does not apply to any biological product for an indication for which orphan designation has been granted.

The FDA has 60 days after submission of the application to conduct an initial review to determine whether the BLA is sufficient to accept for filing based on the agency's threshold determination that it is substantially complete so as to permit substantive review. Once the submission has been accepted for filing, the FDA begins an in-depth review of the application. Under the goals and policies agreed to by the FDA under PDUFA, the FDA aims to complete its initial review of a standard application and respond to the applicant within 10 months of the 60-day filing date, and for a priority review application within six months. The FDA does not always meet its PDUFA goal dates for standard and priority BLAs, and its review goals are subject to change from time to time. The review process may often be significantly extended by FDA requests for additional information or clarification. The review process and the PDUFA goal date may also be extended by three months if the FDA requests or if the applicant otherwise provides additional information or clarification regarding information already provided in the submission within the last three months before the PDUFA goal date.

The FDA reviews a BLA to determine, among other things, whether the proposed product is safe and potent, or effective, for its intended use, and has an acceptable purity profile, and whether the product is being manufactured in accordance with cGMP requirements to assure and preserve the product's identity, safety, strength, quality, potency and purity. The FDA may convene an advisory committee to provide clinical insight on application review questions. Before approving a BLA, the FDA will typically inspect the facility or facilities where the product is manufactured. The FDA will not approve an application unless it determines that the manufacturing processes and facilities are in compliance with cGMP requirements and adequate to assure consistent production of the product within required specifications. Additionally, before approving a BLA, the FDA will typically inspect one or more clinical sites to assure compliance with cGCP. If the FDA determines that the application, manufacturing process or manufacturing facilities are not acceptable, it will outline the deficiencies in the submission and often will request additional testing or information. Notwithstanding the submission of any requested additional information, the FDA ultimately may decide that the application does not satisfy the regulatory criteria for approval.

On the basis of the FDA's evaluation of the application and accompanying information, including the results of the inspection of the manufacturing facilities and any FDA audits of clinical trial sites to assure compliance with GCPs, the FDA may issue an approval letter or a complete response letter. An approval letter authorizes commercial marketing of the product with specific prescribing information for specific indications. If the application is not approved, the FDA may issue a complete response letter indicating that the review cycle is complete and the application is not ready for approval. A complete response letter will describe the deficiencies that must be addressed in order to secure final approval of the application, and when possible, will outline recommended actions the sponsor might take to obtain approval of the application. If a complete response letter is issued, the applicant may either resubmit the BLA, addressing all of the deficiencies identified in the letter, or withdraw the application. The FDA may also request additional information or clarification.

Sponsors that receive a complete response letter who elect to address the deficiencies may submit to the FDA information that represents a complete response to the issues identified by the FDA in the response letter. Such resubmissions are classified under PDUFA as either Class 1 or Class 2, based on the information submitted by an applicant in response to an action letter. Under the goals and policies agreed to by the FDA under PDUFA, the FDA aims to review and act on a Class 1 resubmission with two months of receipt and, with respect to a Class 2 resubmission, within six months of receipt. The FDA will not approve an application until issues identified in the complete response letter have been addressed. The FDA may delay or refuse approval of a BLA if applicable regulatory criteria are not satisfied, require additional testing or information and/or require post-marketing testing and surveillance to monitor safety or efficacy of a product.

If the FDA approves a new product, it may limit the approved indications for use of the product, or limit the approval to specific dosages. It may also require development of adequate controls or specifications and that certain contraindications, warnings or precautions be included in the product labeling. In addition, the FDA may call for post-approval studies, including Phase 4 clinical trials, to further assess the product's safety after approval and may limit further marketing of the product based on the results of these post-marketing studies. The agency may also require testing and surveillance programs to monitor the product after commercialization, or impose other conditions, including distribution restrictions or other risk management mechanisms, including REMS, to help ensure that the benefits of the product outweigh the potential risks. REMS can include medication guides, communication plans for healthcare professionals, and elements to assure safe use, or ETASU. ETASU can include, but are not limited to, special training or certification for prescribing or dispensing, dispensing only under certain circumstances, special monitoring and the use of patent registries. If the FDA concludes a REMS is needed, the sponsor of the BLA must submit a proposed REMS; the FDA will not approve the BLA without a REMS, if required. The FDA may prevent or limit further marketing of a product based on the results of post-market studies or surveillance programs. After approval, many types of changes to the approved product, such as adding new indications, manufacturing changes and additional labeling claims, are subject to further testing requirements and FDA review and approval. Once approved, the FDA may withdraw the product approval if compliance with pre- and post-marketing regulatory standards is not maintained or if problems occur after the product reaches the marketplace. In addition, new government requirements, including those resulting from new legislation, may be established, or the FDA's policies may change, which could delay or prevent regulatory approval of our products under development.

Expedited Development and Review Programs

The FDA has a number of programs intended to expedite the development and/or review of new products intended for serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions. These programs include fast track designation, breakthrough therapy designation, priority review and accelerated approval.

The FDA may issue a fast track designation to a product candidate if it is intended, whether alone or in combination with one or more other products, for the treatment of a serious or life-threatening disease or condition, and it demonstrates the potential to address unmet medical needs for such a disease or condition. Fast track designation applies to the combination of the product and the specific indication for which it is being studied. The sponsor of a new biologic may request that the FDA designate the biologic as a fast track product at any time during the clinical development of the product. For fast track products, sponsors may have greater interactions with the FDA during product development. A fast track product may also be eligible for rolling review, where the FDA may consider for review sections of the BLA on a rolling basis before the complete application is submitted, if the sponsor provides a schedule for the submission of the sections of the BLA, the FDA agrees to accept sections of the BLA and determines that the schedule is acceptable, and the sponsor pays any required user fees upon submission of the first section of the BLA. However, the FDA's PDUFA goal for reviewing a BLA fast track application does not begin until the last section of the application is submitted. Fast track designation may be withdrawn by the FDA if the FDA believes that the designation is no longer supported by data emerging in the clinical trial process.

A product may be designated as a breakthrough therapy if it is intended, either alone or in combination with one or more other products, to treat a serious or life-threatening disease or condition and preliminary clinical evidence indicates that the product may demonstrate substantial improvement over existing therapies on one or more clinically significant endpoints, such as substantial treatment effects observed early in clinical development. The FDA may take certain actions with respect to breakthrough therapies, including holding meetings with the sponsor throughout the development process; providing timely advice to the product sponsor regarding development and approval; involving more senior staff in the review process; assigning a cross-disciplinary project lead for the review team; and taking other steps to facilitate the design of clinical trials in an efficient manner. The designation includes all of the fast track program features, as well as more intensive FDA interaction and guidance beginning as early as Phase 1 and an organizational commitment to expedite the development and review of the product, including involvement of senior managers.

Any marketing application for a biologic submitted to the FDA for approval, including a product with a fast track designation and/or breakthrough therapy designation, may be eligible for other types of FDA programs intended to expedite the FDA review and approval process, such as priority review and accelerated approval. The FDA may designate a product for priority review if it is a product that treats a serious condition and, if approved, would provide a significant improvement in safety or effectiveness. The FDA determines, on a case-by-case basis, whether the proposed product represents a significant improvement when compared with other available therapies. Significant improvement may be illustrated by evidence of increased effectiveness in the treatment of a condition, elimination or substantial reduction of a treatment-limiting product reaction, documented enhancement of patient compliance that may lead to improvement in serious outcomes and evidence of safety and effectiveness in a new subpopulation. A priority review is intended to direct overall attention and resources to the evaluation of such applications, and to shorten the FDA's goal for taking action on an original BLA from 10 months to six months from the 60-day filing date.

The FDA may grant accelerated approval to a product for a serious or life-threatening condition that provides meaningful therapeutic advantage to patients over existing treatments based upon a determination that the product has an effect on a surrogate endpoint that is reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit. The FDA may also grant accelerated approval for such a condition when the product has an effect on an intermediate clinical endpoint that can be measured earlier than an effect on irreversible morbidity or mortality, or IMM, and that is reasonably likely to predict an effect on IMM or other clinical benefit, taking into account the severity, rarity, or prevalence of the condition and the availability or lack of alternative treatments. Products granted accelerated approval must meet the same statutory standards for safety and effectiveness as those granted traditional approval.

For the purposes of accelerated approval, a surrogate endpoint is a marker, such as a laboratory measurement, radiographic image, physical sign, or other measure that is thought to predict clinical benefit, but is not itself a measure of clinical benefit. Surrogate endpoints can often be measured more easily or more rapidly than clinical endpoints. An intermediate clinical endpoint is a measurement of a therapeutic effect that is considered reasonably likely to predict the clinical benefit of a product, such as an effect on IMM. The FDA has stated that although it has limited experience with accelerated approvals based on intermediate clinical endpoints, such endpoints generally may support accelerated approval where the therapeutic effect measured by the endpoint is not itself a clinical benefit and basis for traditional approval, if there is a basis for concluding that the therapeutic effect is reasonably likely to predict the ultimate clinical benefit of a product.

The accelerated approval pathway is most often used in settings in which the course of a disease is long and an extended period of time is required to measure the intended clinical benefit of a product. Thus, accelerated approval has been used extensively in the development and approval of products for treatment of a variety of cancers in which the goal of therapy is generally to improve survival or decrease morbidity and the duration of the typical disease course requires lengthy and sometimes large trials to demonstrate a clinical or survival benefit.

The accelerated approval pathway is usually contingent on a sponsor's agreement to conduct, in a diligent manner, additional post-approval confirmatory studies to verify and describe the product's clinical benefit. As a result, a product candidate approved on this basis is subject to rigorous post-marketing compliance requirements, including the completion of Phase 4 or post-approval clinical trials to confirm the effect on the clinical endpoint. Failure to conduct required post-approval studies, or to confirm a clinical benefit during post-marketing studies, may lead the FDA to withdraw the product from the market on an expedited basis. All promotional materials for product candidates approved under accelerated regulations are subject to prior review by the FDA.

Fast track designation, priority review, accelerated approval, and breakthrough therapy designation may expedite the development or approval process, but do not change the standards for approval. Even if a product qualifies for one or more of these programs, the FDA may later decide that the product no longer meets the conditions for qualification or decide that the time period for FDA review or approval will not be shortened.

Post-Approval Regulation

If regulatory approval for marketing of a product or for a new indication for an existing product is obtained, the sponsor will be required to comply with rigorous and extensive post-approval regulatory requirements as well as any post-approval requirements that the FDA has imposed on the particular product as part of the approval process. The sponsor will be required, among other things, to report certain adverse reactions and production problems to the FDA, provide updated safety and efficacy information and comply with requirements concerning advertising, promotional labeling, product sampling and distribution. Manufacturers and certain of their subcontractors are required to register their establishments with the FDA and certain state agencies, and are subject to periodic unannounced inspections by the FDA and certain state agencies for compliance with ongoing regulatory requirements, including cGMP regulations, which impose certain procedural and documentation requirements upon manufacturers. Accordingly, the BLA-holder and its third-party manufacturers must continue to expend time, money and effort in the areas of production and quality control to maintain compliance with cGMP regulations and other regulatory requirements. FDA regulations also require investigation and correction of any deviations from cGMP and impose reporting requirements upon us and any third-party manufacturers that we or our partners may decide to use. In addition, changes to the manufacturing process or facility are strictly regulated, and, depending on the significance of the change, may require prior FDA approval before being implemented, and other types of changes to the approved product, such as adding new indications and additional labeling claims, are also subject to further FDA review and approval.

Once an approval is granted, the FDA may withdraw the approval if compliance with regulatory requirements and standards is not maintained or if problems occur after the product reaches the market. Later discovery of previously unknown problems with a product, including adverse events of unanticipated severity or frequency, or with manufacturing processes, or failure to comply with regulatory requirements, may result in revisions to the approved labeling to add new safety information; imposition of post-market study requirements or clinical trial requirements to assess new safety risks; or imposition of distribution restrictions or other restrictions under a REMS program. Other potential consequences include, among other things:

- restrictions on the marketing or manufacturing of the product, complete withdrawal of the product from the market or product recalls;
- fines, untitled letters or warning letters or holds on post-approval clinical trials;
- adverse publicity;
- refusal of the FDA to approve pending applications or supplements to approved applications, or suspension or revocation of product license approvals;
- product seizure or detention, or refusal to permit the import or export of products; or
- injunctions, fines, debarment, disgorgement of profits or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

The FDA closely regulates marketing, labeling, advertising and promotion of products that are placed on the market. Pharmaceutical products may be promoted only for the approved indications and in accordance with the provisions of the approved label. The FDA and other agencies actively enforce the laws and regulations prohibiting the promotion of off-label uses, and a company that is found to have improperly promoted off-label uses may be subject to significant liability. Failure to comply with these requirements can result in, among other things, adverse publicity, warning letters, corrective advertising and potential civil and criminal penalties. Physicians may prescribe legally available products for uses that are not described in the product's labeling and that differ from those tested by us and approved by the FDA. Such off-label uses are common across medical specialties. Physicians may believe that such off-label uses are the best treatment for patients in varied circumstances. The FDA does not regulate the behavior of physicians in their choice of treatments. The FDA does, however, restrict marketing authorization holders' communications on the subject of off-label use of their products.

Orphan Drug Designation

Orphan drug designation in the United States is designed to encourage sponsors to develop products intended for rare diseases or conditions. In the United States, a rare disease or condition is statutorily defined as a disease or condition that affects fewer than 200,000 individuals in the United States or that affects more than 200,000 individuals in the United States but for which there is no reasonable expectation that the cost of developing and making available the product for the disease or condition will be recovered from sales of the product in the United States.

Orphan drug designation qualifies a company for certain financial incentives, including tax advantages, waiver of the BLA application user fee and, if the product receives the first FDA approval for the indication for which it has orphan designation, market exclusivity. Orphan product exclusivity means that the FDA may not approve any other applications, including a full BLA, to market the same biologic for the same indication for seven years from the approval of the BLA, except in limited circumstances, such as a showing of clinical superiority to the product with orphan drug exclusivity or if the FDA finds that the holder of the orphan drug exclusivity has not shown that it can assure the availability of sufficient quantities of the orphan drug to meet the needs of patients with the disease or condition for which the drug was designated. An application for designation as an orphan product can be made any time prior to the filing of an application for approval to market the product.

In addition, a sponsor of a product that is otherwise the same product as an already approved orphan drug may seek and obtain orphan drug designation for the subsequent product for the same rare disease or condition if it can present a plausible hypothesis that its product may be clinically superior to the first product. More than one sponsor may receive orphan drug designation for the same product for the same rare disease or condition, but each sponsor seeking orphan drug designation must file a complete request for designation.

The period of exclusivity begins on the date that the marketing application is approved by the FDA and applies only to the indication for which the product has been designated. The FDA may approve a second application for the same product for a different use or a second application for a clinically superior version of the product for the same use. The FDA cannot, however, approve the same product made by another manufacturer for the same indication during the market exclusivity period unless it has the consent of the sponsor, the manufacturer makes a showing of clinical superiority over the product with orphan exclusivity, or the sponsor is unable to provide sufficient quantities.

An orphan-designated product may not receive orphan exclusivity if it is approved for a use that is broader than the indication for which it received orphan designation. In addition, orphan exclusivity in the United States may be lost if the FDA later determines that the request for designation was materially defective or if the manufacturer is unable to assure sufficient quantities of the product to meet the needs of patients with the rare disease or condition.

Orphan product designation does not convey any advantage in or shorten the duration of the regulatory review and approval process.

Biosimilars and Exclusivity

The BPCIA (under the Affordable Care Act) created an abbreviated approval pathway for biological products that are biosimilar to or interchangeable with an FDA-licensed reference biological product. The FDA has issued several guidance documents outlining an approach to review and approve of biosimilars.

Biosimilarity, which requires that there be no clinically meaningful differences between the biological product and the reference product in terms of safety, purity and potency, can be shown through analytical studies, animal studies, and a clinical study or studies. Interchangeability requires that a product is biosimilar to the reference product, and the product must demonstrate that it can be expected to produce the same clinical results as the reference product in any given patient and, for products that are administered multiple times to an individual, the biologic and the reference biologic may be alternated or switched after one has been previously administered without increasing safety risks or risks of diminished efficacy relative to exclusive use of the reference biologic. However, complexities associated with the larger, and often more complex, structures of biological products, as well as the processes by which such products are manufactured, pose significant hurdles to implementation of the abbreviated approval pathway that are still being worked out by the FDA.

Under the BPCIA, an application for a biosimilar product may not be submitted to the FDA until four years following the date that the reference product was first licensed by the FDA. In addition, the approval of a biosimilar product may not be made effective by the FDA until 12 years from the date on which the reference product was first licensed. During this 12-year period of exclusivity, another company may still market a competing version of the reference product if the FDA approves a full BLA for the competing product containing that applicant's own preclinical data and data from adequate and well-controlled clinical trials to demonstrate the safety, purity and potency of its product. The BPCIA also created certain exclusivity periods for biosimilars approved as interchangeable products. At this juncture, it is unclear whether products deemed "interchangeable" by the FDA will, in fact, be readily substituted by pharmacies, which are governed by state pharmacy law.

A biological product can also obtain pediatric market exclusivity in the United States. Pediatric exclusivity, if granted, adds six months to existing exclusivity periods and patent terms. This six-month exclusivity, which runs from the end of other exclusivity protection or patent term, may be granted based on the voluntary completion of a pediatric study in accordance with an FDA-issued "Written Request" for such a study.

The BPCIA is complex and continues to be interpreted and implemented by the FDA. In addition, government proposals have sought to reduce the 12-year reference product exclusivity period. Other aspects of the BPCIA, some of which may impact the BPCIA exclusivity provisions, have also been the subject of recent litigation. As a result, the ultimate impact, implementation, and impact of the BPCIA is subject to significant uncertainty.

Regulation and Procedures Governing Approval of Medicinal Products in the European Union

In order to market any product outside the United States, a company also must comply with numerous and varying regulatory requirements of other countries and jurisdictions regarding quality, safety and efficacy and governing, among other things, clinical trials, marketing authorization, commercial sales and distribution of products. Whether or not it obtains FDA approval for a product, an applicant will need to obtain the necessary approvals by the comparable foreign regulatory authorities before it can initiate clinical trials or marketing of the product in those countries or jurisdictions. Specifically, the process governing approval of medicinal products in the European Union generally follows the same lines as in the United States. It entails satisfactory completion of pharmaceutical development, nonclinical studies and adequate and well-controlled clinical trials to establish the safety and efficacy of the medicinal product for each proposed indication.

Clinical Trial Approval

On January 31, 2022, the new Clinical Trial Regulation (EU) No 536/2014 became effective, replacing Clinical Trials Directive 2001/20/EC (which can still be applied for new clinical studies during a transition period until January 2023). This new legislation, which is directly applicable in all Member States, aims at simplifying and streamlining the approval of clinical trials in the European Union by allowing for a streamlined application procedure via a single-entry point and strictly defined deadlines for the assessment of clinical trial applications. The Clinical Trial Regulation harmonizes the assessment and supervision processes for clinical trials throughout the European Union, via a Clinical Trials Information System, or CTIS, which contains the centralized European Union portal and database for clinical trials foreseen by the Regulation. The EMA sets up and maintains CTIS, in collaboration with the competent national authority of each European Union Member State and the EC.

Marketing Authorization

To obtain a marketing authorization for a product under the European Union regulatory system, an applicant must obtain Marketing Authorization, or MA. There are two types of MAs:

- The Community MA, which is issued by the EC through the Centralized Procedure, based on the opinion of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use, or CHMP, of the EMA, and which is valid throughout the entire territory of the EEA. The Centralized Procedure is mandatory for certain types of products, such as biotechnology medicinal products, orphan medicinal products, advanced therapy medicinal products (such as gene therapies, somatic cell therapies and tissue engineered products), and medicinal products that contain a new active substance indicated for the treatment of AIDS, cancer, neurodegenerative disorders, diabetes, auto-immune and viral diseases. The Centralized Procedure is optional for products containing a new active substance not yet authorized in the EEA, or for products that constitute a significant therapeutic, scientific or technical innovation or which are in the interest of public health in the EU. Under the Centralized Procedure the maximum time frame for the evaluation of a marketing authorization application is 210 days (excluding clock stops, when additional written or oral information is to be provided by the applicant in response to questions asked by the CHMP). Accelerated evaluation might be granted by the CHMP in exceptional cases, when the authorization of a medicinal product is of major interest from the point of view of public health and in particular from the viewpoint of therapeutic innovation. Under the accelerated procedure the standard 210-day review period is reduced to 150 days.
- National MAs, which are issued by the competent authorities of the Member States of the EEA and only cover their respective territory, are available for products not falling within the mandatory scope of the Centralized Procedure. Where a product has already been authorized for marketing in a Member State of the EEA, this National MA can be recognized in other Member States through the Mutual Recognition Procedure. If the product has not received a National MA in any Member State at the time of application, it can be approved simultaneously in various Member States through the Decentralized Procedure.

An MA may be granted only to an applicant established in the European Union. Regulation 1901/2006 on Medicinal Products for Pediatric Use provides that prior to obtaining a marketing authorization in the European Union in the centralized procedure, an applicant must demonstrate compliance with all measures included in an EMA-approved Pediatric Investigation Plan covering all subsets of the pediatric population, unless the EMA has granted a product-specific waiver, class waiver, or a deferral for one or more of the measures included in the Pediatric Investigation Plan.

The European Union also provides opportunities for market exclusivity. For example, in the European Union, upon receiving marketing authorization, new chemical entities generally receive eight years of data exclusivity and an additional two years of market exclusivity. If granted, data exclusivity prevents regulatory authorities in the European Union from referencing the innovator's data to assess a generic or biosimilar application. During the additional two-year period of market exclusivity, a generic or biosimilar marketing authorization can be submitted, and the innovator's data may be referenced, but no generic or biosimilar product can be marketed until the expiration of the market exclusivity. However, there is no guarantee that a product will be considered by the European Union's regulatory authorities to be a new chemical entity, and products may not qualify for data exclusivity.

Periods of Authorization and Renewals

A marketing authorization is valid for five years, in principle, and it may be renewed after five years on the basis of a reevaluation of the risk-benefit balance by the EMA or by the competent authority of the authorizing Member State. To that end, the marketing authorization holder must provide the EMA or the competent authority with a consolidated version of the file in respect of quality, safety and efficacy, including all variations introduced since the marketing authorization was granted, at least nine months before the marketing authorization ceases to be valid. Once renewed, the marketing authorization is valid for an unlimited period, unless the EC or the competent authority decides, on justified grounds relating to pharmacovigilance, to proceed with one additional five-year renewal period. Any authorization that is not followed by the placement of the product on the European Union market (in the case of the centralized procedure) or on the market of the authorizing Member State within three years after authorization ceases to be valid.

Regulatory Requirements After Marketing Authorization

Following approval, the holder of the marketing authorization is required to comply with a range of requirements applicable to the manufacturing, marketing, promotion and sale of the medicinal product. These include compliance with the European Union's stringent pharmacovigilance or safety reporting rules, pursuant to which post-authorization studies and additional monitoring obligations can be imposed. In addition, the manufacturing of authorized products, for which a separate manufacturer's license is mandatory, must also be conducted in strict compliance with the EMA's cGMP requirements and comparable requirements of other regulatory bodies in the European Union, which mandate the methods, facilities and controls used in manufacturing, processing and packing of products to assure their safety and identity. Finally, the marketing and promotion of authorized products, including industry-sponsored continuing medical education and advertising directed toward the prescribers of products and/or the general public, are strictly regulated in the European Union under Directive 2001/83.

Orphan Drug Designation and Exclusivity

Regulation 141/2000 and Regulation 847/2000 provide that a product can be designated as an orphan drug by the EC if its sponsor can establish: that the product is intended for the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of (1) a life-threatening or chronically debilitating condition affecting not more than five in ten thousand persons in the European Union when the application is made, or (2) a life-threatening, seriously debilitating or serious and chronic condition in the European Union and that without incentives it is unlikely that the marketing of the product in the European Union would generate sufficient return to justify the necessary investment. For either of these conditions, the applicant must demonstrate that there exists no satisfactory method of diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of the condition in question that has been authorized in the European Union or, if such method exists, the product has to be of significant benefit compared to products available for the condition.

An orphan drug designation provides a number of benefits, including fee reductions, regulatory assistance and the possibility to apply for a centralized European Union marketing authorization. Orphan drugs also benefit from a 10-year period of market exclusivity. During this market exclusivity period, neither the EMA nor the EC or the Member States can accept an application or grant a marketing authorization for a "similar medicinal product." A "similar medicinal product" is defined as a medicinal product containing a similar active substance or substances as contained in an authorized orphan medicinal product, and which is intended for the same therapeutic indication. The market exclusivity period for the authorized therapeutic indication may, however, be reduced to six years if, at the end of the fifth year, it is established that the product no longer meets the criteria for orphan drug designation because, for example, the product is sufficiently profitable not to justify market exclusivity. Additionally, marketing authorization may be granted to a similar product for the same indication at any time if the second applicant can establish that its product, although similar, is safer, more effective or otherwise clinically superior, the applicant consents to a second orphan medicinal product application, or applicant cannot supply enough orphan medicinal product.

Coverage, Pricing and Reimbursement

Significant uncertainty exists as to the coverage and reimbursement status of any product candidates for which we may obtain regulatory approval. Even if our product candidates are approved for marketing, sales of such product candidates will depend, in part, on the extent to which third-party payors, including government health programs in the United States (such as Medicare and Medicaid), commercial health insurers, and managed care organizations, provide coverage and establish adequate reimbursement levels for such product candidates. In the United States, the Member States of the European Union and markets in other countries, patients who are prescribed treatments for their conditions and providers performing the prescribed services generally rely on third-party payors to reimburse all or part of the associated healthcare costs. Reimbursement rules and levels are not harmonized in the European Union and therefore differ from Member State to Member State. Patients are unlikely to use any product candidates we may develop unless coverage is provided and reimbursement is adequate to cover a significant portion of the cost of such product candidates. The process for determining whether a payor will provide coverage for a product may be separate from the process for setting the price or reimbursement rate that the payor will pay for the product once coverage is approved. Third-party payors are increasingly challenging the price and examining the medical necessity and cost effectiveness of medical products and services and imposing controls to manage costs.

In order to secure coverage and reimbursement for any product that might be approved for sale, a company may need to conduct expensive pharmacoeconomic studies in order to demonstrate the medical necessity and cost-effectiveness of the product, and the cost of these studies would be in addition to the costs required to obtain FDA or other comparable marketing approvals. Even after pharmacogenomic studies are conducted, product candidates may not be considered medically necessary or cost effective. A decision by a third-party payor not to cover any product candidates we may develop could reduce physician utilization of such product candidates once approved and have a material adverse effect on our sales, results of operations and financial condition. Additionally, a payor's decision to provide coverage for a product does not imply that an adequate reimbursement rate will be approved. For example, the payor may require co-payments that patients find unacceptably high. Further, one payor's determination to provide coverage for a product does not assure that such coverage will continue or that other payors will also provide coverage and reimbursement for the product, and the level of coverage and reimbursement can differ significantly from payor to payor. Third-party reimbursement and coverage may not be adequate to enable us to maintain price levels sufficient to realize an appropriate return on our investment in product development. The insurance coverage and reimbursement status of newly approved products for orphan diseases is particularly uncertain, and failure to obtain or maintain adequate coverage and reimbursement for any such product candidates could limit a company's ability to generate revenue.

The containment of healthcare costs also has become a priority of federal, state and foreign governments as well as other third-party payors such as statutory health insurance funds and the prices of pharmaceuticals have been a focus in this effort. Governments have shown significant interest in implementing cost-containment programs, including price controls, restrictions on reimbursement and requirements for substitution of generic products. Adoption of price controls and cost-containment measures, and adoption of more restrictive policies in jurisdictions with existing controls and measures, could further limit a company's revenue from the sale of any approved products. Coverage policies and third-party reimbursement rates may change at any time. Even if favorable coverage and reimbursement status is attained for one or more products for which a company or its collaborators receive marketing approval, less favorable coverage policies and reimbursement rates may be implemented or coverage may be ended in the future.

Outside the United States, we will face challenges in ensuring obtaining adequate coverage and payment for any product candidates we may develop. Pricing of prescription pharmaceuticals is subject to governmental control in many countries. Pricing negotiations with governmental authorities or other third-party payors such as statutory health insurance funds can extend well beyond the receipt of regulatory marketing approval for a product and may require us to conduct a clinical trial that compares the cost effectiveness of any product candidates we may develop to other available therapies. The conduct of such a clinical trial could be expensive and result in delays in our commercialization efforts.

In the European Union, pricing and reimbursement schemes vary widely from country to country. Some countries provide that products may be marketed only after a reimbursement price has been agreed. Some countries may require the completion of additional studies that compare the cost effectiveness of a particular product candidate to currently available therapies (so-called health technology assessments) in order to obtain reimbursement or pricing approval. For example, the European Union provides options for its Member States to restrict the range of products for which their national health insurance systems provide reimbursement and to control the prices of medicinal products for human use. European Union Member States may approve a specific price for a product or may instead adopt a system of direct or indirect controls on the profitability of the company placing the product on the market. Other Member States allow companies to fix their own prices for products, but monitor and control prescription volumes and issue guidance to physicians to limit prescriptions. Recently, many countries in the European Union have increased the amount of discounts required on pharmaceuticals and these efforts could continue as countries attempt to manage healthcare expenditures, especially in light of the severe fiscal and debt crises experienced by many countries in the European Union. The downward pressure on healthcare costs in general, particularly prescription products, has become intense. As a result, increasingly high barriers are being erected to the entry of new products. Political, economic and regulatory developments may further complicate pricing negotiations, and pricing negotiations may continue after reimbursement has been obtained. Reference pricing used by various European Union Member States and parallel trade (arbitrage between low-priced and high-priced Member States) can further reduce prices. Special pricing and reimbursement rules may apply to orphan drugs. Inclusion of orphan drugs in reimbursement systems tend to focus on the medical usefulness, need, quality and economic benefits to patients and the healthcare system as for any product. Acceptance of any medicinal product for reimbursement may come with cost, use and often volume restrictions, which again can vary by country. In addition, results based rules of reimbursement may apply. There can be no assurance that any country that has price controls or reimbursement limitations for pharmaceutical products will allow favorable reimbursement and pricing arrangements for any of our products, if approved in those countries.

Healthcare Laws and Regulations

Healthcare providers and third-party payors play a primary role in the recommendation and prescription of pharmaceutical products that are granted marketing approval. Our current and future arrangements with providers, researchers, consultants, third-party payors and customers are subject to broadly applicable federal and state fraud and abuse, anti-kickback, false claims, physician payment transparency and other healthcare laws and regulations that may constrain our business and/or financial arrangements. Restrictions under applicable federal and state healthcare laws and regulations include, without limitation, the following:

- the U.S. federal Anti-Kickback Statute, which prohibits, among other things, persons and entities from knowingly and willfully soliciting, receiving, offering, or paying remuneration, directly or indirectly, in cash or in-kind, to induce or reward either the referral of an individual for, or the purchase, order or recommendation of, any good or service, for which payment may be made, in whole or in part, under a federal healthcare program such as Medicare and Medicaid. A person or entity does not need to have actual knowledge of the statute or a specific intent to violate it in order to have committed a violation;
- the federal civil and criminal false claims laws, including the civil False Claims Act, and civil monetary penalties laws, which prohibit individuals or entities from, among other things, knowingly presenting, or causing to be presented, to the federal government, claims for payment that are false, fictitious, or fraudulent or knowingly making, using, or causing to be made or used a false record or statement to avoid, decrease, or conceal an obligation to pay money to the federal government. Moreover, the government may assert that a claim that includes items or services resulting from a violation of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute constitutes a false or fraudulent claim for purposes of the civil False Claims Act;
- the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, which created additional federal criminal laws that prohibit, among other things, knowingly and willfully executing, or attempting to execute, a scheme to defraud any healthcare benefit program or making false statements relating to healthcare matters. Similar to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, a person or entity does not need to have actual knowledge of the statute or a specific intent to violate it in order to have committed a violation;
- the federal transparency requirements known as the federal Physician Payments Sunshine Act, under the Affordable Care Act, which requires certain manufacturers of drugs, devices, biologics and medical supplies to report annually to the CMS, within the HHS, information related to payments and other transfers of value made by that entity to physicians (as defined by statute), certain other healthcare providers beginning in 2022, and teaching hospitals, as well as ownership and investment interests held by physicians and their immediate family members;
- federal consumer protection and unfair competition laws, which broadly regulate marketplace activities and activities that potentially harm consumers;
- federal government price reporting laws, which require us to calculate and report complex pricing metrics to government programs and which may be used in the calculation of reimbursement and/or discounts on marketed products;
- the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, a U.S. law which regulates certain financial relationships with foreign government officials (which could include, for example, certain medical professionals); and
- analogous state and foreign laws and regulations, such as state anti-kickback and false claims laws, which may apply to healthcare items or services that are reimbursed by non-governmental third-party payors, including private insurers; and some state laws require pharmaceutical companies to comply with the pharmaceutical industry's voluntary compliance guidelines and the relevant compliance guidance promulgated by the federal government in addition to requiring pharmaceutical manufacturers to report information related to payments to physicians and other healthcare providers or marketing expenditures and pricing information.

Violations of these laws can subject us to criminal, civil and administrative sanctions including monetary penalties, damages, fines, disgorgement, individual imprisonment and exclusion from participation in government funded healthcare programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid, additional reporting requirements and oversight if we become subject to a corporate integrity agreement or similar agreement to resolve allegations of noncompliance with these laws, reputational harm, and we may be required to curtail or restructure our operations. Moreover, we expect that there will continue to be federal and state laws and regulations, proposed and implemented, that could impact our future operations and business.

Data Privacy and Security Laws

We may be subject to, or our marketing activities may be limited by HIPAA and its implementing regulations, which established uniform standards for certain covered entities (healthcare providers, health plans and healthcare clearinghouses) governing the conduct of certain electronic healthcare transactions and protecting the security and privacy of protected health information, including, among other requirements, mandatory contractual terms and technical safeguards to protect the privacy, security and transmission of protected health information and notification to affected individuals and regulatory authorities in the event of certain breaches of security of protected health information. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, commonly referred to as the economic stimulus package, included sweeping expansion of HIPAA's privacy and security standards called the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, or HITECH, which became effective on February 17, 2010. Among other things, the HITECH makes HIPAA's privacy and security standards directly applicable to business associates, or independent contractors or agents of covered entities, that receive or obtain protected health information in connection with providing a service on behalf of a covered entity. HITECH also increased the civil and criminal penalties that may be imposed against covered entities, business associates and possibly other persons, and gave state attorneys general new authority to file civil actions for damages or injunctions in federal courts to enforce the federal HIPAA laws and seek attorneys' fees and costs associated with pursuing federal civil actions.

Even when HIPAA does not apply, failing to take appropriate steps to keep consumers' personal information secure can constitute unfair acts or practices in or affecting commerce and be construed as a violation of Section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, or the FTCA, 15 U.S.C § 45(a). The FTC expects a company's data security measures to be reasonable and appropriate in light of the sensitivity and volume of consumer information it holds, the size and complexity of its business, and the cost of available tools to improve security and reduce vulnerabilities. Individually identifiable health information is considered sensitive data that merits stronger safeguards and the FTC's guidance for appropriately securing consumers' personal information is similar to what is required by the HIPAA Security Rule.

State laws may be more stringent, broader in scope or offer greater individual rights with respect to protected health information, or PHI, than HIPAA, and state laws may differ from each other, which may complicate compliance efforts. By way of example, the California Consumer Privacy Act, or CCPA, effective January 1, 2020, gives California residents expanded rights to access and delete their personal information, opt out of certain personal information sharing, and receive detailed information about how their personal information is used. The CCPA provides for civil penalties for violations, as well as a private right of action for data breaches that is expected to increase data breach litigation. The CCPA may increase our compliance costs and potential liability. Additionally, California voters approved a new privacy law, the California Privacy Rights Act, or CPRA, in the November 3, 2020 election. Effective starting on January 1, 2023, the CPRA will significantly modify the CCPA, including by expanding consumers' rights with respect to certain sensitive personal information. The CPRA also creates a new state agency that will be vested with authority to implement and enforce the CCPA and the CPRA. In addition, other states may choose to adopt more stringent privacy legislation, which could increase our potential liability and compliance costs and adversely affect our business.

In the European Union, we may be subject to strict data protection regulations, in particular with regard to health data of individuals pursuant to Art. 4 Nr. 15 of the GDPR, effective since May 25, 2018. The GDPR, together with national legislation, regulations and guidelines of the European Union Member States and the United Kingdom governing the processing of personal data, impose strict obligations with respect to, and restrictions on, the collection, use, retention, protection, disclosure, transfer and processing of personal data. In particular, the GDPR includes obligations and restrictions concerning the consent and rights of data subjects, the transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Union, security breach notifications, and other requirements concerning the security and confidentiality of personal data. For example, in 2016, the European Union and United States agreed to a transfer framework for data transferred from the European Union to the United States, called the Privacy Shield, but the Privacy Shield was invalidated in July 2020 by the Court of Justice of the European Union. The standard contractual clauses issued by the European Commission for the transfer of personal data may be similarly invalidated by the Court of Justice of the European Union. On June 4, 2021, the European Commission adopted new standard contractual clauses, which impose on companies additional obligations relating to data transfers, including the obligation to conduct a transfer impact assessment and, depending on a party's role in the transfer, to implement additional security measures and to update internal privacy practices. It remains to be seen whether these standard contractual clauses will remain available and whether additional means for lawful data transfers will become available. The GDPR imposes special requirements concerning the protection of special categories of personal data which include health and genetic information of data subjects. These special categories of data may only be processed under certain circumstances, including if the data subject consented to such processing or if (i) processing is necessary in order to protect vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person, insofar as the data subject is unable to provide consent for physical or legal reasons; (ii) the data concerned have manifestly been made public by the data subject; (iii) processing is necessary in order to assert, exercise or defend legal claims; or (iv) processing is necessary for the purposes of scientific research and any additional requirements under applicable data protection laws, including national legislation, regulations and guidelines, are met.

Therefore, we may be subject to and our marketing activities may be limited by the regulations regarding the data protection of individuals according to the GDPR, the German Federal Data Protection Act and other applicable data protection laws. These regulations could also restrict the transfer of data from European Union member states to the United States. The general transfer of personal data outside of the European Union is prohibited unless the conditions laid out in Art. 44 et. seq. of the GDPR are fulfilled and an adequate level of data protection can be ensured. Currently the United States is not considered to be a country with an adequate level of data protection, and further contractual arrangements must be adopted to permit the international transfer of personal data to the United States. European data protection authorities may interpret the GDPR and national laws differently and impose additional requirements, which contributes to the complexity of processing personal data in or from the European Union. Guidance on implementation and compliance practices is regularly updated or otherwise revised. The GDPR has increased our responsibility and liability in relation to personal data that we process and we may be required to put in place additional mechanisms ensuring compliance with the relevant data protection regimes. Separately, Brexit could also lead to further legislative and regulatory changes and increase our compliance costs. As of January 1, 2021, and the expiry of transitional arrangements agreed to between the United Kingdom and the European Union, data processing in the United Kingdom is governed by a United Kingdom version of the GDPR (combining the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018), exposing us to two parallel regimes, each of which potentially authorizes similar fines and other potentially divergent enforcement actions for certain violations. On June 28, 2021, the European Commission adopted an adequacy decision in favor of the United Kingdom, enabling data transfers from European Union member states to the United Kingdom without additional safeguards. However, the United Kingdom adequacy decision will automatically expire in June 2025 unless the European Commission re-assesses and renews or extends that decision. For more information regarding the risks related to data security and privacy, see "Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Business and Industry."

Competition

We participate in an industry that is characterized by a rapidly growing understanding of disease biology, quickly changing technologies, strong emphasis on proprietary products, and a multitude of companies involved in the creation, development and commercialization of novel therapeutics. These companies are highly sophisticated and often collaborate strategically with each other.

We are developing a broad portfolio of product candidates that, coupled with our capabilities across mRNA technology, development and manufacturing, we believe position us at the forefront of targeted immune active and immune silent mRNA-based medicines. However, we compete with a wide range of pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies, academic institutions and other research organizations for novel therapeutic targets, new technologies, talent, financial resources, intellectual property rights and collaboration opportunities. As such, many of our competitors and potential competitors have substantially greater scientific, research and product development capabilities as well as greater financial, manufacturing, marketing and human resources than we do. In addition, there is intense competition to establish clinical trial sites and register patients for clinical trials. Many specialized biotechnology firms have formed collaborations with large, established companies to support the research, development and commercialization of products that may be competitive with ours. Accordingly, our competitors may be more successful than we may be in developing, commercializing and achieving widespread market acceptance. In addition, our competitors' products may be more effective or more effectively marketed and sold than any treatment we or our development partners may commercialize and may render our product candidates obsolete or noncompetitive before we can recover the expenses related to developing and commercializing any of our product candidates.

There are additional companies that are working on potential mRNA medicines. Companies with clinical programs with mRNA include BioNTech/Pfizer, Moderna, eTheRNA Immunotherapies, Translate Bio, GlaxoSmithKline Sanofi, AstraZeneca, Merck & Co. and Arcturus Therapeutics and those programs include, Ethris and Genevant Sciences. Specifically, our vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, against COVID-19 is currently the main focus of other pharmaceutical companies, some with more considerable capital resources than ours. For example, a limited number of products that utilize mRNA as a prophylactic vaccine against COVID-19 have been approved by the FDA, EMA and other regulatory agencies, such as BioNTech SE and Pfizer Inc.'s mRNA immunotherapy, BNT162b2, which was granted emergency approval by the FDA on December 11, 2020 and granted conditional marketing authorization by the EMA on December 21, 2020, and Moderna's mRNA immunotherapy, mRNA-1273, which was granted emergency approval by the FDA on December 18, 2020 and granted conditional marketing authorization by the EMA on January 6, 2021. Thus, we expect intense competition for our vaccine candidate from other pharmaceutical companies not limited to the field of mRNA medicines. In addition, the oncology therapeutics landscape in general is highly competitive and includes large and specialty pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, academic research institutions and governmental agencies and public and private research institutions. It includes both competition from marketed therapies as well as potential new therapeutics in development. We may compete with products with different mechanisms of action as well as against established standards of care. We expect our intratumoral immunotherapy candidates for the treatment of solid tumors to face direct competition from companies such as Moderna and BioNTech in collaboration with Sanofi in addition to several non-mRNA-based approaches.

C. Organizational Structure

Major subsidiaries are incorporated by reference to [Exhibit 21.1 to the Company's Form F-1 \(File No. 333-240076\) filed on August 10, 2020](#). CureVac RNA Printer GmbH, which was founded in 2021, constitutes another major subsidiary of the Company. We are a holding company, and our sole asset is the capital stock of our wholly owned subsidiaries.

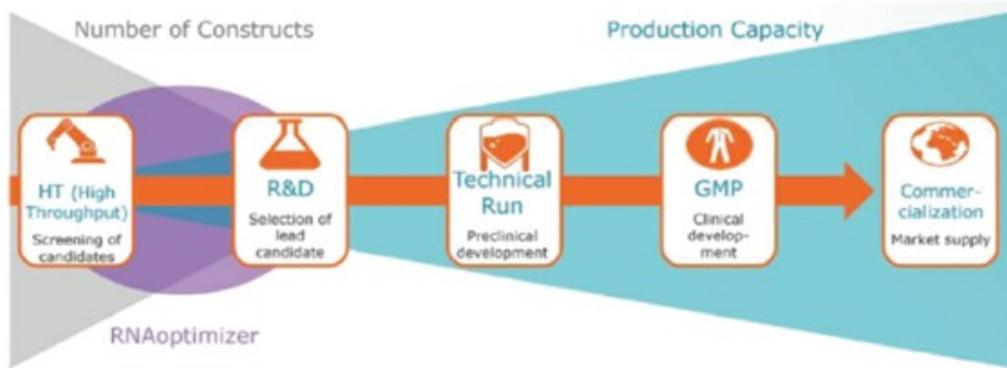
D. Property, Plant and Equipment

Our Manufacturing Platform

We are an integrated biopharmaceutical company with in-house manufacturing capabilities and expertise. We consider our manufacturing process an important part of our strategy that allows us to continuously improve our technology platform and maintain flexibility in clinical development. The close interaction of our technical development and research teams enables us to rapidly implement innovations to the manufacturing process and creates a feedback loop between manufacturing and research. Using this feedback loop, we have created processes and analytics. We control the critical steps of manufacturing in-house as well as for the integrated European vaccine manufacturing network that we are currently building up to increase existing manufacturing capacities with highly experienced Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization partners for each of the key manufacturing steps for CV2CoV or other next generation product candidates. Both of which allow us to drive innovation and to maintain flexibility, and in turn allows us to pivot quickly in pandemic settings such as COVID-19.

All of our mRNA-based active ingredients for various fields of application originate from a common technology platform and are based on identical source materials. This enables us to produce all mRNA therapies using a substantially similar platform process concept. Given the differences in the encoded protein only require alterations of the sequence of the mRNA molecule, leaving its physicochemical characteristics largely unaffected, we can use the same mRNA production strategy applying the same unit operations for diverse products. This allows us to save time and reduce costs compared to other manufacturing processes. Our approach supports a seamless production concept based on our experience and know-how in mRNA manufacturing.

Our GMP Manufacturing Facilities



We have continued to invest significantly in building and expanding our manufacturing capabilities since 2006. We currently have the capacity to produce late-stage clinical trial RNA material and early commercial lots. Since 2006, we have manufactured thousands of mRNA constructs, from high throughput and small amounts for discovery and preclinical development to GMP level of quality.

We are currently operating three GMP-certified suites. Our GMP I/II facility was designed to run up to 14 different products in parallel, using a lab-scale process. The facility covers all steps from starting material pDNA, through mRNA manufacturing to fill and finish. Our GMP I/II facility is dedicated to provide supplies for early clinical development (Phase 1 and 2), with capacity to produce multiple batches per year. In 2019, we expanded our production capacity to meet the increasing demands for clinical studies and future initial commercial supply by adding a GMP III facility. In contrast to the GMP I/II facility, our GMP III facility allows us to achieve additional scale and reduce manufacturing process time. Our GMP III facility focuses on the production of mRNA, and we currently use CMOs for starting material plasmid DNA, or pDNA. We are in the process of adding the formulation step and expect a first GMP manufacturing run including formulation in the fourth quarter of 2022. Our GMP III facility is intended to provide supply for our late-stage clinical studies and initial market supply and is based on a new scalable process design compared to our GMP I/II facility. We are currently in the process of building a GMP IV facility, which is being designed to cover all manufacturing steps from starting material to formulation, to support our future commercial launches, as shown in the picture below. We have established a broad and integrated European vaccine manufacturing network with highly experienced Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization partners for each of the key manufacturing steps for CVnCoV to accelerate the delivery of pandemic-scale vaccine volumes.



GMP IV facility

The RNA Printer

In addition to our GMP manufacturing facilities, we are currently developing a new automated and mobile production concept, The RNA Printer[®]. The RNA Printer[®] is a GMP production system that is being designed to downscale the manufacturing process and automate major manufacturing steps. This fully synthetic production process would allow us to have rapid manufacturing of products and offer reproducibility. It will also include automated cleaning and sanitization in place procedures and continuous process validation. Testing and process development of the first RNA Printer prototype is ongoing. We have successfully manufactured RNA batches with the first RNA Printer prototype and are currently establishing a first version of The RNA Printer[®] under cleanroom conditions to provide clinical trial material. In parallel, we are already developing a new version to further improve The RNA Printer[®] concept. These new prototypes for DNA and RNA production are being designed to cover automated down- and upstream production up to drug substance.



RNA Printer

The key characteristics of The RNA Printer[®] are rapid throughput, easy operator access to equipment, sophisticated precision control software and data capture, and the small footprint that allows for easy decentralization. With its modular design, it could be used for a rapid first response in outbreak scenarios or even be placed as a stand-alone device for epidemic areas. We view The RNA Printer[®] as complementary to our manufacturing strategy. For example, we expect that The RNA Printer[®] could be deployed to the front lines of pandemic outbreaks complementing our large-scale production facilities that can be used to generate supplies to protect the broader population.

Our vision is to have a flexible, mobile and automated end-to-end solution for the different fields of application. Our objective is to cover the entire production stream, and we believe efficient accompanying analytics will help to rapidly produce high-quality material. All data generated during production would be collected to further improve production processes and product development.

Facilities

Our headquarters are in Tübingen, Germany, Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, where we occupy approximately 123,000 square feet of office and laboratory space under a sublease agreement entered into with CureVac Real Estate GmbH that started on June 6, 2018. The fixed-term 15-year lease payment period began on March 1, 2020. We also occupy approximately 53,000 square feet of additional office and laboratory space in Tübingen, Germany, Paul-Ehrlich-Strasse 15, under sublease agreements also entered into with CureVac Real Estate GmbH, that started on February 1, 2018.

Since 2006, we have operated a manufacturing facility in Tübingen, Germany, the first worldwide GMP-compliant RNA production plant with two multi-product suites. This facility contains approximately 16,145 square feet of laboratory space, including 2,800 square feet of GMP facilities and is dedicated to provide supplies for early clinical development (Phases 1 and 2 of clinical trials). In addition, we have established a third in-house production suit (GMP III) with an upscaled manufacturing process, which was certified in December 2019. We currently occupy 2,800 square feet of GMP III facility for the production of mRNA. Our GMP III facility is intended to provide supplies for our late-stage clinical studies and anticipated early market supply. These manufacturing facilities are located in Tübingen, Germany, Paul-Ehrlich-Strasse 15 and are leased via the abovementioned sublease agreements entered into with CureVac Real Estate GmbH. We are also building an integrated European network with highly experienced Contract Development and Manufacturing Organization partners for each of the key manufacturing steps for CVnCoV, and thereby expanding our manufacturing capacity through technology transfers.

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We are also constructing a new manufacturing facility, designed for the development of a GMP production process on a large industrial-scale, from starting material to formulation, for future market supply (GMP IV). This GMP IV facility, which is intended to produce IMPs that serve our future late-stage clinical trials and market supply, is expected to be approximately 86,000 square feet. Currently, we have completed the shell of the GMP IV facility and expect to open it in the second half of 2022. The GMP IV facility was supported by the European Investment Bank. The expected cost of completion for GMP IV is €150.8 million, and as of December 31, 2021, we have spent €59.0 million on completing the GMP IV facility. In addition, we lease land and buildings for our offices. We lease an aggregate of approximately 210,000 square feet, in Germany and the United States. The following table summarizes information with respect to the principal facilities leased by us:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Area (Approximate Sq. Feet)</u>
Germany:	
Tübingen	189,000
Frankfurt am Main	8,600
Total	197,600
United States:	
Boston	12,900
Total	12,900
Total	210,500

Our leases expire on various dates from 2021 to 2035. The lease in Boston, United States, is held by our U.S. subsidiary, CureVac Inc.

Environmental Issues

To the best of our knowledge, currently there are no foreign, federal, state or local environmental laws, rules or regulations that will materially affect our results of operations or our position with respect to our competitors. However, we can provide no assurance of the effect that any possible future environmental laws will have on our operating results.

ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

A. Operating Results

The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with CureVac's audited consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2020 and 2021 and for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2020 and 2021 and the notes thereto, included elsewhere in this Annual Report as well as the information presented under "Item 3. Key Information — A. Selected Financial Data." Financial information presented in the consolidated financial statements for periods prior to the completion of our corporate reorganization is that of CureVac AG, our wholly owned subsidiary. The consolidated financial statements of CureVac N.V. are a continuation of the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac AG. CureVac AG was acquired by CureVac B.V., which subsequently converted into CureVac N.V., on August 14, 2020 as part of our corporate reorganization. CureVac B.V. had no assets, liabilities or contingent liabilities until the completion of our corporate reorganization. Following the corporate reorganization, CureVac N.V. became the holding company of CureVac AG and the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac AG included in this Annual Report became the historical consolidated financial statements of CureVac N.V. The following discussion is based on our financial information prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB, which may differ in material respects from generally accepted accounting principles in the United States and other jurisdictions. The following discussion includes forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of many factors, including but not limited to those described under "Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Key Factors Affecting Our Results of Operations

We believe that the most significant factors affecting our results of operations include:

Research and Development Expenses

Our ability to successfully pioneer a robust mRNA technology platform and develop innovative product candidates will be the primary factor affecting our future growth and development. Our approach to the discovery and development of product candidates based on mRNA technology is still being demonstrated. As such, we do not know whether we will be able to successfully develop any products. Developing novel product candidates requires a significant investment of resources over a prolonged period of time, and a core part of our strategy is to continue making sustained investments in this area. We have chosen to leverage our platform to initially focus on advancing our product candidates in the areas of prophylactic vaccines, oncology and molecular therapy.

For more information on our proprietary technology and clinical development pipeline, see “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Our Product Portfolio.”

All of the product candidates are still in development, and we have incurred and will continue to incur significant research and development costs for preclinical studies and clinical trials. We expect that our research and development expenses will constitute the most substantial part of our expenses in future periods in line with the advance and expansion of the development of our product candidates. Due to our accelerated efforts to develop our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, we incurred research and development expenses that significantly exceeded our historical levels of research and development expenses. Additionally, our October 2021 notification to the European Commission of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV resulted in our recognition of several expenses, which have contributed to our increased expense levels, but which we do not expect to recur in future periods. In April 2021, we entered into a collaboration agreement with GSK for the development of a broad second-generation COVID-19 vaccine program. CV2CoV, a non-chemically modified mRNA, encoding the prefusion stabilized full-length spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and formulated within LNPs, is the first representative of our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine program presently at a preclinical development stage. Within the second-generation COVID-19 vaccine program, we plan to extend our technology platform also to chemically modified mRNA constructs to allow for data-driven selection of the best candidate. We expect to incur significant expenses related to such second-generation vaccine candidates. But, as we and GSK agreed to equally share the development costs for GSK COVID products, our current level of research and development expenses will not continue to increase in the level as it did from 2020 to 2021. Once we conclude our research and development efforts related to a selected second-generation vaccine candidate, we expect that our research and development expenses shall be consistent with our past trends before the COVID-19 pandemic, but we may find it necessary to continue such current trend with respect to our research and development expenses or we may continue to increase further our research and development expenses. For example, we may continue to increase our research and development expenses for future research and development related to the next-generations of our COVID-19 vaccine candidates, such as for our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidates or may pursue new indications with our technology platform.

We have historically funded the research and development expenses primarily through public offerings of our common stock, private placements of equity securities, convertible loans, grants from government agencies and similar bodies and payments for collaborative research and development services with strategic partners. In addition, we signed an advance purchase agreement, or APA, with the EC that provided substantial support for our efforts to advance our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. In October 2021, we notified the European Commission of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which automatically terminated the APA.

Our and Our Collaborators' Ability to Commercialize Our Product Candidates

Our ability to generate revenue from our product candidates depends on our and our collaborators' ability to successfully advance clinical trials for our product candidates and receive regulatory approval, particularly in the United States, Europe, and other major markets.

We believe that our broad portfolio of product candidates with both novel and validated targets enhances the likelihood that our research and development efforts will yield successful product candidates. Nonetheless, we cannot be certain if any of our product candidates will receive regulatory approvals. Even if such approvals are granted, we will thereafter need to maintain manufacturing and supply arrangements and engage in extensive marketing prior to generating any revenue from such products, and the ultimate commercial success of our products will depend on their acceptance by patients, the medical community and third-party payors and their ability to compete effectively with other therapies on the market. See "Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — Risks Related to the Development, Clinical Testing and Commercialization of Our Product Candidates."

The competitive environment is also an important factor with the commercial success of our product candidates, and our ability to successfully commercialize a product candidate will depend on whether there are competing product candidates being developed or already marketed by other companies.

We currently do not have any product candidates that have received regulatory approval. As such, we have not incurred any material commercialization expenses in connection with an approved product candidate. In February 2021, we initiated a rolling submission for our first generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, with the EMA, which was designed to allow the EMA to assess CVnCoV's compliance with standards for vaccine efficacy, safety and pharmaceutical quality as a prerequisite for a formal market authorization application. Later in 2021, EMA informed us that the EMA would not start reviewing our submission for CVnCoV before the beginning of 2022. As a result, we estimated that the earliest possible approval of CVnCoV would come in the second quarter of 2022. Data on the efficacy of CVnCoV was generated and published in June 2021. This efficacy data did not live up to our pre-trial expectations and fell behind the efficacy of competing COVID-19 vaccine products. The application for the marketing authorization for CVnCoV was withdrawn in early October 2021, as a necessary reaction to the efficacy data as well as the concerns and uncertainties resulting from such data on the granting of a marketing authorization and the expected concerns of prescribers and patients to use a COVID-19 vaccine with a lower efficacy compared to the vaccines already available on the market. After the withdrawal of the application for a marketing authorization for CVnCoV, we focus our efforts on second-generation mRNA vaccines. The decision is aligned with the evolving dynamics of the pandemic response toward greater need for differentiated vaccines with the gradual transition from an acute pandemic to an endemic SARS-CoV-2 environment. In connection with the regulatory approval process, and in preparation for the commercialization of a second-generation COVID-19 vaccine, we expect our expenses related to commercialization to significantly decrease in the short-term due to our past commercialization efforts for CVnCoV. However, we expect that our expenses related to commercialization will significantly increase in the long-term if a second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate reaches late clinical stages, but we expect that this increase in expenses will be mitigated by the GSK COVID Agreement, as described below. As part of the commercialization process of CVnCoV, we also entered into strategic partnerships with Bayer for the development, production and distribution of CVnCoV. In addition, pursuant to a preliminary agreement regarding the secondary manufacturing of CVnCoV we entered into with GSK, GSK would have supported the secondary manufacturing of up to 100 million doses of CVnCoV in 2021. Additionally, we also partnered with Fareva, Rentschler Biopharma SE, and Novartis AG, among others, to develop an integrated European manufacturing network. Due to our decision to withdraw CVnCoV from the regulatory approval process and focus our efforts on second-generation mRNA vaccine, separate agreements with Celonic and Wacker were terminated.

Our Collaborations, Related License Agreements and Advance Purchase Agreements

Our results of operations have been, and we expect them to continue to be, affected by our contractual collaborations with third parties for the development and commercialization of certain of our product candidates. In addition, our future results of operation may be affected by future advance purchase agreements for our COVID-19 vaccine candidates. To date, our revenues have been recognized pursuant to license and collaboration agreements, which include up-front payments for licenses or options to obtain licenses, milestone payments, payments for product sales and payments for research and development services. Grants from government agencies or similar bodies are recognized as other operating income or as a reduction to depreciation and amortization expense recognized from assets purchased under the associated arrangements.

We have entered into strategic collaborations and license agreements with third parties. In addition, on November 30, 2020, we entered into an advance purchase agreement, or APA, with the European Commission, or EC, which provided for the advance purchase by the commission of our first-generation vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which automatically terminated the APA. As part of our business development strategy, we aim to increase the number of our strategic collaborations in order to derive further value from our platform and more fully exploit the potential of our collaborations and license agreements.

Certain key terms of our current material collaboration and license agreements, as well as our advance purchase agreement with the EC are summarized below. For further details on our collaboration agreements, see “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations” and “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Advance Purchase Agreements,” respectively.

GlaxoSmithKline

In July 2020, we entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement with GSK, which we refer to as the 2020 GSK Agreement, pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and commercialize prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA-based vaccines and antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens. The 2020 GSK Agreement was amended and restated in April 2021, September 2021, February 2022 and March 2022.

GSK paid us an up-front payment of €120 million and is required to pay us a manufacturing capacity reservation fee of €30 million following a certain regulatory milestone event, which is creditable against future milestone payments. We are eligible to receive up to between €28 million to €45 million in development milestone payments, €32 million to €35 million in regulatory milestone payments and €70 million to €100 million in commercial milestone payments, depending on the product. Under the 2020 GSK Agreement, we granted GSK an exclusive option to add additional products in the field of infectious diseases to the license granted under the 2020 GSK Agreement and upon each exercise of such option, and GSK is required to compensate us for certain development costs and pay any accrued milestone payments. GSK additionally has the right to replace products licensed under the 2020 GSK Agreement and if the replacement product was already under development by us, GSK must compensate us for certain development costs and pay any accrued milestone payments. We are additionally eligible to receive tiered royalty payments ranging from a single-digit percentage to a low teens percentage on net sales, subject to certain customary reductions. GSK is required to compensate us for certain development and regulatory costs we may incur in connection with our performance of our obligations under the 2020 GSK Agreement, and we are eligible to receive up to €20,000 in reimbursements for expenses incurred recording or registering the licenses granted under the 2020 GSK Agreement. We retain the right to commercialize products developed under the 2020 GSK Agreement in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, as GSK’s exclusive distributor in these markets. Under any such distribution agreement to be entered into between us and GSK, we will be required to purchase supply from GSK and pay GSK a low thirties percentage royalty on net sales. Pursuant to the amendment in September 2021, we and GSK are required to complete certain development activities set forth in updated development plans. We and GSK agree to decide whether the products required for clinical studies will be manufactured by us, GSK or jointly.

Additionally, in April 2021, we entered into a new collaboration agreement with GSK, which we refer to as the GSK COVID Agreement, pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and manufacture next-generation mRNA vaccines targeting the original SARS-CoV-2 strain as well as emerging variants, including multivalent and monovalent approaches, such as our second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV. These vaccine candidates may either be used to protect unvaccinated individuals or to serve as boosters in the event that SARS-CoV-2 immunity gained from an initial vaccination reduces over time. The GSK COVID Agreement was amended and restated in September 2021 and March 2022. Pursuant to the amendment in September 2021, we and GSK are required to complete certain development activities with respect to the GSK COVID Products set forth in updated development plans. We and GSK agree to decide whether the GSK COVID Products required for clinical studies will be manufactured by us, GSK or jointly.

Under the GSK COVID Agreement, GSK has paid us an up-front payment of €75 million. We and GSK agreed to equally share all development costs for GSK COVID Products, subject to certain exceptions. We and GSK will share all net profits generated from sales of GSK COVID Products, other than Combination Products, under profit sharing arrangements that in certain cases vary depending upon the GSK COVID Product in question, the time of sale, the number of doses sold and the party to whom the sale is made. We are eligible to receive tiered royalty payments ranging from a sub-teen percentage to a mid-teens percentage on net sales of Combination Products, subject to certain customary reductions. Under the GSK COVID Agreement we have the right to

commercialize GSK COVID Products in Austria, Germany and Switzerland and if we exercise such right, our sales of GSK COVID Products, other than Combination Products will be subject to the profit share and we will be required to pay GSK a high-teen percentage royalty on net sales of all Combination Products in such countries.

Genmab

In December 2019, we entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement, which we refer to as the Genmab Agreement, with Genmab to research and develop up to four potential differentiated mRNA-based antibody products, to be selected by Genmab, based on the combination of our proprietary RNAntibody technology with Genmab's proprietary antibody technology for the treatment of human diseases. We will collaborate on research to identify an initial product candidate designed to express a certain Genmab proprietary antibody, and we will contribute a portion of the overall costs for the development of such product candidate, until submission of an IND. Genmab will thereafter be responsible for the development and commercialization of the product candidate. Under the Genmab Agreement we further grant Genmab a license for the preclinical development of up to four additional mRNA antibody product concepts and options to obtain commercial licenses under our mRNA technology to develop, manufacture and commercialize product candidates for up to three of such product concepts.

Under the terms of the Genmab Agreement, Genmab paid us a \$10 million up-front fee and made a €20 million equity investment in March 2020. Genmab will be obligated to pay us a \$0.5 million reservation fee upon the selection of each additional product concept for development under the Genmab Agreement and \$5 million upon selection of a product targeting Genmab's proprietary antibody for further development and commercialization. Genmab is additionally required to pay us up to \$30 million in option exercise fees. If Genmab exercises any of its options to obtain commercial licenses for the additional mRNA antibody concepts, Genmab would fund all research and would develop and commercialize any resulting product candidates. We are additionally eligible to receive up to between \$25 million and \$43 million in development milestone payments, \$100 million and \$125 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$150 million and \$200 million in commercial milestone payments for each product, depending on the specific product concept. In addition, we are eligible to receive a mid single-digit to low teens percentage tiered royalty on aggregate net sales of licensed products, on a per-product basis and subject to certain customary reductions. If Genmab grants a sublicense to the initial product candidate developed under the Genmab Agreement before a certain milestone event, Genmab must pay us a one-time \$10 million payment. We are responsible for any payments to third parties related to the LNP technology we license to Genmab for use in relation to the initial product candidate developed under the Genmab Agreement and a portion of such payments with respect to LNP technology used in the additional product concepts. We retain an option to participate in development and commercialization of one of the potential additional mRNA antibody product concepts under predefined terms and conditions. In the event we exercise such right, we must pay Genmab a one-time payment of \$3 million and refund any option fee paid by Genmab with respect to such product. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$1.0 million in development cost reimbursements and we have not received any reservation, product selection, option exercise or sublicense fees or milestone or royalty payments.

Arcturus

In January 2018, we entered into a Development and Option Agreement, which we refer to as the Arcturus Agreement, with Arcturus, which provides us with access to Arcturus LNP formulation technology which we use in combination with our mRNA technology. We paid Arcturus an up-front fee of \$5 million and must pay an extension fee of \$1 million if we exercise our option to extend the initial term of the Arcturus Agreement beyond July 2023. We are required to reimburse Arcturus for certain costs incurred in connection with development activities and provide certain FTE funding. We are additionally required to pay up to an aggregate of \$5 million in connection with our acceptance of the irrevocable offer to obtain licenses for further development and commercialization of selected targets. Under each license agreement to be entered into in connection with our acceptance of the irrevocable offer, we will additionally be required to make certain royalty payments, which are not in excess of 10% on net sales of licensed products, and pay Arcturus up to \$6 million in development milestone payments, \$9 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$8 million in commercial milestone payments. As of December 31, 2021, we have made payments totaling \$5.5 million to Arcturus reimbursing Arcturus for development costs and in connection with our FTE funding obligations, and we have not accepted the irrevocable offer with respect to any target and therefore have not paid any acceptance fees or made any milestone or royalty payments to Arcturus.

Acuitas

In April 2016, we entered into a Development and Option Agreement, which as amended we refer to as the Acuitas Agreement, with Acuitas, which provides us with access to Acuitas LNP formulation technology that we use in combination with our mRNA technology. We are required to pay Acuitas annual target reservation and maintenance fees of up to \$1.4 million if we reserve the maximum number of targets permitted under the Acuitas Agreement and to reimburse Acuitas for certain costs incurred in connection with development activities and certain FTE costs. We are additionally required to pay an option exercise fee ranging from \$50,000 to \$2 million upon each exercise of our option to obtain a license for further development and commercialization with respect to a selected target, subject to certain additional fees ranging from \$10,000 to \$200,000 for the exercise of our option for certain other vaccine targets. We paid Acuitas a \$5 million up-front fee in connection with an amendment to the Acuitas Agreement dated July 2020 and, upon each exercise of our option to exchange a vaccine target licensed under any non-exclusive license, we are required to pay an exchange fee of \$3 million. We additionally paid Acuitas a \$3 million up-front fee in connection with an amendment to the Acuitas Agreement dated December 2020 and are required to pay an additional \$250,000 in April 2022 and April 2023 for each of certain options not yet exercised. Under each license agreement in connection with our exercise of our option, we will additionally be required to make low single-digit percentage tiered royalty payments and must pay up to between \$1.1 million and \$9 million in development milestone payments, \$1.3 million and \$7 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$1.3 million and \$7 million in commercial milestone payments, depending on whether the license is exclusive or non-exclusive and the number of options exercised to date. As of December 31, 2021, we have exercised our option to obtain a non-exclusive license to fourteen targets. As of December 31, 2021, we have paid Acuitas \$3.6 million in reservation and option exercise fees and have made payments totaling \$8.1 million reimbursing Acuitas for development costs and LNP batches and in connection with our FTE funding obligations.

For each option that we have exercised under the Acuitas Agreement, we have entered into a non-exclusive license agreement with Acuitas with respect to such optioned target, all based on the same form agreement, which we refer to as the Acuitas License Agreements. We are required to pay Acuitas up to between \$1.1 million and \$1.6 million in development milestone payments, \$1.3 million and \$1.8 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$1.3 million and \$1.8 million in commercial milestone payments under each Acuitas License Agreement, and we must pay Acuitas annual fees ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for any additional protein targeted by a vaccine product licensed under each Acuitas License Agreement after a certain milestone event. We additionally are obligated to pay Acuitas a low single-digit percentage royalty on net sales of licensed products. As of December 31, 2021, we have made \$100,000 in development milestone payments to Acuitas with respect to the license agreement relating to Rabies RAV-G, and we have made \$1.4 million in development milestone payments (Phase I, Phase II and Phase III milestone payments) to Acuitas with respect to the license agreement relating to the SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein S and have not made any royalty payments.

CRISPR Therapeutics

In November 2017, we entered into a Development and License Agreement, which, as amended by an amendment entered into in June 2020, we refer to as the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement, with CRISPR Therapeutics, pursuant to which we will develop novel Cas9 mRNA constructs for use in gene editing therapeutics. Under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement, we granted CRISPR Therapeutics an exclusive worldwide license to use our improved Cas9 constructs for the development and commercialization of three of its *in vivo* gene-editing programs for certain diseases.

CRISPR Therapeutics has paid us an up-front one-time technology access fee of \$3 million and we are eligible to receive up to \$13 million in development milestone payments, \$33 million in regulatory milestone payments and \$133 million in commercial milestone payments, as well as mid single-digit percentage royalties from CRISPR Therapeutics on the net sales of licensed products on a product-by-product and country-by-country basis, subject to certain potential customary reductions. Additionally, CRISPR Therapeutics will make payments to us for services provided by us in conjunction with research programs under the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement. In the event CRISPR Therapeutics exercises its right to sublicense under the agreement, CRISPR Therapeutics must pay us a low teens to mid-twenties percentage of any non-royalty sublicense income, depending on the timing of the sublicense and whether the sublicense is granted through an affiliate of CRISPR Therapeutics. As of December 31, 2021, we have received €3.6 million in payments for the supply of materials and FTE cost, development reimbursements and up-front one-time technology access fee and no milestone, royalty or sublicense fee payments.

Boehringer Ingelheim

In August 2014, we entered into an Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement, which we refer to as the Boehringer Agreement, with Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH, or Boehringer Ingelheim, whereby we granted Boehringer Ingelheim exclusive global rights for development and commercialization of our investigational therapeutic mRNA vaccine BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) formulated with our protamine technology. We received an up-front payment of €30 million, as well as, an option fee payment of €5 million and an additional €7 million in development milestone payments and as of March 31, 2021, we received €7.6 million for the supply of materials and reimbursing us for development costs. In June 2021, Boehringer Ingelheim provided notice of its intention to terminate the Boehringer Agreement. The termination became effective on November 17, 2021. Upon termination of the Boehringer Agreement, the rights and licenses granted by us to Boehringer Ingelheim reverted back to us, provided that Boehringer Ingelheim has the right to sell off existing inventory of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) for a certain period. In addition, Boehringer Ingelheim must assign to us all regulatory approvals or applications and grant us a non-exclusive, cost-free, perpetual and worldwide license to intellectual property held by Boehringer Ingelheim that has been used in the development, manufacture or commercialization of BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) or any other product developed under the Boehringer Agreement. We and Boehringer Ingelheim are currently assessing options to continue a collaboration based on state-of-the-art LNP-based formulations.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

In May 2014, we were awarded a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a vaccine for rotaviruses, as amended in November 2020, for up to \$2.8 million in funding. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$2.8 million in funding under the agreement. In March 2015, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation made an equity investment of \$40 million to support continued development of our RNA technology platform and the construction of an industrial-scale cGMP production facility. We entered into a Global Access Commitments Agreement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in February 2015 pursuant to which we are required to take certain actions to support the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation mission. In connection with the investment by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we are required to conduct development activities for up to three concurrent projects to be proposed by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The costs of such projects will be allocated on a project-by-project basis in proportion to the allocation of the expected benefits.

In November 2016, in connection with the Global Access Commitments Agreement, we were awarded a grant for up to \$0.9 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a vaccine for picornaviruses. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$0.7 million in funding under the picornaviruses grant agreement. In November 2017, we were awarded two additional grants each for up to \$1.9 million and \$1.5 million in funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of a universal influenza and a malaria vaccine, respectively. By an amendment entered into November 2020, our grant for the development of a malaria vaccine was increased by an additional \$0.8 million. As of December 31, 2021, we have received \$1.9 million and \$2.2 million, respectively, in funding under each grant agreement.

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations

In February 2019, we entered into a framework partnership agreement, which as amended we refer to as the CEPI Agreement, with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness, or CEPI, to develop our RNA Printer using certain intellectual property controlled by us covering the development and manufacture of mRNA products, as well as certain additional intellectual property licensed to us. In connection with the CEPI Agreement we have entered into work orders for the preclinical development of a Lassa virus vaccine, a yellow fever vaccine and our rabies virus vaccine. In addition, we entered into a work package for the preclinical development and a Phase 1 clinical trial for our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. The CEPI Agreement terminated in February 2022, except with respect to certain ongoing projects, which are contemplated to be completed in March 2023. CEPI agreed to contribute up to \$34 million in funding for projects undertaken under the CEPI Agreement and an additional \$15.3 million in connection with development of CVnCoV. As of December 31, 2021, we have received €26.4 million in funding for projects undertaken under the CEPI Agreement.

Tesla Grohmann

In November 2015, we entered into a development and intellectual property agreement, which we refer to as the Tesla Grohmann Agreement, with Tesla Grohmann, pursuant to which Tesla Grohmann agreed to design, develop and manufacture certain automated manufacturing machines on our behalf. We are obligated to pay Tesla Grohmann a fee for each machine delivered by Tesla Grohmann and up to \$50 million to \$60 million in commercial milestone payments as well as certain development costs under each associated work order. As of December 31, 2021, we have paid Tesla Grohmann €13 million to €14 million in development costs under various work orders, and we have not paid any fees for machines provided under the Tesla Grohmann Agreement or made any milestone payments.

Eli Lilly License and Collaboration Agreement

In November 2017, we entered into a global immuno-oncology collaboration with Eli Lilly focused on the development and commercialization of cancer vaccine products based on our proprietary RActive® technology, which we refer to as the Eli Lilly Agreement. In 2017, we received an up-front payment of \$50 million and an equity investment of €45 million and as of December 31, 2021, we have received €14.6 million in payments for the supply of materials and reimbursements for development costs. In June 2020, we entered into a termination agreement with Eli Lilly, which we refer to as the Eli Lilly Termination Agreement, and all licenses, and Eli Lilly's payment obligations, under the Eli Lilly Agreement terminated.

Advance Purchase Agreement for our First-Generation COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

On November 30, 2020, we entered into an APA with the EC, acting on behalf and in the name of all Member States of the European Union, which provided for the advance purchase by the Member States of 225 million doses of the vaccine to be allocated among the Member States and the option to purchase up to an additional 180 million doses. Pursuant to the APA, we received an up-front payment of €450 million. Such up-front payment had to be used solely for the development and commercial supply of CVnCoV. We are required to return any unspent amounts of the up-front payment if, among others, we fail to successfully develop CVnCoV or if we successfully develop CVnCoV, but we do not receive EU marketing authorization or fail to supply any doses of CVnCoV to any of the Member States by late 2021, unless we and the EC mutually agree to a later date. In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which notification automatically terminated the APA. According to the APA, in such case of termination, CureVac would only return the unspent amount of the up-front payment. In the context of the APA, "spent" means either costs incurred or commitments made in connection with the purposes set forth in the APA. On March 8, 2022, we received a letter signed by the EC acknowledging and outlining that we will not be required to return any portion of the up-front payment. Due to the termination of the APA, we will not receive any further payments related to the APA.

In other respects, upon the EC's request, we will transfer any raw materials and/or primary components paid for with the up-front payment that were not used as of the termination date. Additionally, should the EC request, or should we successfully sell, any raw materials and/or primary components, then an applicable portion of such raw materials, primary components or proceeds, as the case may be, will be remitted to the EC. This repayment agreement expires at the end of 2022.

Results of Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2020 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2021

We have based the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations on our audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2021 and the notes thereto, included elsewhere in this Annual Report and which have been retrospectively adjusted to reflect the impact of the share split resulting from the Corporate Reorganization.

The following is a discussion of our consolidated results of operations for each of the years ended December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2021. This information is derived from our accompanying consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by IASB.

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 and 2021:

	For Years Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros, except per share data)	
Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) Data:		
Revenue	48,871	102,990
Cost of sales	(14,173)	(238,195)
Selling and distribution expenses	(733)	(815,907)
Research and development expenses	(113,808)	(853,157)
General and administrative expenses	(53,554)	(100,402)
Income from release of governmental contract liabilities	—	574,502
Other operating income	24,150	67,702
Other operating expenses	(568)	(1,210)
Operating loss	(109,815)	(412,263)
Finance income	2,070	10,103
Finance expenses	(22,103)	(10,338)
Loss before income tax	(129,848)	(412,498)
Income tax benefit	726	782
Net loss	(129,122)	(411,716)
Other comprehensive income/loss:		
<i>Items that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss</i>		
Foreign currency adjustments	35	(91)
Total comprehensive loss	(129,087)	(411,807)
Net loss per share (basic and diluted)	(0.98)	(2.21)

Revenue

Revenue was €103.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €54.1 million, or 110.6 %, from €48.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily driven by increased revenues from our collaborations with GSK and the termination of the Boehringer Agreement. In total, for both the 2020 GSK Agreement and the GSK COVID Agreement, for the year ended December 31, 2021, revenue of €74.3 million was recognized, compared to €8.8 million in the same period of the prior year. Due to the termination of the Boehringer Agreement, the remaining contract liability, related to the up-front payment, was being recognized over a shorter period through November 17, 2021, the termination date. In addition, an option fee payment of €5 million and the additional €7 million development milestone were recognized. For the year ended December 31, 2021, €26.0 million was recognized, compared to €1.9 million in the same period of the prior year.

In the year ended December 31, 2020, revenue primarily consisted of €34.9 million recognized from the collaboration with Eli Lilly, including €33.1 million in contract liabilities from an up-front payment which was recognized in revenue upon termination of the collaboration as no further performance obligation remained.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales was €238.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €224.0 million, or 1,577%, from €14.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to recognition of expenses related to ineffective set-up activities of several contracted CMOs and, to a lesser extent, write-offs related to inventory in the period preceding the withdrawal of the EMA application for CVnCoV.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(2,896)	(22,159)
Materials	(1,598)	(46,250)
Third-party services	(2,652)	(145,515)
Maintenance and lease	(1,016)	(2,874)
Amortization, depreciation and derecognition	(5,913)	(21,262)
Other	(98)	(135)
Total	(14,173)	(238,195)

Selling and Distribution Expenses

Selling and distribution expenses were €1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €1.0 million, or 143%, from €0.7 million in the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to the recruiting of personnel for business development.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(631)	(1,369)
Amortization and depreciation	(98)	(86)
Other	(4)	(288)
Total	(733)	(1,743)

Research and Development Expenses

Research and development costs were €815.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €702.1 million, or 617%, from €113.8 million in the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to significantly higher research and development costs from our Phase 2/3 clinical trial for CVnCoV. The increase mainly consists of costs incurred to clinical research organizations, including an onerous contract provision for the remaining unavoidable and anticipated costs for completing the CVnCoV clinical trials, as we have an obligation to continue monitoring trial participants, and the cost of compensating personnel involved in the development of CVnCoV.

In addition, the increase was also driven by recognition of expenses related to settlement costs related to the termination of several CMO contracts and to write-offs of CVnCoV-related prepayments and inventory.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Materials	(29,834)	(232,292)
Personnel	(21,313)	(33,733)
Amortization and depreciation	(2,578)	(4,259)
Patents and fees to register a legal right	(7,337)	(11,157)
Third-party services	(51,306)	(531,827)
Maintenance and lease	(717)	(347)

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Other	(723)	(2,292)
Total	(113,808)	(815,907)

The following table reflects our research and development costs for each of our programs for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2021:

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Key Programs (CV8102, CV7202, CV2CoV and CVnCoV)		
CV8102	(11,129)	(6,591)
CV7202	(5,726)	(518)
CV2CoV	—	(5,782)
CVnCoV	(52,701)	(753,627)
Other Research and Development Programs	(14,389)	(4,610)
Unallocated costs(1)	(29,863)	(44,779)
Total	(113,808)	(815,907)

(1) Unallocated costs primarily consist of costs associated with personnel expenses, patents and fees to register a legal right, amortization and depreciation, maintenance and lease expenses, certain third-party service expenses and certain material expenses.

Our research and development expenses increased significantly compared to our expenses in 2020. Such increased research and development expenses primarily relate to the following key programs:

- Our mRNA vaccine program, CVnCoV against SARS-CoV-2.
- Our second-generation mRNA vaccine program, CV2CoV against SARS-CoV-2, which is being co-developed with GSK. The Phase 1 clinical trial for CV2CoV started in the first quarter of 2022.
- Our lead oncology program, CV8102, which is currently in a Phase 1 dose escalating clinical trial for four types of solid tumors as a monotherapy and in combination with anti-PD-1 and an expansion of the Phase 1 study to confirm the safety, tolerability and efficacy of CV8102 at a 600µg dose, the selected dose to be advanced in a Phase 2 clinical trial.

After the withdrawal of the application we expect our expenses to be on lower with our planned operations.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses were €100.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €46.8 million, or 87%, from €53.6 million in the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to consulting services for product launch readiness, personnel related costs from an increased headcount and higher expense recognized on share-based payments awards made subsequent to the year ended December 31, 2020.

	For the Years Ended	
	December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(29,884)	(37,393)
Maintenance and lease costs	(2,505)	(4,306)
Third-party services	(6,914)	(28,875)
Legal and other professional services	(3,531)	(9,230)
Amortization and depreciation	(6,020)	(8,895)
Other	(4,700)	(11,703)
Total	(53,554)	(100,402)

Income from release of governmental contract liabilities

On November 30, 2020, we entered into an Advance Purchase Agreement (APA) with the European Commission (EC), acting on behalf and in the name of all Member States of the European Union. The APA provided for the advance purchase by the Member States of 225 million doses of our SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. In order to support our accelerated efforts to develop a safe and effective vaccine, the APA provided for support to our operations in the form up-front payments. The first up-front payment of €450 million was paid by the EC on behalf of the Member States and was, as of December 31, 2020, included in contract liabilities.

In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which notification automatically terminated the APA. According to the APA, in such case of termination, CureVac would only return the unspent amount of the up-front payment. In the context of the APA, “spent” means either costs occurred, or commitments made in relation to the purpose as set out in the APA. We were able to demonstrate that the up-front payment was used in accordance with the contract and no repayment was required. As a result, the contract liability amounting to €450 million is released and recognized as income in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Due to the material magnitude of the amount, its non-recurring nature and to better enable comparability to past performance and predictability of future performance, CureVac recognized the €450 million as income and presented it in an additional line item in the statement of operations under “Income from release of governmental contract liabilities.”

In 2020, the Company announced with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung), or BMBF, a German government-related entity, established a grant to support the development and production of its COVID-19 vaccine candidates. In July 2020, CureVac applied for this grant as part of a special program to accelerate the research and development of urgently needed vaccines against SARS-CoV-2. The grant amounted up to €252 million and the payments were contingent on reaching predefined milestones. Based on the terms and conditions of the arrangement, the Company assessed the arrangement as having two components: a grant component and a supply component. Both were separated. The amount attributed to the supply of future deliveries was determined based on the relative stand-alone selling price of the vaccine observed in similar arrangements and is presented in contract liabilities.

The Company reached all the predefined milestones for 2020 and therefore received €103 millions in the year then ended. Due to the withdrawal of the EMA regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, CureVac was not able to reach all predefined milestones in 2021. From 2020 to December 2021, CureVac received a total of €196.3 million. In November 2021, CureVac notified BMG of the inability to supply CVnCoV, triggering the automatic termination of the supply agreement. As a result, the contract liability of €124 million also was released and was recognized as income in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Consistent with the rationale and treatment described above under the APA with the EC, CureVac recognized the €124 million as income and presented it in an additional line item “Income from release of governmental contract liabilities.”

Other Operating Income

Other operating income was €67.7 million in the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €43.5 million or 180%, from €24.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in amounts recognized from grants from government agencies and similar bodies, primarily the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, or BMBF.

Other Operating Expense

Other operating expense was €1.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2021 representing an increase of €0.6 million, or 100%, from €0.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. Other operating expense related primarily to compensation expense of our supervisory board.

Finance Income

Finance income was €10.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €8.0 million, or 381%, from €2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was mainly attributable to higher foreign exchange gains.

Finance Expenses

Finance expenses were €10.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing a decrease of €11.8 million, or 53%, from €22.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was mainly related to less negative interest on cash, which is being held in liquid funds to be available for use for CVnCoV wind down activities and CV2CoV development and manufacturing activities. The financial expenses from the year ended December 31, 2020, were mainly related to interest recognized on convertible loans which were fully repaid in August 2020.

Income Tax Benefit (Expense)

An income tax benefit of €0.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, representing an increase of €0.1 million, or 14%, from €0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to deferred tax benefits on temporary differences.

Year Ended December 31, 2019 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2020

We have based the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations on our audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2020 and the notes thereto, included elsewhere in this Annual Report and which have been retrospectively adjusted to reflect the impact of the share split resulting from the Corporate Reorganization.

The following is a discussion of our consolidated results of operations for each of the years ended December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2020. This information is derived from our accompanying consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by IASB.

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 and 2020:

	For Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros, except per share data)	
Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) Data:		
Revenue	17,416	48,871
Cost of sales	(27,983)	(14,173)
Selling and distribution expenses	(1,755)	(733)
Research and development expenses	(43,242)	(113,808)
General and administrative expenses	(48,969)	(53,554)
Other operating income	5,587	24,150
Other operating expenses	(552)	(568)
Operating loss	(99,498)	(109,815)
Finance income	833	2,070
Finance expenses	(1,460)	(22,103)
Loss before income tax	(100,125)	(129,848)
Income tax benefit (expense)	252	726
Net loss	(99,873)	(129,122)
Other comprehensive income/loss:		
<i>Items that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss</i>		
Foreign currency adjustments	32	35
Total comprehensive loss	(99,841)	(129,087)
Net loss per share (basic and diluted)	(1.03)	(0.98)

Revenue

Revenue was €48.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €31.5 million, or 180.6%, from €17.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily attributable to the new collaboration with GlaxoSmith Kline, or GSK, and the termination of our collaboration with Eli Lilly. In July 2020, we entered into a strategic collaboration agreement with GSK for the research and development, manufacturing and commercialization of mRNA-based vaccines and monoclonal antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens. Pursuant to the agreement, GSK made a non-refundable payment of €120 million, which has been received, deferred and recognized as contract liability. For the year ended December 31, 2020, €7.8 million was released from contract liabilities and recognized as revenue from the GSK collaboration. In addition, in June 2020, the License and Collaboration Agreement with Eli Lilly was terminated. As a result, on the termination date, €33.1 million in contract liabilities from an up-front payment was recognized as revenue as no further associated performance obligations remained.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales was €14.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing a decrease of €13.8 million, or 49.3%, from €28.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily attributable to the lower product costs as a result of the termination of the License and Collaboration Agreement with Eli Lilly. Additionally, during the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company recognized lower inventory write-downs in cost of sales and lower setup and quality assurance activities for the production processes as compared to in the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase of the amortization, depreciation and derecognition was due to a derecognition of fixed assets. The planned capacity of the new production plant, GMP IV was reassessed and management determined that that certain capitalized costs, consisting mainly of planning costs related to the previous design, did not have any further economic benefit, and therefore, that amount was derecognized from property, plant and equipment and recognized as cost of sales.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(9,855)	(2,896)
Materials	(7,542)	(1,598)
Third-party services	(7,268)	(2,652)
Maintenance and lease	(1,060)	(1,016)
Amortization, depreciation and derecognition	(2,038)	(5,913)
Other	(220)	(98)
Total	(27,983)	(14,173)

Selling and Distribution Expenses

Selling and distribution expenses were €0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing a decrease of €1.0 million, or 58.2%, from €1.8 million in the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily attributable to lower personnel expenses resulting from less expense recognized on share-based payment awards made subsequent to the year ended December 31, 2019.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(1,263)	(631)
Amortization and depreciation	(81)	(98)
Other	(411)	(4)
Total	(1,755)	(733)

Research and Development Expenses

Research and development costs were €113.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €70.6 million, or 163.4%, from €43.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily attributable to higher development expenses from the CVnCoV program. These expenses consist primarily of cost incurred to clinical research organizations and for personnel costs for employees involved in the CVnCoV development, as well as materials used in the administration of CVnCoV clinical trials. Additionally, in the year ended December 31, 2020, we recognized €4.7 million in share-based payment expense (included in personnel), whereas none was recognized in the same period of 2019.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Materials	(4,015)	(29,834)
Personnel	(14,385)	(21,313)
Amortization and depreciation	(474)	(2,578)
Patents and fees to register a legal right	(4,551)	(7,337)
Third-party services	(18,626)	(51,306)
Maintenance and lease	(670)	(717)
Other	(521)	(723)
Total	(43,242)	(113,808)

The following table reflects our research and development costs for each of our programs for the year ended December 31, 2019 and 2020:

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Key Programs (CV8102, CV7202 and CVnCoV)		
CV8102	(4,511)	(11,129)
CV7202	(2,236)	(5,726)
CVnCoV	—	(52,701)
Other Research and Development Programs	(14,271)	(14,389)
Unallocated costs(1)	(22,224)	(29,863)
Total	(43,242)	(113,808)

(1) Unallocated costs primarily consist of costs associated with personnel expenses, patents and fees to register a legal right, amortization and depreciation, maintenance and lease expenses, certain third-party service expenses and certain material expenses.

Our research and development expenses increased significantly compared to our expenses in 2019. Such increased research and development expenses primarily relate to the following key programs:

- Our mRNA vaccine program, CVnCoV against SARS-CoV-2, for which we initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial in June 2020 and a Phase 2a clinical trial in older adults in September 2020. For the Phase 1 clinical trial, we reported positive interim results on November 10, 2020, enabling us to select a recommended dose of 12µg to evaluate in a pivotal Phase 2b/3 trial. In December 2020, we initiated our pivotal Phase 2b/3 trial.
- Our lead oncology program, CV8102, which is currently in a Phase 1 dose escalating clinical trial for four types of solid tumors as a monotherapy and in combination with anti-PD-1.
- Our vaccine program, CV7202, which is currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial as a vaccine candidate for rabies.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses were €53.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €4.5 million, or 9.1%, from €49.0 million in the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily attributable to increased depreciation of right-of-use assets relating to newly leased office space.

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Personnel	(31,645)	(29,884)
Maintenance and lease costs	(4,604)	(2,505)
Third-party services	(5,970)	(6,914)
Legal and other professional services	(2,110)	(3,531)
Amortization and depreciation	(2,182)	(6,020)
Other	(2,458)	(4,700)
Total	(48,969)	(53,554)

Other Operating Income

Other operating income was €24.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €18.6 million or 332%, from €5.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was due to an increase in amounts recognized from grants from government agencies and similar bodies, primarily CEPI and BMBF.

Other Operating Expense

Other operating expense was €0.6 million in the year ended December 31, 2020 and was relatively unchanged from the year ended December 31, 2019. Other operating expense related primarily to compensation expense for our supervisory board in both years.

Finance Income

Finance income was €2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €1.3 million, or 162.5%, from €0.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase was mainly attributable to higher foreign exchange gains.

Finance Expenses

Finance expenses were €22.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, representing an increase of €20.6 million, or 1,373.3%, from €1.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase mainly related to interest incurred on convertible loans, which were fully repaid prior to the consummation of our initial public offering and to negative interest on cash which is being held in liquid funds for use in our CVnCoV R&D and manufacturing activities. In addition, the increase was also attributable to higher foreign exchange losses.

Income Tax Benefit (Expense)

An income tax benefit of €0.7 million was generated for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 as a result of higher deferred tax benefit recognized on taxable temporary differences.

B. Liquidity and Capital Resources

Overview

Since inception, we have incurred significant operating losses. For the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2021, we incurred net losses of €129.1 million and €411.7 million, respectively. To date, we have financed our operations primarily through the IPO in August 2020, the public offering in February 2021, private placements of equity securities, issuance of convertible debt, grants from government agencies and similar bodies and payments for collaborative research and development services. Our cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2021 were €811 million. Our primary cash needs are to fund our non-clinical and clinical development programs, for working capital requirements and for capital expenditures. The expected cost of completion for GMP IV is €150.8 million, and as of December 31, 2021, we have spent €63.2 million on completing the GMP IV facility. We believe our existing cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments will enable us to fund our operating expenses and capital expenditure requirements at least through the end of 2023. We have based this estimate on assumptions that may prove to be wrong, and we could exhaust our available capital resources sooner than we expect.

In September 2021, we entered into a sales agreement, the Open Sale Agreement, with Jefferies LLC and SVB Leerink LLC, as sales agents, to establish an at-the-market offering program, pursuant to which we may sell, from time to time, ordinary shares for aggregate gross proceeds of up to \$600.0 million.

Our financial condition and liquidity is and will continue to be influenced by a variety of factors, including our ability to generate cash flows from our operations, future indebtedness and the interest we are obligated to pay on this indebtedness, the availability of public and private debt and equity financing, changes in exchange rates which will impact our generation of cash flows from operations when measured in euros and our capital expenditure requirements, which are described in more detail at “Item 3. Key Information — D. Property, Plant and Equipment.”

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2021 and the effects, including estimated interest payments, that such obligations are expected to have on our liquidity and cash flows in future periods:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Payment Due by Period</u>				<u>Thereafter</u>
			<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	
			<u>(in thousands of euros)</u>				
Contractual commitments	163,557	163,557	—	—	—	—	—
Lease liabilities	28,892	3,469	3,450	3,626	3,758	3,015	11,574
Leases not yet commenced	33,377	294	406	3,696	3,888	4,060	21,033
Total	<u>225,826</u>	<u>167,320</u>	<u>3,856</u>	<u>7,322</u>	<u>7,646</u>	<u>7,075</u>	<u>32,607</u>

We have entered into various agreements with collaborators, including licensing agreements. These agreements provide for us to make milestone and royalty payments that are conditional on the achievement of certain development, regulatory and commercial milestones and certain of these agreements provide us an option to obtain further licenses which could additionally require us to make such milestone and royalty payments. As of December 31, 2021, the aggregate amount of such potential milestone payments, including those relating to licenses acquired from exercised options, under all such collaboration agreements, was up to \$127.8 million. The timing of these payments, and whether they become due, is conditional on achieving the applicable milestones.

We have not included milestone or royalty payments or other contractual payment obligations in the table above if the timing and amount of such obligations are unknown or uncertain.

Convertible Loans

We entered into a convertible loan agreement on May 3, 2019 with Mr. Dietmar Hopp, managing director of dievini, under which Mr. Hopp disbursed to us the amount of €50 million, referred hereto as Convertible Loan I. On October 24, 2019, we entered into an additional convertible loan agreement with Mr. Hopp, as amended, under which we have the right to call for disbursements in two tranches of €20 million each and an additional final tranche of approximately €24 million, until December 31, 2021, referred hereto as Convertible Loan II, and together with Convertible Loan I, referred hereto as the Convertible Loans. The Convertible Loans bore an interest rate of 8.00% per annum. On June 26, 2020, Mr. Hopp disbursed to us an additional \$26.8 million. On July 24, 2020, the First Loan and Second Loan were terminated and on August 7, 2020, the total principal of €94.8 million and total accrued interest of €5.6 million were repaid in full.

European Investment Bank Loan

In June 2020, we signed a financing arrangement with the European Investment Bank, or EIB, under which EIB agreed to provide us with a line of credit in an amount of up to €75 million for the partial financing of our clinical developments and large-scale production of our infectious diseases vaccine candidates including our vaccine against SARS-CoV-2, or the Investment, provided that the amount of financing does not exceed 50% of the cost of the Investment. The EIB financing falls under a joint initiative between EIB and the EC, which is intended as a new EIB financing instrument to finance inter alia research projects and research infrastructure under the Horizon 2020 framework program of the European Union for Research and Technological Development (2014-2020). The EIB financing will be provided in three €25 million tranches upon completion of predefined milestones that will be measured prior to the disbursement of each tranche. These predefined milestones are tied to evidence of successful progress in the development and large-scale production. In addition, the disbursements of the second and third tranches are contingent upon the disbursement of the first and second tranches, respectively. Interest accrues on the outstanding balance of each tranche at a rate of 0.5% per annum. Such interest is due and payable on the maturity date of each tranche or where a tranche is canceled or prepaid, the prepayment date. The maturity date for each tranche is seven years from the respective disbursement date of the relevant tranche. Additionally, the loan agreement requires us to pay variable remuneration depending on the output produced in our GMP IV manufacturing facilities. The variable remuneration is €200 thousand per batch, with an aggregate remuneration cap of €75 million, on batches produced during the period beginning in the earlier of the first financial year that CureVac AG has a positive EBITDA or in 2025, and extending for a period of 12 years thereafter, or the Remuneration Period. Payment of the variable remuneration is due on March 31st of the first Remuneration Period and then each following March 31st, thereafter, in the Remuneration Period. The loan agreement provides us an option to buy-out the variable remuneration by paying an amount equal to the higher of €5 million or 150-190% of the outstanding principal of the loan, depending on the number of years following the initial disbursement under the loan, but in any case, limited to an aggregate remuneration cap of €75 million.

We are subject to several restrictive covenants on our business activities as described in Schedule H of the financing agreement, including limitations on certain merger and acquisition transactions, disposition of certain assets and mandatory maintenance of assets related to the Investment. As of December 31, 2020, we had drawn €25 million under the first of the three tranches. In November 2020, a land charge (mortgage) amounting to €75 million was registered in favor of the EIB to secure the loan. The EIB may demand, without prior notice, the immediate repayment of outstanding principal together with any accrued interest upon certain events including, among others, our failure to continue the development of our Investment following a cure period.

In November 2021, we issued a prepayment request and cancellation notice to the EIB, under which we requested to voluntarily prepay the €25 million in principal in addition to accrued interest in December 2021 and to cancel the remaining €50 million available under the EIB loan.

BMBF Grant

We received from BMBF a grant to support the development of our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV of up to €252 million. In July 2020, we had applied to that grant as part of a special program to accelerate the research and development of urgently needed vaccines against SARS-CoV-2. In addition to the further development of our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, against COVID-19, the grant was used for the rapid expansion of the vaccine production. Payments are contingent on reaching predefined milestones. Amounts incurred in 2020 and 2021 are eligible for reimbursement through the grant. Due to the withdrawal of the regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, we will not be able to reach all predefined milestones for 2021 under the grant. We received funding of €103 million in 2020 and funding of €93 million in 2021. As of December 31, 2021, we have drawn €196 million of the grant. In November 2021, we notified BMG of our inability to supply CVnCoV, thereby triggering automatic termination of the supply arrangement.

Advance Purchase Agreement for our First-Generation COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

On November 30, 2020, we entered into an APA with the EC, acting on behalf and in the name of all Member States of the European Union, which provides for the advance purchase by the Member States of 225 million doses of the vaccine to be allocated among the Member States, and the option to purchase up to an additional 180 million doses. Pursuant to the APA, we received an up-front payment of €450 million. Such up-front payment had to be used solely for the development and commercial supply of CVnCoV. We are required to return any unspent amounts of the up-front payment if, among others, we fail to successfully develop CVnCoV or if we successfully develop CVnCoV, but we do not receive EU marketing authorization or fail to supply any doses of CVnCoV to any of the Member States by late 2021, unless we and the EC mutually agree to a later date. In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which notification automatically terminated the APA. According to the APA, in such case of termination, we would only return the unspent amount of the up-front payment. In the context of the APA, “spent” means either costs occurred, or commitments made in relation to the purpose as set out in the APA. We were able to demonstrate that the up-front payment was used in accordance with the contract and no repayment was required.

Comparative Cash Flows

Comparison of the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2021

	For the Year Ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
	(in thousands of euros)	
Net cash flow provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	522,403	(733,128)
Investing activities	(45,274)	(127,901)
Financing activities	819,833	343,964
Effect of currency translation gains on cash and cash equivalents	(5,053)	4,936
Overall cash inflow/(outflow)	<u>1,291,909</u>	<u>(512,129)</u>

Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2021 was €733.1 million as compared to net cash provided by operating activities of €522.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase in net cash used in operating activities was primarily attributable to payments for service agreements with contract research organizations and contract manufacturing organizations, including related settlements, and the absence of a €450 million up-front payment received under the EC APA in 2020. We do not expect this trend of increasing use of cash in operating activities to continue at the same level.

Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2021 was €127.9 million as compared to net cash used in investing activities of €45.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase in cash flows used in investing activities was primarily attributable to increased purchases of property, plant and equipment for manufacturing facilities and intangible assets.

Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities was €344.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 as compared to €819.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The decrease in cash flows provided by financing activities was mainly attributable to the raising of cash in the follow-on public offering, which closed in February 2021 and was lower compared to the aggregate cash raised in a financing round in July 2020 and in our initial public offering in August 2020. In addition, the repayment of the EIB loan amounting to €26.3 million (included interest) and the payment of a tax liability relating to the transfer of our shares in 2021 contributed to this decrease.

Comparison of the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2020

	For the Years Ended December 31,	
	2019	2020
	(in thousands of euros)	
Net cash flow provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	(86,963)	522,403
Investing activities	28,181	(45,274)
Financing activities	67,979	819,833
Effect of currency translation gains on cash and cash equivalents	107	(5,053)
Overall cash inflow	9,304	1,291,909

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2020 was €522.4 million as compared to net cash used in operating activities of €87.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase in net cash in operating activities was primarily attributable to an increase of the contract liabilities due to the receipt of the up-front payment from the European Commission related to the Advance Purchase Agreement and the receipt of the up-front payment from GSK amounting to €120 million and the overall decrease in trade receivables and contract assets, as a result of collections, and receipts from grants from government agencies and similar bodies, partially offset by the increase of the loss before income taxes.

Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2020 was €45.3 million as compared to net cash provided by investing activities of €28.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The change in cash flows from investing activities was primarily attributable to increased purchases of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets offset by decreased proceeds from the sale of short-term investments (other financial assets).

Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities was €819.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 as compared to €68.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The increase in cash flow provided by financing activities was mainly attributable to proceeds from the issuance of shares to Genmab, in the 2020 Private Investment, in the initial public offering and to DH-LT-Investments GmbH, beneficially owned by Dietmar Hopp, in the concurrent private placement in the year ended December 31, 2020.

C. Research and Development, Patents and Licenses, etc.

Research and development expenses consist primarily of costs incurred for our research and preclinical and clinical development activities, including our product discovery efforts and certain activities relating to the design of GMP-manufacturing facilities. Research and development expenses contain wages and salaries, share-based compensation, fringe benefits and other personnel costs, the costs of clinical testing and the associated clinical production costs, research material production costs, fees for contractual partners, consultants and other third parties, fees to register legal rights, amortization of licensed software and intellectual property as well as costs for plant and facilities. Research and development expenses contain costs for independent research and development work as well as work carried out in the context of collaboration and licensing agreements; such expenses include all costs related to research and development services delivered under our collaboration arrangements. Additionally, prior to initial regulatory approval, if any, costs relating to production of products are expensed as research and development expenses in the period incurred. If pre-launch products are sold, the respective product gross margin may be higher compared to the expected recurring margin as the underlying costs will not be included in cost of sales as they will have been recognized in research and development expense in the period incurred.

We also have partnered programs as further described under “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations” and “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Advance Purchase Agreements,” for which we incur additional expenses. In addition, our research and development expenses relate to our preclinical studies of further product candidates and discovery activities. These expenses mainly consist of salaries, share based-compensation, costs for production of preclinical compounds and costs paid to contract research organizations.

We expense research and development expenses as incurred. We recognize costs for certain development activities, such as preclinical studies and clinical trials, based on an evaluation of the progress to completion of specific tasks. We use information provided to us by our vendors such as patient enrollment or clinical site activations for services received and efforts expended. We expect research and development costs, including manufacturing, to support these activities, to increase significantly for the foreseeable future as our current development programs progress and new programs are added.

D. Trend Information

For a discussion of trend information, see “Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects.”

E. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We did not have during the periods presented, and we do not currently have, any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources, except for those noncancellable contractual obligations from certain of our arrangements with contract manufacturing organizations disclosed in “Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects — B. Liquidity and Capital Resources.”

F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

During 2020, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) voted to adopt amendments to certain financial disclosure requirements in Regulation S-K (also referred to as “November 19, 2020 amendments to Regulation S-K”) which resulted in omitting the presentation of contractual obligations in a tabular form.

G. Safe Harbor

See “Forward-Looking Statements.”

H. Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB. Some of the accounting methods and policies used in preparing the financial statements under IFRS are based on complex and subjective assessments by our management or on estimates based on past experience and assumptions deemed realistic and reasonable based on the circumstances concerned. The actual value of our assets, liabilities and shareholders' equity and of our earnings could differ from the value derived from these estimates if conditions changed and these changes had an impact on the assumptions adopted.

Our significant accounting policies that we believe to be critical to the judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our financial statements are included in "note 2 — Significant accounting policies" and "note 9 — Share-based payments" to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report.

ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

A. Directors and Senior Management

Board Structure

We have a two-tier board structure consisting of a management board (*bestuur*) and a separate supervisory board (*raad van commissarissen*). There are no family relationships among any of our managing directors and supervisory directors.

Management Board

Our management board is composed of six members, who we refer to as our managing directors and who, together with our chief operating officer, we consider to be our executive officers. Each managing director of CureVac N.V. holds office for the term set by our general meeting (as set forth in the table below), except in the case of his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. Our managing directors do not have a retirement age requirement under our articles of association.

Our managing directors are responsible for the management and representation of our company. Our senior management has an average of 21 years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry. Many of the members of our management team have worked together as a team for many years.

The following table lists our current managing directors who are also executive officers, as well as their ages, term served, the year of expiration of their term as managing directors of CureVac N.V. and position:

Name	Age	Term Served(1)	Year in which Term Expires	Position
Franz-Werner Haas, LL.D., LL.M.	52	06/2012 – Present	2022	Chief Executive Officer
Pierre Kemula, B.Sc.	48	11/2016 – Present	2023	Chief Financial Officer
Antony Blanc, Ph.D(1).	54	12/2020 – Present	2023	Chief Business Officer / Chief Commercial Officer
Igor Splawski, Ph.D., M.Sc.	54	7/2020 – Present	2023	Chief Scientific Officer
Klaus Edvardsen, MD, Ph.D(2).	60	8/2021 – Present	2024	Chief Development Officer
Malte Greune, Ph.D(3).	57	7/2021 – Present	2024	Chief Operating Officer

(1) The date of term served includes the term of office served as managing director of CureVac AG.

(2) Dr. Blanc was formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021.

- (3) Dr. Edvardsen was appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021 and began his role as chief development officer on August 1, 2021.
- (4) Dr. Greune joined the executive team as Chief Operating Officer on July 1, 2021. We consider Dr. Greune an executive officer and a member of our senior management team, but he has not yet been formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V.

The following is a brief summary of the prior business experience and principal business activities performed outside of CureVac of our managing directors. Unless otherwise indicated, the current business addresses for each managing director is Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany.

Franz-Werner Haas, LL.D., LL.M. has been our chief executive officer and chief operating officer since August 2020 and June 2018, respectively. Mr. Haas was our chief corporate officer from 2012 until 2018 and our deputy chief executive officer from March 2020 until August 2020. Before joining CureVac, he was Vice President of Operations and Chief Compliance Officer of SYGNIS Pharma AG from May 2005 until March 2012, where he was responsible for the execution of M&A and capital market transactions. Mr. Haas started his professional career as an Assistant to the Executive Board of a privately held international commercial and service enterprise before assuming several management positions in the life science industry, including Vice President and General Counsel of LION bioscience from 2002 until December 2004. Mr. Haas also served as the General Counsel of Sirona Dental Systems from January 2005 to May 2005. He studied law at the University of Saarbruecken, K.U. Leuven and also holds an LL.M. from the University of Edinburgh.

Pierre Kemula, B.Sc. has been our chief financial officer since 2016. Previously, he was the chief financial officer of Pixium Vision from 2014 until 2016, where he successfully contributed to the listing of the company on Euronext in Paris, and Vice President of Corporate Finance, Treasury and Financial Markets, as well as Director of Investor Relations, Vice President of Investor Relations and Investor Relations Officer at Ipsen from 2008 until 2014. Earlier in his career, Mr. Kemula worked with major strategy consulting firms (Roland Berger, Bossard Consultants and Gemini Consulting). He holds a Bachelor of Science in Management Sciences from the London School of Economics, or LSE, in the United Kingdom.

Antony Blanc, Ph.D. has been our chief business officer and our chief commercial officer since December 2020. Previously, Dr. Blanc served biotech clients in Europe as consultant and as an Associate Partner with McKinsey & Company. Dr. Blanc has served as a managing director of Clarentis SRL since January 2018. Between 2009 and 2017, Dr. Blanc developed deep and broad cross-functional expertise in vaccines by serving in several senior roles at GSK Vaccines, including leading strategic marketing, strategic pricing, joint ventures and the integration of the Novartis Vaccines business unit. From 2000 to 2009, Dr. Blanc held leadership roles in several biotech companies as Chief Business Officer, such as Synosia, as the Head of Biopharma at Syngenta, where he built a business unit of over 100 people focusing on biologicals and plant-made antibodies, and as VP Business Development at Syntem. Dr. Blanc started his career at the strategy consulting firm McKinsey & Company in 1994, focusing on pharma and biotech. He holds a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology (control of mRNA translation) and a B.S. in Biochemistry from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Igor Splawski, Ph.D., M.Sc. has been our chief scientific officer since July 2020. Prior to joining us, Dr. Splawski was an executive director at the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR) Biologics Center since 2018, and director from 2016 until 2018. Previously, he was a director in the cardiovascular and metabolism disease area at NIBR from 2009 until 2016 and a senior investigator in ophthalmology at NIBR from 2005 to 2009. At NIBR, Dr. Splawski successfully led over 100 scientists in identifying and evaluating protein, mRNA and AAV targets, and discovered mRNA technology for antibody generation. His work at Novartis contributed to 12 clinical antibodies and proteins, which have achieved 11 positive proof-of-concept trials. Seven of these 12 compounds are currently in multiple phase 1 to phase 3 clinical trials. Earlier in his career, he served as an associate at both the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Children's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Splawski acted as an assistant professor and instructor at Harvard Medical School, where he identified genes for inherited and drug-induced disorders, including arrhythmias, cardiac disease, deafness, nemaline myopathy, and autism. Dr. Splawski is the inventor on 28 patents and author of 23 research publications. Dr. Splawski holds a Ph.D. in human genetics from the University of Utah and a M.Sc. in biotechnology from Sofia University.

Klaus Edvardsen, MD, Ph.D. has been our chief development officer since August 2021. Before Dr. Edvardsen joined CureVac, Dr. Edvardsen was the Senior Vice President and Head of Global Oncology Development at Merck Healthcare KgaA beginning in January 2020, where he was responsible for the overall development strategy for oncology. Previously, he was Senior Vice President and Head of Global Medicines Development Oncology at AstraZeneca from 2016 to 2020. At AstraZeneca, Dr. Edvardsen, was accountable for the overall development strategy for oncology and hematology leading several marketing authorizations (Tagrisso, Faslodex, Lynparza, Calquence). From 2015 to 2016, Dr. Edvardsen was Vice President and Head of Clinical Development Oncology at AstraZeneca, where he was responsible for all aspects of clinical development for AstraZeneca’s portfolio of compounds from “proof of concept” to registration building a new strategy for AstraZeneca’s clinical oncology. From 2008 to 2015, Dr. Edvardsen was Vice President and occupied various roles, including Medicines Development Leader accountable for Arzerra, Therapeutic Area Clinical Lead for early and late stage development programs (Votrient, Arzerra, Tafinlar, Mekinist) and Physician Project Leader for Arzerra, at GlaxoSmithKline Oncology. From 2005 to 2008, Dr. Edvardsen was the Vice President of Oncology Development at Genmab A/S, where he initially was building an oncology and hematology early and late stage development department and later on was leading the project and portfolio management. Furthermore, Dr. Edvardsen joined Sanofi-Aventis from 2004 to 2005 and was responsible for discovery and early development as Head of translational research in Oncology. Dr. Edvardsen has acted in several positions at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, the Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, USA, the University of Bergen, Norway and the Lund University, Sweden, most recently as Professor of Experimental Cancer research. Dr. Edvardsen holds a MD as well as an Ph.D. in cancer biology from the University of Copenhagen.

Malte Greune, Ph.D. has been our chief operating officer since July 2021. Dr. Greune joins CureVac from Sanofi-Aventis Deutschland GmbH, where he held various management positions for almost ten years. As General Manager and Vice President Cartridges, Devices & Insulin Technology Group, he was responsible for several manufacturing sites in Frankfurt. Under his leadership, six isolator filling lines for insulins, oncology drugs and biologics were set up including one for a COVID-19 vaccine. Prior to his position as Head of Diabetes, Oncology and Devices at Sanofi, he worked as the Senior Vice President of Animal Health Manufacturing for the Merck Manufacturing Division, USA, where he led an international network of 28 sites, including 18 integrated vaccine sites. Furthermore, he held various leadership roles at the pharmaceutical companies Schering-Plough and Intervet International B.V. Dr. Greune started his career at Hoechst AG in Corporate Planning. Dr. Greune received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Cologne, Germany, graduated from the University of Trier, Germany, and completed a Master of Business Administration at Clark University in Worcester, USA.

Supervisory Board

Our supervisory board is composed of seven members. Each supervisory director holds office for the term set by our general meeting (as set forth in the table below), except in the case of his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. Our supervisory directors do not have a retirement age requirement under our articles of association.

The following table sets forth the names and functions of our current supervisory directors, their ages, term served and the year of expiration of their term as supervisory directors of CureVac N.V.:

Name	Age	Term Served	Year in which Term Expires	Functions
Baron Jean Stéphane, MSc, MBA	72	8/2015 – Present	2024	Chairman and Supervisory Director
Ralf Clemens, MD, Ph.D.	69	8/2015 – Present	2024	Supervisory Director
Mathias Hothum, Ph.D.	55	8/2015 – Present	2024	Supervisory Director
Hans Christoph Tanner, Ph.D.	70	8/2015 – Present	2024	Supervisory Director
Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Ph.D.	59	8/2015 – Present	2022	Vice-Chairman and Supervisory Director
Craig A. Tooman, MBA	56	6/2019 – Present	2022	Supervisory Director
Viola Bronsema, Ph.D.	59	8/2020 – Present	2024	Supervisory Director

The following is a brief summary of the prior business experience and principal business activities performed outside of CureVac of our supervisory directors. Unless otherwise indicated, the current business addresses for each of our supervisory directors is Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany.

Baron Jean Stéphane, MSc, MBA has served as a supervisory director since 2015. Since 2018 Mr. Stéphane has served as the Chairman of the board at Bone Therapeutics. Mr. Stéphane was the CEO of GSK Biologicals from 1989 until 2012 and the President of GSK Biologicals from 2002 until 2012, where he was instrumental in building one of the world's leading vaccine companies. In 1974, Mr. Stéphane joined SmithKline-Rit, as engineer in biology in research and development. He also served as the President of UWE (Union Wallonne des Entreprises) from 1997 until 2000. Mr. Stéphane was the chairman of BESIX Group S.A./N.V. and TiGenix N.V., IBA Wallonia Foreign Trade and Investment Agency, Henogen S.A., Aseptic Technologies. He was also a director of Fortis bank, GBL and Bone Therapeutics.

Ralf Clemens, MD, Ph.D. has served as a supervisory director since 2015. Dr. Clemens served as a director at Valneva from 2017 until 2019. Dr. Clemens is the principal and founder of Grid Europe Ltd. Consulting (Global Research in Infectious Diseases) since 2015. Dr. Clemens has been working in the pharmaceutical industry since 1988 in various senior scientific and business positions. He served as Senior Vice President and Head of Development for the Global Vaccine Business Unit at Takeda Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. from 2012 until 2014. Prior to this position, Dr. Clemens led the global vaccine development at Novartis from 2006 until 2012, and before that, he was the Head of GSK Biologicals' vaccine development and Latin American business strategy from 1992 until 2006. During these years, Mr. Clemens developed and brought to licensure more than 25 different vaccines globally. He currently serves as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the International Vaccine Institute IVI in Seoul, Korea and as external scientific advisor to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He is a member of the Selection Committee of GHIT Tokyo, Japan, and Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of Clover Biopharma. He graduated with an M.D. from the University of Mainz, Germany and holds an executive business degree from the Wharton Business School.

Mathias Hothum, Ph.D. has served as a supervisory director since 2015. Dr. Hothum is the managing director of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG, or dievini. dievini manages the biotech investments of SAP co-founder Dietmar Hopp. For the past 25 years, Dr. Hothum has worked as a health economist in the healthcare, health services and life sciences sectors. Dr. Hothum specializes in financing, pricing, reimbursement and in the evaluation of mid-sized companies as well as of publicly owned/market-listed companies. He is the owner and founder of HMM-Consulting. Furthermore, Dr. Hothum serves as a supervisory director of a few biotech companies, including Heidelberg Pharma AG, Apogenix AG, Winheim 216 GmbH, Novaliq GmbH, Molecular Health GmbH and Joimax GmbH. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Magdeburg and degree in economics from the University of Mannheim.

Hans Christoph Tanner, Ph.D. has served as a supervisory director since 2015. Dr. Tanner served as the chief financial officer and head of investor relations of Cassiopea S.p.A. from 2015 until December 31, 2020. Dr. Tanner served as director of Private Equity Holding AG from 2011 until 2018. He served as Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V.'s chief financial officer from 2006 until 2016, head of investor relations from 2006 until 2017 and head of transactions office from 2017-2020. Dr. Tanner also served as a board member of Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V. since 2006 up until May 2021. Dr. Tanner is also a member of the supervisory board or advisory board (Verwaltungsrat/Beirat) of DKSH AG, Paion AG since 2017, Qvanteq AG since 2011, and Joimax GmbH since 2003. From 1998 to 2001 he was a partner of Dr. Ernst Mueller-Moehl and co-founder of the 20 Minuten group of newspapers and founded A&A Active Investor, a SIX listed investment company. From 1992 to 1998 Dr. Tanner was the head of corporate finance & capital markets of UBS in Zurich and from 1976 to 1991 he had various functions in the Corporate Banking Department of UBS in Zurich, Madrid and Los Angeles. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of St. Gallen and degree in economics from the University of St. Gallen.

Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Ph.D. has served as a supervisory director since 2015. Dr. von Bohlen und Halbach is the managing partner and co-founder of dievini. dievini manages the life science activities and investments of Dietmar Hopp, co-founder of SAP, and his family. Between 1992 to 1997 he held various positions at Fresenius AG, FAG Kugelfischer KGaA and WASAG Chemie AG. In 1997, Dr. von Bohlen und Halbach founded LION bioscience, AG and served as its CEO until 2003. He is chairman of the Board of Apogenix AG and Novaliq GmbH, and board member of CureVac N.V., Heidelberg Pharma AG and Co-Chair of the Evaluation Board of the Wyss Translational Center Zurich. He previously served on the board of directors at Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V., from 2005 to 2017, at Expedeon AG, from 2004 to 2016, at Agennix AG, from 2006 to 2019 and at AC Immune S.A., from 2015 to 2020. Friedrich is also co-founder and managing director of Molecular Health GmbH. Dr. von Bohlen und Halbach received his Ph.D. in neurobiology from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich and a diploma in biochemistry from the University of Zurich.

Craig A. Tooman, MBA has served as a supervisory director since 2019. Mr. Tooman has experience in the biopharmaceutical industry spanning more than 30 years, including more than 15 years of such experience as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer at several public companies. Mr. Tooman currently serves as the President, Chief Executive Officer and as a member of the board of directors of Silence Therapeutics. He was previously the Chief Financial Officer of Silence. Prior to joining Silence, from September 2019 to January 2021, he served as CFO and COO at Vyome Therapeutics, Inc. and prior to his tenure at Vyome, from November 2013 to July 2019, Mr. Tooman served as CFO, and then subsequently as CEO and Board Director of Aratana Therapeutics, where he successfully negotiated a merger with Elanco. Before Aratana, from 2005 to 2010, Mr. Tooman served as the CFO of Enzon Pharmaceuticals until its acquisition by Sigma Tau, and prior to that led the \$1.1 billion M&A initiative and integration of ILEX Oncology and Genzyme Corporation. Mr. Tooman has also held key positions at Pharmacia, and Upjohn. Mr. Tooman also serves on the Board of Directors of Ondine Biomedical Inc. Mr. Tooman earned his MBA in finance from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Kalamazoo College.

Viola Bronsema, Ph.D. has served as a supervisory director since August 2020. Dr. Bronsema has been Secretary General and CEO of BIO Deutschland, Germany’s Biotechnology Industry Association, since 2006. With its 350 corporate members, the sector association represents the interests of Germany’s biotechnology industry nationally and internationally. Currently, she is member of the Advisory Boards of the German Federal Government (Bioeconomy Advisory Board), the German Life Sciences Association (VBIO e. V.) and one of the oldest German economic policy associations (WPCD e.V.). Previously, Dr. Bronsema was Head of Communications of Roche Diagnostics GmbH and of Roche Diagnostics Europe, Middle East, Africa, and before that, of Lilly Pharma Holding GmbH. She earned her Ph.D. at the Centre for Molecular Biology (ZMBH) at the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

Supervisory Board Diversity

The table below provides certain information regarding the diversity of our supervisory board members as of the date of this Annual Report.

Supervisory Board Diversity Matrix				
Country of Principal Executive Officers	Germany			
Foreign Private Issuer	Yes			
Disclosure Prohibited under Home Country Law	Yes			
Total Number of Supervisory Board Members	Seven			
	Female	Male	Non-Binary	Did not Disclose
Part I: Gender Identity				
Supervisory Board Members	1	6	-	-
Part II: Demographic Background				
Underrepresented individual in Germany	-			
LGBTQ+	-			
Did Not Disclose Demographic Background	-			

B. Compensation

Remuneration and Other Benefits to Supervisory and Managing Directors as of December 31, 2021

As a foreign private issuer, in accordance with Nasdaq listing requirements, we will comply with home country compensation requirements and certain exemptions thereunder rather than complying with Nasdaq compensation requirements. Dutch law does not provide for limitations with respect to the aggregate annual compensation paid to our managing directors or supervisory directors, provided that such compensation is consistent with our compensation policy. Such compensation policy requires approval by our general meeting. The supervisory board determines the remuneration of individual managing directors with due observance of the compensation policy. A proposal with respect to remuneration schemes in the form of shares or rights to shares in which managing directors may participate is subject to approval by our general meeting. Such a proposal must set out at least the maximum number of shares or rights to subscribe for shares to be granted to the managing directors and the criteria for granting or amendment. The compensation for our supervisory directors is set by the general meeting.

Our compensation policy authorizes our supervisory board to determine the amount, level and structure of the compensation packages of our managing directors at the recommendation of our compensation committee. These compensation packages may consist of a mix of fixed and variable compensation components, including base salary, short-term incentives, long-term incentives, fringe benefits, severance pay and pension arrangements, as determined by our supervisory board.

Supervisory Board

Compensation of Supervisory Directors

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the aggregate compensation accrued or paid to our supervisory directors for services in all capacities was €672,881. The following table sets forth the aggregate compensation and benefits provided to our supervisory board members in the year ended December 31, 2021.

Name	Fixed Compensation (€)	Attendance Fees (€)	Total Compensation (€)
Baron Jean Stéphane	110,000	13,750	123,750
Ralf Clemens	55,000	41,250	96,250
Mathias Hothum	55,000	41,250	96,250
Hans Christoph Tanner	55,000	41,250	96,250
Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach	82,500	13,750	96,250
Timothy M. Wright(1)	12,881	13,750	26,631
Craig A. Tooman	55,000	13,750	68,750
Dr. Viola Bronsema	55,000	13,750	68,750

(1) Mr. Wright resigned from the supervisory board on June 24, 2021.

Management Board

Compensation of Managing Directors

For the year ended December 31, 2021, the aggregate compensation accrued or paid to our managing directors for services in all capacities was €3,250,404. The following table sets forth the compensation and benefits provided to our management board in the year ended December 31, 2021.

Name*	Salary (€)	Bonus(1) (€)	All Other Compensation(2) (€)	Total Compensation(3) (€)
Florian von der Mulbe(4)	320,000	12,000	13,772	345,772
Mariola Fotin-Mleczek(5)	320,000	102,000	25,557	447,557
Franz-Werner Haas	380,000	124,100	32,231	536,331
Pierre Kemula	320,000	112,500	133,496	565,996
Bernd Winterhalter(6)	40,000	—	—	40,000
Igor Splawski	327,300	60,005	13,976	401,281
Antony Blanc(7)	320,000	12,000	13,773	345,773
Senta Ulrike Gnad-Vogt(8)	109,375	—	29,359	138,734
Klaus Edvardsen(9)	154,167	—	104,474	258,641
Malte Greune(10)	160,000	—	10,319	170,319

- (1) This amount represents the annual variable payment received based on a percentage of yearly gross remuneration for reaching certain targets agreed upon with the supervisory board.
- (2) All other compensation includes other monetary benefits and contributions to social security insurance, if any.
- (3) This column does not include the virtual shares, options or RSUs held by certain of the management board members, as described in the virtual share chart below.
- (4) Dr. von der Mülbe resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 30, 2021. Dr. von der Mülbe served as our Chief Production Officer until August 18, 2021.
- (5) Dr. Fotin-Mleczek resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on January 31, 2022.
- (6) We considered Mr. Winterhalter an executive officer and a member of our senior management team but he was not registered in Germany as a member of our management board and was not appointed as a member of the management board of CureVac N.V. upon the closing of the initial public offering. He served as our interim chief development officer under a consulting agreement dated as of December 14, 2019 that specified his service was indefinite and may be terminated by either party with four weeks' notice. The consulting agreement with Mr. Winterhalter was terminated in February 2021. Amount included in his total compensation column includes reimbursement for travel and out-of-pocket expenses.
- (7) Dr. Blanc was formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021.
- (8) Dr. Gnad-Vogt resigned as interim chief development officer in August 2021 upon the appointment of Dr. Edvardsen as chief development officer. Dr. Gnad-Vogt is our Area Head for the Therapeutic Area Oncology and served as our interim chief development officer from March 1, 2021 until July 31, 2021.
- (9) Dr. Edvardsen was appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021 and began his role as chief development officer on August 1, 2021.
- (10) Dr. Greune joined the executive team as Chief Operating Officer on July 1, 2021. We consider Dr. Greune an executive officer and a member of our senior management team, but he has not yet been formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V.

We did not provide pension, retirement or similar benefits to our managing directors and supervisory directors board in the year ended December 31, 2021.

Bonus Plan

We maintain and implement a management bonus plan for the members of our management. Under the management bonus plan, we provide a variable bonus payment as a component of management compensation that ranges from 45% to 55% of the individual's annual base salary, depending on management level. We agree upon the respective individual amount of the target bonus with each employee on an individual contractual basis. The annual performance review is used to measure the achievement of objectives. In the individual's annual performance review, we measure the achievement of objectives for the past year and define the objectives for the coming year. The calculation of the respective bonus payment is based on the individual degree of target achievement, which is then calculated as a percentage of the annual base salary and is usually paid out in March of the following year. The bonus is calculated on a pro rata basis if the individual joins or leaves CureVac during the year.

Equity Incentive Plans

Certain members of our management received share-based compensation under the legacy management stock option plan, or Legacy Management Stock Option Plan, in the form of share option awards. These options granted the holder the right to purchase series A shares of CureVac AG for a purchase price of €1 per share. All of the outstanding options have vested and expired on December 31, 2021. From the time of our Corporate Reorganization until December 31, 2021, the optionholders had the option to convert these options into option awards exercisable for common shares of CureVac N.V. on a 1 to 133.0778 basis. Following this conversion, subject to the vesting, exercise and expiration terms discussed above, these option awards are governed by the new equity incentive plan, or the Plan, that was established in connection with the completion of our Corporate Reorganization. All of the outstanding options were exercised in 2021.

In addition to the management share option awards described above, we maintain a virtual share plan for members of the management board and other key employees of CureVac, or Prior VSOP. As of December 31, 2021, there are 7,920,066 awards outstanding and no awards available for issuance under the Prior VSOP. Ten percent (10%) of each award under the Prior VSOP became exercisable upon expiry of the 180 day lock-up period following the closing of CureVac's initial public offering, which occurred at the end of February 9, 2021. An additional 10 % portion of the (vested) virtual shares became exercisable on the first anniversary after the IPO on August 14, 2021, because certain minimum trading volumes of the CureVac N.V. shares and liquidity levels were reached. The remaining part of each award may be exercised (in whole or in part) upon the occurrence of certain defined triggering events, including, but not limited to, drug approval, or the sale by a majority shareholder of 5% of our outstanding shares, in each case subject to the conditions of the Prior VSOP. The rights under the Prior VSOP will terminate after the expiry of the ninth calendar year after the listing of our common shares on Nasdaq. The Prior VSOP was restructured upon the completion of our Corporate Reorganization. Following this restructuring, upon vesting of virtual shares, the holder will be able to exchange his or her virtual shares (in whole or in part) for cash or common shares of CureVac N.V. (instead of shares of CureVac AG) on a 1 to 133.0778 basis.

Due to the increase in value of CureVac prior to our Corporate Reorganization, we modified our incentive program to allow members of the management board and other employees to participate in the value-increased business based on CureVac's valuation at the time of its reorganization and conditional upon the occurrence of certain enumerated exercise cases reflecting such value-increase, or New VSOP. Each virtual share tracked one underlying series A share of CureVac AG. The New VSOP provided a cash-claim against CureVac in the amount of the positive difference between the value of CureVac per virtual share at the grant date (as determined by CureVac when the New VSOP was established) and the value per virtual share at the time of exercise of such virtual share (such value to be derived from the valuation of CureVac in the relevant triggering event) and gave CureVac discretion to provide tradable shares against payment of the value of CureVac per virtual share at the grant date. Such awards provided under the New VSOP had a term of ten years from the date of grant and vest over four years, where 25% vest after the first anniversary of the hire date and the remainder vests monthly. These virtual shares were assumed by CureVac N.V. upon the completion of our Corporate Reorganization. At this time, the virtual shares were converted into options, exercisable for common shares of CureVac N.V. on a 1 to 133.0778 basis. Following this conversion, subject to the vesting, exercise and expiration terms discussed above, these option awards are governed by the Plan.

In connection with our initial public offering, we established the Plan pursuant to which we may grant options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, share appreciation rights and other equity and equity-based awards. As of December 31, 2021, there are 14,033,753 awards outstanding and 14,034,356 awards available for issuance under the Plan. The maximum number of common shares underlying awards granted pursuant to the Plan, including the awards granted in connection with the conversion of awards under the Legacy Management Stock Option Plan and the New VSOP, as discussed above, plus the common shares underlying awards under the Prior VSOP to the extent such awards have not yet been exercised or settled, will in total not exceed an equivalent of 15% of our issued share capital from time to time. The Plan is administered by our management board and supervisory board, where appropriate, on the basis of a recommendation of our compensation committee (the body administering the Plan, the, or Committee. Awards under the Plan may be granted to our employees, our managing directors and supervisory directors, consultants or other advisors. Awards under the Plan may be conditioned upon the achievement or satisfaction of performance criteria. The vesting conditions for awards under the Plan will be determined by the Committee, and will be set forth in the applicable award documentation. The Plan provides for special provisions for good leavers and bad leavers as well as for a change in control of our company.

C. Board Practices

Committees

Audit Committee

The audit committee consists of Hans Christoph Tanner (as chairman), Craig A. Tooman and Ralf Clemens. The audit committee assists the supervisory board in overseeing our accounting and financial reporting processes and the audits of our financial statements. In addition, the audit committee is responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of our independent registered public accounting firm. Our supervisory board has determined that Hans Christoph Tanner, Craig A. Tooman and Ralf Clemens satisfy the “independence” requirements set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act and qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert,” as such term is defined in the rules of the SEC. The composition of our audit committee is consistent with the best practice provisions of the DCGC.

The audit committee is governed by a charter that complies with applicable Nasdaq rules, which charter has been posted on our website.

Compensation Committee

The compensation committee consists of Mathias Hothum (as chairman), Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Hans Christoph Tanner, Craig A. Tooman and Viola Bronsema. The compensation committee assists the supervisory board in determining compensation for our executive officers and our managing directors and supervisory directors. The composition of our compensation committee deviates from the best practice provisions of the DCGC, because half of its members are not independent within the meaning of the DCGC because of their affiliation with dievini.

Under SEC and Nasdaq rules, there are heightened independence standards for members of the compensation committee, including a prohibition against the receipt of any compensation from us other than standard director fees. As permitted by the listing requirements of Nasdaq, we opted out of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(d), which requires that a compensation committee consist entirely of independent supervisory directors. The compensation committee is governed by a charter that has been posted on our website.

Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee

The nomination and corporate governance committee consists of Mathias Hothum (as chairman), Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Hans Christoph Tanner, Craig A. Tooman and Viola Bronsema. The nomination and corporate governance committee assists our supervisory board in identifying individuals qualified to become our managing directors or supervisory directors consistent with criteria established by us and in developing our code of business conduct and ethics. The composition of our nomination and corporate governance committee deviates from the best practice provisions of the DCGC, because more than half of its members are not independent within the meaning of the DCGC because of their affiliation with dievini or KfW.

As permitted by the listing requirements of Nasdaq, we opted out of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(e), which requires independent director oversight of director nominations. The nominating and corporate governance committee is governed by a charter that is posted on our website.

Special Committee

Resolutions of our supervisory board to approve a resolution of our management board to exclude or limit pre-emption rights (except in connection with the ordinary operation of our equity incentive plans), or to issue shares against non-cash contribution, shall require the approval of a special committee consisting of one supervisory director nominated by dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement, as defined below) (during the initial nomination period for dievini), one supervisory director nominated by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for KfW) and, if applicable, one supervisory director nominated by a nomination concert. In this special committee, the affirmative votes of one supervisory director nominated by dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for dievini) and the supervisory director nominated by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for KfW) shall be required. See "Item 16G. Corporate Governance — Duties of Managing and Supervisory Directors."

Service Agreements

Supervisory Board Service Contract

With the approval of the supervisory board, Dr. Clemens, one of our supervisory directors, has entered into a service agreement with us, which provides for notice of termination periods and include restrictive covenants, as described further below.

Consulting Agreement with Ralf Clemens

We entered into a consulting agreement with Dr. Clemens in March 2013, referred hereto as the Clemens Consulting Agreement, whereby Dr. Clemens agreed to provide consulting services and agreed to act as a member of our scientific advisory board for an indefinite period. The Clemens Consulting Agreement provides for a notice of termination period of four weeks, payment of certain travel and out-of-pocket expenses in addition to his consulting fee and restrictive covenants, including covenants related to confidentiality and proprietary information.

Employment Agreements and Consultancy Agreement with Ingmar Hoerr

We entered into several management agreements with Dr. Hoerr in 2003, 2005 and 2011, which were superseded by the management agreement we entered into with him in 2015, which is substantially similar to the Management Contracts entered with the management board members as described above.

In June 2018, Dr. Hoerr was elected as a supervisory director. We subsequently entered into a Consultancy Agreement with Dr. Hoerr, or the Hoerr Consultancy Agreement, whereby Dr. Hoerr agreed to provide consulting services. The Hoerr Consultancy Agreement provides for a notice of termination period of four weeks, payment of certain travel and out-of-pocket expenses in addition to his consulting fee and restrictive covenants, including a four-year non-competition and covenants related to confidentiality and ownership of work product. For additional details of Dr. Hoerr's Consultancy Agreement, see "Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions — B. Related Party Transactions."

On March 10, 2020, Dr. Hoerr succeeded Mr. Menichella as a managing director on the management board. Dr. Hoerr was a managing director of CureVac AG at the time of the Corporate Reorganization but is no longer a managing director of CureVac AG and is not a managing director of CureVac N.V.

Management Board Service Contracts

We entered into a management board services contract with the following managing directors: Mr. Mülbe, Ms. Fotin-Mleczek, Mr. Haas, Mr. Kemula, Mr. Splawski and Dr. Blanc, referred hereto as the Management Contracts. The Management Contracts generally provide for a term of either three, four or five years and a base salary and an annual variable payment expressed as a percentage of annual base salary that is dependent on the achievement of the objectives agreed to by the supervisory board. The supervisory board is also entitled to grant managing directors additional compensation at its discretion.

The Management Contracts also provide for additional allowances. The managing directors are also eligible to participate in a virtual stock plan or equivalent plan that is established in a manner substantially similar to other of the senior executives. Specifically, within: (i) Mr. Edvardsen's Management Contract, we awarded him 30,000 options under the Plan (as defined below) on August 1, 2021, which vests over a period of 48 months; (ii) Mr. Greune's Management Contract, we awarded him 20,000 options under the Plan, on July 1, 2021, which vests over a period of 48 months; and (iii) Mr. Blanc's Management Contract, we awarded him 266,156 options under the Plan on November 27, 2020, which vests over a period of 48 months.

The Company is currently in the process of entering into new management board services agreements with the foregoing managing directors that will be for an indefinite term, except in the case of Mr. Haas, whose agreement for now will have a term ending March 31, 2023.

The Management Contracts provide for the following restrictive covenants: (i) a non-compete during employment and for 12 months after termination; (ii) a non-solicit of employees during employment and for two years after termination; and (iii) a perpetual confidentiality covenant. Under the Management Contracts, we are obligated to pay the managing directors compensation for the duration of their post-employment non-compete in monthly installments that are equal to half of the total compensation they received prior to their termination.

We may in the future enter into service agreements with other individuals, the terms of which may provide for, among other things, cash or equity-based compensation and benefits.

Arrangements with Daniel Menichella

In June 2018, we entered into an employment agreement with Daniel Menichella, referred hereto as the Menichella Employment Agreement, which terminated and replaced his prior employment agreement, under which Mr. Menichella became the CEO of CureVac AG in addition to CureVac Inc.

Under the Menichella Employment Agreement, Mr. Menichella was also entitled to receive up to 29,053 options, which provided Mr. Menichella with a cash claim against CureVac AG, which could be settled in shares of CureVac AG, subject to the terms and conditions of his employment agreement, equal to an amount by which the price per share calculated on the basis of the value to the company with 726,592 outstanding shares of \$800,000,000 is surpassed by the price per share calculated on the basis of the fair market value of CureVac AG at the time of the exercise of the option. Such options were exchanged for 3,866,309 options for common shares in CureVac N.V. in connection with the Corporate Reorganization. Such options expire on June 21, 2028.

Between August 2020 and June 2021, Mr. Menichella exercised all of the 3,866,309 options he was entitled to under the Menichella Employment Agreement (after exchange for options for common shares in CureVac N.V. in connection with the Corporate Reorganization).

On March 10, 2020, the Menichella Employment Agreement was discontinued and Mr. Menichella ceased to be a member of our management board. He was succeeded on the management board by Dr. Hoerr on that same day. Dr. Hoerr was a managing director of CureVac AG at the time of the Corporate Reorganization but is no longer a managing director of CureVac AG and is not a managing director of CureVac N.V.

Consulting Agreement with Bernd Winterhalter

We entered into a consulting agreement with Dr. Winterhalter in June 2018, referred hereto as the Winterhalter Consulting Agreement, whereby Dr. Winterhalter agreed to provide consulting services for an indefinite period of time. The Winterhalter Consulting Agreement provides for a notice of termination period of four weeks, payment of certain travel and out-of-pocket expenses in addition to his consulting fee and restrictive covenants, including covenants related to confidentiality and proprietary information. The Winterhalter Consulting Agreement was terminated in February 2021.

Employment Contract with Senta Ulrike Gnad-Vogt

We entered into an employment contract with Dr. Gnad-Vogt in July 2011, as amended in September 2019, referred hereto as the Gnad-Vogt Employment Contract, whereby Dr. Gnad-Vogt is employed for an indefinite period of time. The Gnad-Vogt Employment Contract provides for a notice of termination period of six months, which can be initiated in writing by either party, and restrictive covenants, including non-compete and non-solicitation covenants and a covenant related to confidentiality. Dr. Gnad-Vogt resigned as our interim chief development officer on July 31, 2021.

Employment Contract with Pierre Kemula

We extended the employment contract with Pierre Kemula in April 2021, referred hereto as the Kemula Employment Contract, to extend his service on the management board until October 4th, 2023 pursuant to the Management Contract, originally entered into in June 2016 and first amended in April 2019, and to include additional terms, including the reimbursement of certain costs.

D. Employees

As of December 31, 2021, we had 884 total employees worldwide, 764 of whom were full-time, 237 of whom hold Ph.D. or M.D. degrees, 340 of whom were engaged directly or indirectly in production, 345 of whom were engaged in research and development activities, 48 of whom were engaged in clinical and regulatory activities, 9 of whom were engaged in marketing and sales activities, and 142 of whom were engaged in management, business development or marketing, finance, human resources or administrative support. Of our 884 total employees, 867 work in Germany and 17 work in the United States. We consider our relationship with our employees to be good. We are not subject to collective bargaining agreements or similar labor contracts and have a workers' council established since November 2021.

E. Share Ownership

Share Ownership of Supervisory Directors

The following table sets forth the share ownership of our supervisory directors as of March 22, 2022.

Name	Number of Shares	Percentage of Shares Outstanding	Voting Rights
Baron Jean Stéphenne	—	—	—
Ralf Clemens	—	—	—
Mathias Hothum	495,504	0.26 %	495,504
Hans Christoph Tanner	184,839	0.10 %	—
Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach(1)	3,221,126	1.72 %	—
Timothy M. Wright(2)	—	—	—
Craig A. Tooman	—	—	—
Dr. Viola Bronsema	—	—	—

(1) Reflects 2,936,511 shares held by dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG that may also be deemed beneficially owned by Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach and 3,221,126 shares held by Bohlini invest GmbH that are beneficially owned by Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, who is the sole shareholder, beneficial owner and ultimate controlling person of Bohlini invest GmbH.

(2) Mr. Wright resigned from the supervisory board on June 24, 2021.

Restricted Stock Unit Ownership of Supervisory Directors

The following table sets forth the restricted stock unit (RSU) ownership of our supervisory directors as of March 22, 2022.

Name	Number of RSUs	Title	Vesting Date
Baron Jean Stéphenne	2,815	RSU LTIP Special Award	Dec 31, 2021
Ralf Clemens	1,876	RSU LTIP Special Award	Dec 31, 2021
Baron Jean Stéphenne	2,465	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Ralf Clemens	1,917	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Mathias Hothum	1,917	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Hans Christoph Tanner	1,917	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach	1,917	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Craig A. Tooman	1,369	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Dr. Viola Bronsema	0	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021 1/3 on Dec 31, 2022 1/3 on Dec 31, 2023

The RSU awards have not yet been delivered and so are not included in the fully diluted shares outstanding.

Share Ownership of Managing Directors

The following table sets forth the share ownership of our managing directors as of March 22, 2022.

Name*	Number of Shares	Percentage of Shares Outstanding	Voting Rights
Franz-Werner Haas	85,860	0.05 %	—
Pierre Kemula	36,629	0.02 %	—
Florian von der Mulbe(1)	—	—	—
Mariola Fotin-Mleczek(2)	—	—	—
Bernd Winterhalter(3)	—	—	—
Igor Splawski	—	—	—
Antony Blanc(4)	—	—	—
Senta Ulrike Gnad-Vogt(5)	—	—	—
Klaus Edvardsen(6)	—	—	—
Malte Greune(7)	—	—	—

- (1) Dr. von der Mülbe resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 30, 2021. Dr. von der Mülbe serves as our Chief Production Officer.
- (2) Dr. Fotin-Mleczek resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on January 31, 2022.
- (3) We considered Mr. Winterhalter an executive officer and a member of our senior management team but he was not registered in Germany as a member of our management board and was not appointed as a member of the management board of CureVac N.V. upon the closing of the initial public offering. He served as our interim chief development officer under a consulting agreement dated as of December 14, 2019 that specified his service was indefinite and may be terminated by either party with four weeks' notice. The consulting agreement with Mr. Winterhalter was terminated in February 2021.
- (4) Dr. Blanc was formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021.
- (5) Dr. Gnad-Vogt resigned as interim chief development officer in August 2021 upon the appointment of Dr. Edvardsen as chief development officer. Dr. Gnad-Vogt is our Area Head for the Therapeutic Area Oncology and serves as our interim chief development officer.
- (6) Dr. Edvardsen was appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021 and began his role as chief development officer on August 1, 2021.
- (7) Dr. Greune joined the executive team as Chief Operating Officer on July 1, 2021. We consider Dr. Greune an executive officer and a member of our senior management team, but he has not yet been formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V.

Option Ownership of Managing Directors

The following table sets forth the option ownership of our managing directors as of March 22, 2022.

Name	Number of Options	Title	Amount of Securities (€)	Exercise Price (€)	Purchase Price (€)	Expiration Date
Florian von der Mulbe(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mariola Fotin-Mleczek(2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Franz-Werner Haas	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pierre Kemula	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bernd Winterhalter(3)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Igor Splawski(4)	266,155	LTIP Option Awards	266,155	10.04	—	7/14/2030
Antony Blanc(5)	133,078	LTIP Option Awards	133,078	(6)	—	1/1/2030
	66,539	LTIP Option Awards	66,539	(7)	—	1/1/2031
	66,539	LTIP Option Awards	66,539	(8)	—	1/1/2032
Senta Ulrike Gnad-Vogt(9)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Klaus Edvardse(10)	30,000	LTIP Option Awards	30,000	(7)	—	8/1/2026
Malte Greune(11)	20,000	LTIP Option Awards	20,000	(9)	—	7/1/2026

- (1) Dr. von der Mülbe resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 30, 2021. Dr. von der Mülbe serves as our Chief Production Officer.
- (2) Dr. Fotin-Mleczek resigned as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on January 31, 2022.
- (3) We considered Mr. Winterhalter an executive officer and a member of our senior management team but he was not registered in Germany as a member of our management board and was not appointed as a member of the management board of CureVac N.V. upon the closing of the initial public offering. He served as our interim chief development officer under a consulting agreement dated as of December 14, 2019 that specified his service was indefinite and may be terminated by either party with four weeks' notice. The consulting agreement with Mr. Winterhalter was terminated in February 2021.
- (4) The number of options reflected for Dr. Splawski represents options granted under the Plan (as defined below) that was established in connection with our initial public offering.
- (5) Dr. Blanc was formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021.
- (6) The exercise price of Dr. Blanc's 133,078 LTIP Options, which expire on December 1, 2030, will be based on the volume weighted average price of our common shares from October 19, 2020 to November 13, 2020.
- (7) The exercise price of Dr. Blanc's 66,539 LTIP Options, which expire on December 1, 2031, will be based on the volume weighted average price of our common shares from November 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021.
- (8) The exercise price of Dr. Blanc's 66,539 LTIP Options, which expire on December 1, 2032, will be based on the volume weighted average price of our common shares from November 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022.
- (9) Dr. Gnad-Vogt resigned as interim chief development officer in August 2021 upon the appointment of Dr. Edvardsen as chief development officer. Dr. Gnad-Vogt is our Area Head for the Therapeutic Area Oncology and serves as our interim chief development officer.
- (10) Dr. Edvardsen was appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V. on June 24, 2021 and began his role as chief development officer on August 1, 2021. The exercise price of Dr. Edvardsen's 30,000 LTIP Options, which expire on August 1, 2026, will be based on the volume weighted average price of our common shares from July 2, 2021 to July 30, 2021.

(11) Dr. Greune joined the executive team as Chief Operating Officer on July 1, 2021. We consider Dr. Greune an executive officer and a member of our senior management team, but he has not yet been formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V.. The exercise price of Dr. Greune's 20,000 LTIP Options, which expire on July 1, 2026, will be based on the volume weighted average price of our common shares from June 3, 2021 to June 30, 2021.

Restricted Stock Unit Ownership of Managing Directors

The following table sets forth the restricted stock unit (RSU) ownership of our managing directors as of March 22, 2022.

Name	Number of RSUs	Title	Vesting Dates
Franz-Werner Haas	3,784	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Pierre Kemula	2,868	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Igor Splawski	2,607	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Antony Blanc	2,868	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Klaus Edvardsen.	1,535	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023
Malte Greune	1,434	RSU LTIP Award	1/3 on Dec 31, 2021
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2022
			1/3 on Dec 31, 2023

The RSU awards have not yet been delivered and so are not included in the fully diluted shares outstanding.

Virtual Share, or VS, Ownership of Management Board Members from VSOP Programs as of March 22, 2022

Name	Program	VS Points Granted	Max Vested Points	Start of Vesting Period (Only for New Participants)	Grant date (Date of Allocation Letter)	Vesting Period	VSOP Plan	Valid until
Franz-Werner Haas	VS	12,721	12,721		01.06.2012	36	Prior VSOP	Aug 13, 2029
Franz-Werner Haas	VS	479,080	479,080		01.01.2013	36	Prior VSOP	Aug 13, 2029
Franz-Werner Haas	VS	202,544	202,544		01.01.2015	12	Prior VSOP	Aug 13, 2029
Pierre Kemula	VS	532,311	532,311	01.10.2016	18.04.2019	36	Prior VSOP	Aug 13, 2029

ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

A. Major Shareholders

As of the date of this Annual Report, our authorized share capital is €92,700,000, consisting of 386,250,000 common shares and 386,250,000 preferred shares, par value €0.12 per share. Each of our common shares entitles its holder to one vote. The following table presents information relating to the beneficial ownership of our common shares as of March 22, 2022 by:

- each person, or group of affiliated persons, known by us to own beneficially 5% or more of our outstanding common shares;

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- each managing director and supervisory director; and
- all managing directors and supervisory directors as a group.

The number of common shares beneficially owned by each entity, person, supervisory director or managing director is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC, and the information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Under such rules, beneficial ownership includes any common shares over which the individual has sole or shared voting power or investment power as well as any common shares that the individual has the right to acquire within 60 days of March 22, 2022, through the exercise of any option, warrant or other right. Except as otherwise indicated, and subject to applicable community property laws, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all common shares held by that person.

The percentage of outstanding common shares is computed on the basis of 187,031,138 common shares outstanding as of March 22, 2022. Common shares that a person has the right to acquire within 60 days of March 22, 2022 are also deemed outstanding for purposes of computing the percentage ownership of the person holding such rights, but are not deemed outstanding for purposes of computing the percentage ownership of any other person, except with respect to the percentage ownership of all members of the supervisory board and management board as a group. The percentages do not give effect to any shares that may be acquired by our shareholders, management board members or supervisory board members pursuant to the directed share program. Unless otherwise indicated below, the address for each beneficial owner is CureVac AG, Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany.

Shareholder	Shares Beneficially Owned	
	Number	Percentage
5% Shareholders:		
Dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG(1)	84,868,173	45.38 %
OH Beteiligungen GmbH & Co. KG(2)	84,868,173	45.38 %
DH-Capital GmbH & Co. KG(2)	84,868,173	45.38 %
Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau(3)	29,871,441	15.97 %
Glaxo Group Limited	14,935,721	7.99 %
Managing Directors:		
Franz-Werner Haas, LLD, LLM	85,860	0.05 %
Pierre Kemula, B.Sc.	36,629	0.02 %
Igor Splawski	—	—
Antony Blanc	—	—
Klaus Edvardsen, MD, Ph.D	—	—
Malte Greune, Ph.D(4).	—	—
Supervisory Directors:		
Ralf Clemens, MD, Ph.D.	—	—
Mathias Hothum, Ph.D.(5).	84,868,173	45.38 %
Baron Jean Stephenne, MSc, MBA	—	—
Hans Christoph Tanner, Ph.D.	184,839	0.10 %
Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Ph.D.(6).	84,868,173	45.38 %
Craig A. Tooman, MBA	—	—
All Managing Directors and Supervisory Directors as a Group:	4,023,958	2.15 %

* Represents beneficial ownership of less than 1%.

- (1) Includes 7,368,500 shares beneficially owned by Mr. Dietmar Hopp through DH-LT-Investments GmbH. Dietmar Hopp, Oliver Hopp and Daniel Hopp jointly control the voting and investment decisions of the ultimate parent companies of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG. The shares registered in the name of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG may also be deemed to be beneficially owned by Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Dr. Christof Hettich and Dr. Mathias Hothum, each of whom is a managing director of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG with the power to represent with another managing director. Moreover, Mr. Dietmar Hopp is also a managing director of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG with the sole power of representation. The address for dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG, Mr. Dietmar Hopp, Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, Dr. Christof Hettich and Dr. Mathias Hothum is dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG, Johann-Jakob-Astor Str. 57, 69190 Walldorf, Germany.
- (2) Includes 84,368,173 shares held by dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG that may also be deemed beneficially owned by Dr. Mathias Hothum or Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach. The address for OH Beteiligungen GmbH & Co. KG and DH-Capital GmbH & Co. KG is Heidelberger Straße 43, 69168 Wiesloch, Germany. Dietmar Hopp, Daniel Hopp and Oliver Hopp are the ultimate controlling persons of OH Beteiligungen GmbH & Co. KG and DH-Capital GmbH & Co. KG.
- (3) KfW, or Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, is an institution (Anstalt des öffentlichen Rechts) organized under public law of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Federal Republic of Germany holds 80% of KfW's subscribed capital, and the German federal states (Länder) hold the remaining 20%. The address for KfW is Palmengartenstrasse 5-9, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.
- (4) Dr. Greune joined the executive team as Chief Operating Officer on July 1, 2021. We consider Dr. Greune an executive officer and a member of our senior management team, but he has not yet been formally appointed as a managing director of CureVac N.V.
- (5) Includes 84,368,173 shares held by dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG that may also be deemed beneficially owned by Dr. Mathias Hothum.
- (6) Reflects 84,368,173 shares held by dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG that may also be deemed beneficially owned by Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach and 3,221,126 shares held by Bohlini invest GmbH that are beneficially owned Dr. Friedrich von Bohlen und Halbach, who is the sole shareholder, beneficial owner and ultimate controlling person of Bohlini invest GmbH.

Each of our shareholders is entitled to one vote per common share. None of the holders of our shares will have different voting rights from other holders of shares. We are not aware of any arrangement that may, at a subsequent date, result in a change of control of our company.

As a number of our shares are held in book-entry form, we are not aware of the identity of all of our shareholders. As of April 27, 2022, we had 50,225,344 common shares held by 4 U.S. resident shareholders of record.

B.Related Party Transactions

The following is a description of related party transactions we have entered into since January 1, 2019 with any of our management and supervisory directors and the holders of more than 5% of our common shares.

BePharBel Manufacturing S.A.

In December 2020, CureVac Real Estate GmbH and BePharBel Manufacturing S.A., entered into a commercial supply agreement to develop and manufacture the diluent that was expected to be used to dilute the Group's first concentrated COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, to the amount specified by each dose level. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, it was intended that BePharBel Manufacturing would manufacture and deliver to CureVac Real Estate GmbH a low seven figure amount of commercial batches of diluent per year, in 2021 and 2022. Following the withdrawal of the CVnCoV in October 2021 due to COVID-19 virus drift, WHO COVID vaccine efficiency recommendation and market expectations, CureVac Real Estate GmbH terminated the commercial and supply agreement with BePharBel and entered into negotiations on a structured and rapid wind-down of the ordered production. We intend to terminate this agreement, and in March 2022, the Parties agreed on a settlement of all claims resulting from the commercial and supply agreement, while details of the settlement are still subject to negotiation the overall volume of the settlement will in no event go beyond €4 million. Baron Jean Stéphenne, our supervisory board member, holds directly and indirectly 15.61% of BePharBel Manufacturing's equity and is a director of BePharBel Manufacturing, and Baron Jean Stéphenne's son, Vincent Stéphenne, holds 1.43% of BePharBel Manufacturing's equity and is a managing director of BePharBel Manufacturing.

dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG, Walldorf

As of December 31, 2021, dievini holds the majority of our capital stock and is the controlling shareholder. Molecular Health GmbH, or Molecular Health, is a subsidiary of dievini. In December 2017, we concluded a contract with Molecular Health, according to which Molecular Health provides services in conjunction with the Modeling of the biological and clinical effects of Toll-like receptor 7 and 8 agonists in cancer and immune cells. In fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021, payments to Molecular Health with respect to research and development amounted to €0, €0 and €0, respectively.

Convertible Loans with Mr. Hopp

We entered into a convertible loan agreement on May 3, 2019 with Mr. Dietmar Hopp, managing director of dievini, under which Mr. Hopp disbursed to us the amount of €50,000,000, or Convertible Loan I. On October 24, 2019, we entered into an additional convertible loan agreement with Mr. Hopp, as amended, under which we have the right to call for disbursements in two tranches of €20,000,000 and a final tranche of €23,926,900, until December 31, 2021, or Convertible Loan II, and together with Convertible Loan I, or the Convertible Loans. The Convertible Loans bear an interest rate of 8.00% per annum. We repaid the Convertible Loans on August 7, 2020, and as of December 31, 2020, no Convertible Loans were outstanding. See note 12 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements elsewhere in this Annual Report for further information on the Convertible Loans.

Rittershaus law firm, Mannheim

A consulting agreement dated December 15, 2005 was in place for an indefinite term with the law firm Rittershaus Rechtsanwälte Partnerschaftsgesellschaft mbB, Mannheim (Rittershaus). The agreement was replaced by a new consulting agreement dated January 1, 2015.

The agreement can be terminated without notice by us and with notice of three months to the end of the quarter by Rittershaus. In fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021, consulting fees of €208,000, €990,000 and €757,000 were paid to Rittershaus, respectively. Prof. Dr. Christof Hettich, one of the managing directors of dievini is a partner of Rittershaus.

Dr. Ingmar Hörr

In June 2018, an advisory agreement was implemented between Dr. Ingmar Hoerr and CureVac. Dr. Hoerr received €240,000, €45,000 and €0 for consulting services in fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021, respectively. The advisory agreement with Dr. Ingmar Hoerr was terminated in March 2020.

Antony Blanc

In July 2020, a consulting agreement was implemented between CureVac AG and Clarentis SRL, which is wholly owned by Antony Blanc, our chief business officer. The consulting agreement was further amended in September 2020. The consulting agreement was terminated in February 2021 upon Antony Blanc's appointment as our chief business officer. The consulting agreement provided for payments that were contingent upon the achievement of certain milestones. Clarentis SRL received €150,000 and €100,000 in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, respectively.

2020 Private Investment

On July 17, 2020, we entered into a binding agreement with KfW, Glaxo Group Limited, or GSK, QIA and other investors, pursuant to which we agreed to issue new Series B shares in CureVac AG, representing approximately 36% of the shares in CureVac AG in exchange for an aggregate investment of €560 million.

According to the mandate of KfW by the Federal Republic of Germany pursuant to and in accordance with Article 2 paragraph 4 of the KfW Law (*Zuweisungsgeschäft*) KfW, acquired approximately 19% shareholding in CureVac AG for an aggregate investment of €300 million. In addition, GSK acquired approximately a 9% shareholding in CureVac AG for an investment of €150 million and QIA acquired approximately 4% shareholding in CureVac AG for an investment of €60 million. We refer to the investment of KfW as the KfW Investment and to the investment by GSK as the GSK Investment. In addition, the other several shareholders purchased an aggregate 3% shareholding in CureVac AG for an aggregate investment of €50 million. As part of our Corporate Reorganization, outstanding shares of all series in CureVac AG have been exchanged for common shares in CureVac B.V., which subsequently were converted into shares of CureVac N.V.

As part of the 2020 Private Investment those investors who have subscribed for our Series A, B and C shares, or the pre-IPO shareholders, became parties to an Investment and Shareholders' Agreement, as amended, pursuant to which certain of our pre-IPO shareholders holding at least 10% of our shares have entered into a Registration Right Agreement, as further described below. In addition, KfW has become a party to a Relationship Agreement and entered into a separate Shareholders' Agreement with dievini and Mr. Hopp as further described below. As part of the GSK Investment, we also entered into a collaboration agreement with GSK pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and commercialize prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA-based vaccines and antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens. For further information regarding our collaboration agreement with GSK please refer to "Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations."

We are obligated to use the funds raised in the 2020 Private Investment solely to fund the (i) development of our proprietary pipeline, including earlier stage assets currently in preclinical development, (ii) research and development activities to expand our mRNA platform technology, in particular with respect to our vaccine candidate against SARS-CoV-2 and other infectious diseases and (iii) manufacturing capacities for mRNA-based drug product candidates and future approved products.

Shareholders' Agreement among KfW, dievini, DH-LT Investments GmbH and Mr. Hopp

In connection with the KfW Investment, KfW, dievini and Mr. Hopp entered into a shareholders' agreement on June 16, 2020, or the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement, agreeing to certain transfer restrictions and rights of first refusal relating to their interests in our company, nomination rights as provided elsewhere in this Annual Report, and a voting agreement relating to certain specified actions. In particular, dievini and Mr. Hopp agree to vote a specified number of their shares as directed by KfW on certain specified actions, subject to certain exceptions. These specified actions include, *inter alia*: (1) transferring the tax domicile of CureVac N.V. and/or the approval of the transfer of the corporate or administrative seat of CureVac AG; (2) relocating or ceasing activities in specified areas to a state outside the European Union to the extent (in particular in the area of the development of vaccines) material for the protection of the health of the population of the European Union; (3) entering into material mergers and acquisitions; and (4) amendments to the articles of association of CureVac AG which would affect the foregoing matters. Under the terms of KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement, Mr. Hopp agreed to purchase an aggregate of €100 million of our common shares in a private placement that took place with our initial public offering, in August 2020, at a price per share equal to our initial public offering price concurrently. Mr. Hopp effected this purchase through DH-LT-Investments GmbH, an affiliated entity. In connection with such concurrent private placement DH-LT-Investments GmbH has become a party to the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement. The KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement has an initial fixed term that expires on December 31, 2023, subject to a right to extend for one year for the benefit of KfW and dievini, and may be terminated after the initial fixed term, or the extended term, if applicable, by either party subject to six months' notice prior the end of the applicable calendar year. In addition, the agreement shall automatically terminate if KfW sells all or a part of its interest in our company to a third-party, subject to certain exceptions.

Investment and Shareholders' Agreement

We and our pre-IPO shareholders, entered into an investment and shareholders' agreement July 17, 2020, or the ISA. The ISA provides for certain particular shareholders' rights and also envisages restrictions on the shareholders party thereto, including the obligation to enter into a registration rights agreement, restrictions on transfer, as well as certain tag-along rights, drag-along rights, demand rights, rights of first offer and rights of first refusal.

Upon the listing of our shares on Nasdaq, only certain limited provisions of the ISA survived the Corporate Reorganization. Pursuant to such surviving provisions, we and/or our pre-IPO shareholders are subject to certain obligations, as listed below.

- We agreed to prepare and provide KfW our interim financials not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter. In addition, not later than 30 days prior to the start of each fiscal year we agreed to prepare and provide KfW our operating plans that shall include certain projections regarding our financials, our business plan relating to the succeeding fiscal year including our development plans, financial and investment plans, budgeted and projected figures and other information and forecasts. Our supervisory board needs to approve the planning by a simple majority vote. In addition, subject to certain limitations, the member of our supervisory board designated (*nominiert*) by KfW shall, to the extent not prohibited by any mandatory law and/or Nasdaq rules, be entitled to pass on and discuss any information received in his or her capacity as a member of the supervisory board with KfW and certain governmental agencies and offices of the federal government of the federal republic of Germany, however, restricted to the extent required for KfW and any of the aforementioned institutions to comply with their respective obligations. We are obligated to also provide to KfW upon its request such information that is reasonably requested by KfW for the management and the controlling of KfW's shareholding in us in order for KfW and certain other institutions as of the Federal Republic of Germany to comply with their respective obligations;
- KfW has the right to designate (*nominiere*n) one member of our supervisory board for appointment by the general meeting (and to prompt the recall of such member of the supervisory board at its sole discretion) as long as KfW's shareholding in our share capital is at least 10% in accordance with the arrangements included in our articles of association. Furthermore, our pre-IPO shareholders shall, to the extent legally permissible, ensure that any established advisory board or any other comparable panel of our subsidiaries or affiliate shall also provide KfW the right, upon its discretion, to include a member to be designated (*nominiere*n);
- We need to reasonably cooperate with each of our pre-IPO shareholders to provide them with information that is mandatory for their tax obligations;

- If we fail to withhold taxes on certain amounts paid to a pre-IPO shareholder, its affiliates and certain related persons of such pre-IPO shareholder (excluding a shareholder that was not our shareholder prior to the 2020 Private Investment), and such certain amounts are reimbursable or creditable to such pre-IPO shareholder, its affiliates and certain related persons of such pre-IPO shareholder, then such pre-IPO shareholder needs to use his or her best efforts in order to obtain a credit or reimbursement from the applicable tax authority and such credit or reimbursement shall be paid to us;
- We are obligated to use the funds raised in the 2020 Private Investment solely to fund the (i) development of our proprietary pipeline, including earlier stage assets currently in preclinical development, (ii) research and development activities to expand our mRNA platform technology, in particular with respect to our vaccine candidate against SARS-CoV-2 and other infectious diseases and (iii) manufacturing capacities for mRNA-based drug product candidates and future approved products;
- We entered into a Global Access Agreement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in February 2015 pursuant to which we are required to take certain actions to support the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s mission. We may be required to redeem all, or to facilitate the purchase by a third-party of all, the shares held in us by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as per the date of the ISA on certain terms that may not be favorable to us, if we receive from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation a notification that we have (a) committed a material breach of certain commitments under the Global Access Agreement, (b) used the funds received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for purposes other than those described in the Global Access Agreement, including not for the (i) finance of our facility to be used inter alia to manufacture vaccines and drugs in support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s charitable purpose, (ii) continued development of technology for prophylactic and therapeutic mRNA vaccines and drugs against infectious diseases and vaccine adjuvants, comprised of long, non-coding RNA molecules and formulation/delivery technology necessary to develop the mRNA vaccines and drugs, or the Platform Technology, (iii) the use of the Platform Technology to advance vaccine and drug candidates in support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation charitable purpose and/or (c) failed to comply with certain U.S. regulatory and tax obligations, or together the BMGF Default, and the BMGF Default continues to exist following a cure period. In addition, if we are required but fail to purchase all of the shares held in us by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as per the date of the ISA, we shall not be allowed to pay dividends, redeem the shares of any other shareholder (other than repurchases at cost of shares from our employees, officers, directors, consultants or other persons performing services for us pursuant to agreements under which we have the option to repurchase our shares upon the occurrence of the termination of employment or service) or otherwise make any other distribution to any of our shareholders in connection with their shares. In addition, if within 12 months after such redemption or sale, we close an underwritten public financing or a change of control occurs and the valuation used for such underwritten public financing or a change of control, as the case may be, is in excess of 200% of the valuation used for the redemption or the sale of the shares held by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we will need to pay the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation compensation equal to the excess of what it would have received in such transaction if it still held its shares at the time of such underwritten public financing or a change of control over what it received in the sale or redemption of its shares had the BMGF Default not occurred. For further information regarding the Global Access Agreement see “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Collaborations — Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Partnership;”
- Upon the consummation of our initial public offering, we agreed to file, and filed, an application for continuation of tax book value (*Antrag auf Buchwertfortführung* acc. to Sec. 21 par. 1 second and third sentences of the German Tax Conversion Act — *UmwStG*) regarding the shares of CureVac AG that has been transferred as part of our initial public offering, as set out above, with the respectively competent tax authorities within four (4) months after the date of the ISA at the latest; and

- We agreed to provide pre-IPO shareholders holding at least 10% of our share capital certain information required to facilitate the disposition of our shares held by any such pre-IPO shareholder, or in some circumstances to provide information that we intend to file with the SEC and in such case we may be required to take into account the input of such pre-IPO shareholder holding prior to the filing with the SEC. In addition, we agreed that upon a written request of such a pre-IPO shareholder, we will add such pre-IPO shareholder holding to our liability insurance as a named insured in connection with the consummation of a registered offering, but any related premium shall be borne by such pre-IPO shareholder holding at least 10% of our share capital; and dievini and certain other limited pre-IPO shareholders agreed to bear the economics with respect to the Prior VSOP for a total of up to 60,175 participation rights corresponding with 10% of our share capital as of February 1, 2015 in the amount of altogether EUR 601,750. In case of an exercise event under the Prior VSOP, dievini and such other limited pre-IPO shareholders agreed to transfer common shares up to a pre-determined amount to allow us to fulfill any claims of the beneficiaries under the Prior VSOP.

Registration Rights Agreement

We entered into a registration rights agreement upon the consummation of our initial public offering, pursuant to which each holder of at least 10% of our common shares and certain other holders of our common shares is entitled to various rights with respect to the registration of their common shares under the Securities Act. Each holder party to the registration rights agreement or an Eligible Shareholder shall continue to have various rights with respect to the registration of its common shares under the Securities Act, until 90 days after such shareholder, including its affiliates, cease to hold at least 10% of our common shares, or any other future class of shares. The registration of these common shares under the Securities Act would result in these common shares becoming freely tradable without restriction under the Securities Act immediately upon the effectiveness of the registration, except for shares purchased by affiliates. We are not required to register such common shares if an exemption from the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act is available with respect to the number of our common shares desired to be sold.

Form F-1 Registration Statement

As of February 9, 2021, any Eligible Shareholder or group of Eligible Shareholders, is entitled to demand in writing that we effect the registration under the Securities Act of the sale or other transfer of such shareholder or shareholders' common shares, provided that we are not required to effect more than three such registrations and that the aggregate anticipated offering price from the sale of such shares equals at least \$35 million, subject to certain exemptions.

Form F-3 Registration Statement

As of August 13, 2021, each Eligible Shareholder or group of Eligible Shareholders may request in writing, not more than three times within 12-month period, that we effect a registration of the sale or other transfer of such shares, provided that the aggregate anticipated offering price from the sale of such shares equals at least \$15 million, subject to certain exemptions. We will not be obligated to file a registration statement on Form F-3 in certain customary cases, subject to certain exemptions.

Piggyback Registration Rights

The registration rights agreement provides our Eligible Shareholders with "piggy back" registration rights in the event that we determine to register the sale of any of our securities. With respect to such registration rights, we are committed to use our reasonable best efforts to include in a registration statement a prospectus relating to the resale of certain securities held by certain of our Eligible Shareholders.

Relationship Agreement

In connection with the KfW Investment, KfW, dievini and CureVac B.V. entered into a relationship agreement on July 17, 2020, or the KfW dievini Relationship Agreement. Pursuant the KfW dievini Relationship Agreement the parties provide for our agreed form of the articles of association, the supervisory board rules and the management board rules. In addition, the KfW dievini Relationship Agreement establishes that if at any time during the effectiveness of the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement any of our shareholders other than KfW or dievini is granted a nomination right to our supervisory board or the supervisory board of any of our subsidiaries, then all of the parties to the KfW dievini Relationship Agreement shall use best efforts to exercise their shareholder rights to ensure that KfW and dievini shall each be given a nomination right as well. We also agreed not to procure, not to propose or implement during the terms of the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement and the ISA, any amendment to the corporate documents of CureVac AG or CureVac B.V. or CureVac N.V., which would violate or not observe the Relationship Agreement, the ISA or other agreements concluded with us and KfW in connection with KfW's investment.

Indemnification Agreements

Our articles of association require us to indemnify our current and former managing directors and supervisory directors to the fullest extent permitted by law, subject to certain exceptions. We entered into indemnification agreements with all our managing directors and supervisory directors, and may enter into additional indemnification agreements with future managing directors and supervisory directors.

Employment Agreements

Certain of our managing directors and supervisory directors have entered into service agreements with us as discussed in more detail within "Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees — C. Board Practices — Service Agreements."

Transfer of Shares from Prior Shareholders

As of March 10, 2021 and October 18, 2021, the holders of the virtual shares under the Prior VSOP plan exercised all of their exercisable virtual shares. See note 9 to our audited consolidated financial statements contained elsewhere in this Annual Report for further information on the exercise of the virtual shares.

C. Interests of Experts and Counsel

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information

Financial Statements

See "Item 18. Financial Statements," which contains our audited financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS.

Legal Proceedings

From time to time, we are subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of our business activities including proceedings initiated by former employees and directors. Although the results of litigation and claims cannot be predicted with certainty, as of the date of this Annual Report, we do not believe such claims and proceedings, would individually or in the aggregate be reasonably expected to have a material adverse effect on our business.

In addition, in connection with our adjustment of our external European manufacturing network after the the withdrawal of our EMA dossier for our drug candidate CvnCoV, we are involved in disputes with certain manufacturers. In February 2022, we were served with a request for arbitration filed with the German Arbitration Institute by Wacker Biotech B.V. seeking payments based on a terminated agreement with us, which arbitration has commenced. The agreement with Wacker was terminated in connection with the withdrawal of our EMA dossier for our drug candidate CVnCoV. We intend to defend ourselves vigorously against Wacker’s claims. An estimate of the possible outcome cannot be made at this time.

Rentschler Biopharma SE has informed us that the Transfer and Services Agreement and the Commercial Manufacturing Agreement between Rentschler and CureVac Real Estate GmbH must be terminated due to the withdrawal of our EMA dossier for CVnCoV. Rentschler is seeking damages in connection with the termination request, as well as certain claims for other reimbursement under the agreement. We do not believe there is a basis for a termination of the agreements by Rentschler nor for the damages claimed by Rentschler. The possible outcome of this dispute cannot be predicted at this time.

In addition, Celonic Germany GmbH & Co. KG BV (“Celonic”) has informed us that it believes it is owed damages and obligations from us in connection with the termination of its Services and Commercial Supply Agreement for Commercial Manufacturing with us. The agreement was terminated by us in September 2021. We do not believe there is a basis for such claims. The possible outcome of this dispute cannot be predicted at this time.

We had partnered with Novartis Pharma AG, among others, to develop an integrated European manufacturing network for our first-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV. After the withdrawal of the marketing authorization application for CVnCoV, the master services agreement with Novartis Pharma AG has been mutually terminated. On March 4, 2022, we have entered into a termination and settlement agreement with Novartis Pharma AG, under which we have settled, waived and released each other from the respective claims and obligations under the master services agreement.

Commercial disputes and arbitration and litigation is inherently unpredictable. While we do not believe that any of these matters will have a material adverse effect on our financial position, we could incur judgments, enter into settlements or revise our expectations regarding the outcome of matters, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or on our results of operations and/or our cash flows in the period in which any such amounts are accrued or paid. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on us because of defense and settlement costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

Dividends and Dividend Policy

We have never paid or declared any cash dividends on our common shares, and we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends on our common shares in the foreseeable future. We intend to retain all available funds and any future earnings to fund the development and expansion of our business. Under Dutch law, we may only pay dividends to the extent our shareholders' equity (*eigen vermogen*) exceeds the sum of the paid-in and called-up share capital plus the reserves required to be maintained by Dutch law or by our articles of association and (if it concerns a distribution of profits) after adoption of the annual accounts by the general meeting from which it appears that such dividend distribution is allowed. Subject to such restrictions, any future determination to pay dividends will be at the discretion of our management board with the approval of our supervisory board and will depend upon a number of factors, including our results of operations, financial condition, future prospects, contractual restrictions, restrictions imposed by applicable law and other factors our management board and supervisory board deem relevant.

Under our articles of association, our management board may decide that all or part of the profits are added to our reserves. Before reservation of any profit, to the extent that preferred shares have been canceled and preferred distributions on those canceled shares are outstanding, the profits are first to be used to satisfy the outstanding claim to those who held those preferred shares at the moment of such cancellation becoming effective and subsequently if any preferred shares are outstanding, a dividend is paid out of the remaining profit on the preferred shares in accordance with our articles of association. This dividend, or preferred dividend, shall be calculated on the basis of a fixed rate over the amount paid-up on the outstanding preferred shares pro rata tempore for the period during which they were outstanding during the financial year concerned, and shall include any arrears in payment of prior years' preferred dividends (if any). The remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting at the proposal of the management board for distribution on the common shares, subject to restrictions of Dutch law and approval by our supervisory board of such proposal of our management board. Our management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting, but only with the approval of the supervisory board. Dividends and other distributions shall be made payable not later than the date determined by the management board. Claims to dividends and other distributions not made within five years from the date that such dividends or distributions became payable will lapse and any such amounts will be considered to have been forfeited to us (*verjaring*).

B. Significant Changes

None.

ITEM 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING

A. Offering and Listing Details

Our common shares, with a par value of €0.12 per share, have traded on Nasdaq under the symbol "CVAC" since August 14, 2020.

B. Plan of Distribution

Not applicable.

C. Markets

For a description of our publicly traded common shares, see "Item 9. The Offering and Listing — A. Offer and Listing Details."

D. Selling Shareholders

Not applicable.

E. Dilution

Not applicable.

F. Expenses of the Issue

Not applicable.

ITEM 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. Share Capital

Not applicable.

B. Memorandum and Articles of Association

Our shareholders adopted the Articles of Association included as Exhibit 3.1 to our revised registration statement on Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed with the SEC on August 7, 2020.

We incorporate by reference into this Annual Report on Form 20-F the description of our Articles of Association effective upon the closing of our last public offering contained in our Registration Statement on [Form F-1 \(File No. 333-252391\) under “Description of Share Capital” filed with the SEC on January 25, 2021](#). Such description sets forth a summary of certain provisions of our articles of association, and certain descriptions of applicable German and Dutch law, each as currently in effect.

C. Material Contracts

See “Item 4. Information on the Company — B. Business Overview — Significant Agreements.”

D. Exchange Controls

Under Dutch law, there are no exchange controls applicable to the transfer to persons outside of the Netherlands of dividends or other distributions with respect to, or of the proceeds from the sale of, shares of a Dutch company, subject to applicable restrictions under sanctions and measures, including those concerning export control, pursuant to European Union regulations, the Sanctions Act 1977 (*Sanctiewet 1977*) or other legislation, applicable anti-boycott regulations and similar rules. There are no special restrictions in the articles of association or Dutch law that limit the right of shareholders who are not citizens or residents of the Netherlands to hold or vote shares.

E. Taxation

The following summary contains a description of certain Dutch, German and U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to purchase common shares. The summary is based upon the tax laws of the Netherlands and regulations thereunder, the tax laws of Germany and regulations thereunder and the tax laws of the United States and regulations thereunder as of the date hereof, which are subject to change. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the applicable tax consequences to you of investing in our common shares.

Material Dutch Tax Considerations

General

The following is a general summary of certain material Dutch tax consequences of the acquisition, holding and disposal of our common shares. This summary does not purport to set forth all possible tax considerations or consequences that may be relevant to a holder or prospective holder of our common shares and does not purport to deal with the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which (such as trusts or similar arrangements) may be subject to special rules. In view of its general nature, it should be treated with corresponding caution.

This summary is based on the tax laws of the Netherlands, published regulations thereunder and published authoritative case law, all as in effect on the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. Where the summary refers to “the Netherlands” or “Dutch” it refers only to the part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands located in Europe.

This discussion is for general information purposes and is not Dutch tax advice or a complete description of all Dutch tax consequences relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of our common shares. Holders or prospective holders of our common shares should consult their own tax advisor regarding the Dutch tax consequences relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of our common shares in light of their particular circumstances.

Please note that this section does not set forth the Dutch tax considerations for:

- holders of common shares if such holders have a substantial interest (*aanmerkelijk belang*) or deemed substantial interest (*fictief aanmerkelijk belang*) under the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001 (*Wet inkomstenbelasting 2001*). Generally, a holder of securities in a company is considered to hold a substantial interest in such company if such holder alone or, in the case of individuals, together with such holder’s partner for Dutch income tax purposes, or any relatives by blood or marriage in the direct line (including foster children) directly or indirectly holds (i) an interest of 5% or more of the total issued and outstanding capital of that company or of 5% or more of the issued and outstanding capital of a certain class of shares of that company; or (ii) rights to acquire, directly or indirectly, such interest; or (iii) certain profit sharing rights in that company that relate to 5% or more of the company’s annual profits and/or to 5% or more of the company’s liquidation proceeds. A deemed substantial interest exists if a substantial interest (or part thereof) in a company has been disposed of, or is deemed to have been disposed of, on a non-recognition basis;
- holders of common shares for which the common shares qualify or qualified as a participation (*deelneming*) for purposes of the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act 1969 (*Wet op de vennootschapsbelasting 1969*). Generally, a holder's shareholding of 5% or more in a company's nominal paid-up share capital qualifies as a participation. A holder may also have a participation if (a) such holder does not have a shareholding of 5% or more but a related entity (statutorily defined term) has a participation or (b) the company in which the shares are held is a related entity (statutorily defined term);
- pension funds, investment institutions (*fiscale beleggingsinstellingen*), exempt investment institutions (*vrijgestelde beleggingsinstellingen*) (as defined in the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act 1969) and other entities that are, in whole or in part, not subject to or exempt from Dutch corporate income tax as well as entities that are exempt from corporate income tax in their country of residence, such country of residence being another state of the European Union, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland or any other state with which the Netherlands has agreed to exchange information in line with international standards; and
- holders of common shares who are individuals and for whom the common shares or any benefit derived from the common shares are a remuneration or deemed to be a remuneration for (employment) activities performed by such holders or certain individuals related to such holders (as defined in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001).

Dividend Withholding Tax

Dividends distributed by us generally are subject to Dutch dividend withholding tax at a rate of 15%. Generally, we are responsible for the withholding of such dividend withholding tax at source; the Dutch dividend withholding tax is for the account of the holder of our common shares.

However, as long as we continue to have our place of effective management solely in Germany, and not in the Netherlands, under the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands and the current reservation made by Germany under the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting with respect to the tie-breaker provision included in Article 4(3) of the double tax treaty between Germany and the Netherlands and, we will be considered to be exclusively tax resident in Germany and we will not be required to withhold Dutch dividend withholding tax. This exemption from withholding does not apply to dividends distributed by us to a holder who is resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands for Dutch income tax purposes or to holders of common shares that are neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if the common shares are attributable to a Dutch permanent establishment of such non-resident holder, in which case the following paragraph applies. See also “Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — If we do pay dividends, we may need to withhold tax on such dividends payable to holders of our shares in both Germany and the Netherlands.”

Dividends distributed by us to individuals and corporate legal entities who are resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands for Dutch income tax purposes (“Dutch Resident Individuals” and “Dutch Resident Entities,” as the case may be) or to holders of common shares that are neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if the common shares are attributable to a Dutch permanent establishment of such non-resident holder are subject to Dutch dividend withholding tax at a rate of 15%.

The expression “dividends distributed” includes, among other things:

- distributions in cash or in kind, deemed and constructive distributions and repayments of paid-in capital not recognized for Dutch dividend withholding tax purposes;
- liquidation proceeds, proceeds of redemption of common shares, or proceeds of the repurchase of common shares (other than as temporary portfolio investment; *tijdelijke belegging*) by us or one of our subsidiaries or other affiliated entities to the extent such proceeds exceed the average paid-in capital of those common shares as recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax;
- an amount equal to the par value of common shares issued or an increase of the par value of common shares, to the extent that it does not appear that a contribution, recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax, has been made or will be made; and
- partial repayment of the paid-in capital, recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax, if and to the extent that we have net profits (*zuivere winst*), unless (i) the general meeting has resolved in advance to make such repayment and (ii) the par value of the common shares concerned has been reduced by an equal amount by way of an amendment of our articles of association. The term “net profits” includes anticipated profits that have yet to be realized.

Dutch Resident Individuals and Dutch Resident Entities generally are entitled to a credit for any Dutch dividend withholding tax against their Dutch (corporate) income tax liability. For corporate legal entities who are resident or deemed to be resident of the Netherlands for Dutch tax purposes, the credit in any given year is limited to the amount of corporate income tax payable in respect of the relevant year with an indefinite carry forward of any excess amount. The same generally applies to holders of common shares that are neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if the common shares are attributable to a Dutch permanent establishment of such non-resident holder.

Dividend Stripping

Pursuant to legislation to counteract “dividend stripping,” a reduction, exemption, credit or refund of Dutch dividend withholding tax is denied if the recipient of the dividend is not the beneficial owner (*uiteindelijk gerechtigde*) of the dividend.

The Dutch Dividend Withholding Tax Act 1965 (*Wet op de dividendbelasting 1965*) provides for a non-exhaustive negative description of a beneficial owner. According to this act, a holder of common shares will not be considered the beneficial owner of the dividends if as a consequence of a combination of transactions:

- a person other than the holder of common shares wholly or partly, directly or indirectly, benefits from the dividends;

- whereby this other person retains or acquires, directly or indirectly, an interest similar to that in our common shares on which the dividends were paid; and
- that other person is entitled to a credit, reduction or refund of Dutch dividend withholding tax that is less than that of the holder of common shares.

The Dutch State Secretary of Finance takes the position that the definition of beneficial owner introduced by this legislation will also be applied in the context of a double taxation convention.

Conditional withholding tax on dividends (as of January 1, 2024)

As of January 1, 2024, a Dutch conditional withholding tax will be imposed on dividends distributed by us to entities related (*gelieerd*) to us (within the meaning of the Dutch Withholding Tax Act 2021; Wet bronbelasting 2021), if such related entity:

- (i) is considered to be resident (*gevestigd*) in a jurisdiction that is listed in the yearly updated Dutch Regulation on low-taxing states and non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes (*Regeling laagbelastende staten en niet-coöperatieve rechtsgebieden voor belastingdoeleinden*) (a "Listed Jurisdiction"); or
- (ii) has a permanent establishment located in a Listed Jurisdiction to which the Shares are attributable; or
- (iii) holds the common shares for the main purpose or one of the main purposes to avoid taxation for another person or entity and there is an artificial arrangement or transaction or a series of artificial arrangements or transactions; or
- (iv) is not considered to be the beneficial owner of the common shares in its jurisdiction of residence because such jurisdiction treats another entity as the beneficial owner of the common shares (a hybrid mismatch); or
- (v) is not resident in any jurisdiction (also a hybrid mismatch); or
- (vi) is a reverse hybrid (within the meaning of Article 2(12) of the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act 1969), if and to the extent (x) there is a participant in the reverse hybrid which is related (*gelieerd*) to the reverse hybrid, (y) the jurisdiction of residence of such participant treats the reverse hybrid as transparent for tax purposes and (z) such participant would have been subject to the Dutch conditional withholding tax in respect of dividends distributed by us without the interposition of the reverse hybrid, all within the meaning of the Dutch Withholding Tax Act 2021.

The Dutch conditional withholding tax on dividends will be imposed at the highest Dutch corporate income tax rate in effect at the time of the distribution (currently 25.8%). The Dutch conditional withholding tax on dividends will be reduced, but not below zero, by any regular Dutch dividend withholding tax withheld in respect of the same dividend distribution. As such, based on the currently applicable rates, the overall effective tax rate of withholding the regular Dutch dividend withholding tax (as described above) and the Dutch conditional withholding tax on dividends will not exceed the highest corporate income tax rate in effect at the time of the distribution (currently 25.8%).

Taxes on Income and Capital Gains

Dutch Resident Entities

Generally speaking, if the holder of common shares is a Dutch Resident Entity, any benefits derived or deemed to be derived from the common shares or any capital gains realized on the disposal or deemed disposal of the common shares is subject to Dutch corporate income tax at a rate of 15% with respect to taxable profits up to €395,000 and 25.8% with respect to taxable profits in excess of that amount (rates and brackets for 2022).

Dutch Resident Individuals

If the holder of common shares is a Dutch Resident Individual, any benefits derived or deemed to be derived from the common shares or any capital gains realized on the disposal or deemed disposal of the common shares is taxable at the progressive Dutch income tax rates (with a maximum of 49.5% in 2022), if:

- (i) the common shares are attributable to an enterprise from which the holder of common shares derives a share of the profit, whether as an entrepreneur (*ondernemer*) or as a person who has a co-entitlement to the net worth (*medegerechtigd tot het vermogen*) of such enterprise without being a shareholder (as defined in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001); or

- (ii) the holder of common shares is considered to perform activities with respect to the common shares that go beyond ordinary asset management (*normaal, actief vermogensbeheer*) or otherwise derives benefits from the common shares that are taxable as benefits from miscellaneous activities (*resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden*).

If the above-mentioned conditions (i) and (ii) do not apply to the Dutch Resident Individual, the Dutch Resident Individual's net investment assets (*rendementsgrondslag*) for the year will be subject to an annual Dutch income tax on a deemed return (with a maximum of 5.53% in 2022) under the regime for savings and investments (*inkomen uit sparen en beleggen*), insofar the Dutch Resident Individual's net investment assets for the year exceed a statutory threshold (*heffingvrij vermogen*).

The net investment assets for the year are the fair market value of the investment assets less the allowable liabilities on January 1 of the relevant calendar year. The common shares are included as investment assets. For the net investment assets on January 1, 2022, the deemed return ranges from 1.82% up to 5.53% (depending on the aggregate amount of the net investment assets of the individual on January 1, 2022). The deemed return will be adjusted annually on the basis of historic market yields.

The deemed return on the Dutch Resident Individual's net investment assets for the year is taxed at a flat rate of 31% (rate for 2022). Actual income or capital gains realized in respect of the Shares are as such not subject to Dutch income tax.

On December 24, 2021, the Dutch Supreme Court ruled that the Dutch income tax levy on savings and investments, in 2017 and 2018, violated the European Convention on Human Rights. The tax consequences of the Dutch Supreme Court ruling are not immediately clear. The new Dutch Government intends to start calculating the taxation on savings and investments on actual returns realized from savings and investments (instead of on a deemed return) starting in 2025. The Dutch Supreme Court ruling could make the Dutch Government move faster on the issue. Prospective investors should carefully consider the tax consequences of this Dutch Supreme Court ruling and consult their own tax adviser about their own tax situation.

Non-residents of the Netherlands

A holder of common shares that is neither a Dutch Resident Entity nor a Dutch Resident Individual will not be subject to Dutch (corporate) income tax in respect of income derived or deemed to be derived from the common shares or in respect of capital gains realized on the disposal or deemed disposal of the common shares, provided that:

- (i) such holder does not have an interest in an enterprise or deemed enterprise (as defined in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001 and the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act 1969) which, in whole or in part, is either effectively managed in the Netherlands or carried on through a permanent establishment, a deemed permanent establishment or a permanent representative in the Netherlands and to which enterprise or part of an enterprise the common shares are attributable; and
- (ii) in the event the holder is an individual, such holder does not carry out any activities in the Netherlands with respect to the common shares that go beyond ordinary asset management and does not otherwise derive benefits from the common shares that are taxable as benefits from miscellaneous activities in the Netherlands.

Gift and Inheritance Taxes

Residents of the Netherlands

Gift or inheritance taxes will arise in the Netherlands with respect to a transfer of common shares by way of a gift by, or on the death of, a holder of such common shares who is resident or deemed resident of the Netherlands at the time of the gift or the holder's death.

Non-residents of the Netherlands

No gift or inheritance taxes will arise in the Netherlands with respect to a transfer of common shares by way of gift by, or on the death of, a holder of common shares who is neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands, unless:

- (i) in the case of a gift of common shares by an individual who at the date of the gift was neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands, such individual dies within 180 days after the date of the gift, while being resident or deemed to be resident of the Netherlands; or
- (ii) in the case of a gift of common shares is made under a condition precedent, the holder of common shares is resident or is deemed to be resident of the Netherlands at the time the condition is fulfilled; or
- (iii) the transfer is otherwise construed as a gift or inheritance made by, or on behalf of, a person who, at the time of the gift or death, is or is deemed to be resident of the Netherlands.

For purposes of Dutch gift and inheritance taxes, among others, a person that holds the Dutch nationality will be deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if such person has been resident in the Netherlands at any time during the ten (10) years preceding the date of the gift or such person's death. Additionally, for purposes of Dutch gift tax, amongst others, a person not holding the Dutch nationality will be deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if such person has been resident in the Netherlands at any time during the twelve (12) months preceding the date of the gift. Applicable tax treaties may override deemed residency.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

No Dutch VAT will be payable by a holder of common shares in respect of any payment in consideration for the holding or disposal of the common shares.

Other Taxes and Duties

No Dutch registration tax, stamp duty or any other similar documentary tax or duty will be payable by a holder of common shares in respect of any payment in consideration for the holding or disposal of the common shares.

Material German Tax Considerations

The following section is the opinion of FALK GmbH & Co KG, or German Tax Counsel, of the material German tax considerations that become relevant when purchasing, holding or transferring the company's shares. The company expects and intends to have its sole place of management in Germany and, therefore, qualifies as a corporation subject to German unlimited income taxation; however, because a company's tax residency depends on future facts regarding the location in which the company is managed and controlled, German Tax Counsel cannot opine as to whether the company will actually qualify as a corporation subject to German unlimited income taxation. This section does not set forth all German tax aspects that may be relevant for shareholders. The section is based on the German tax law applicable as of the date of this Annual Report. It should be noted that the law may change following the issuance of this Annual Report and that such changes may have retroactive effect.

The material German tax principles of purchasing, owning and transferring of shares are set forth in the following. This section does not purport to be a comprehensive or complete analysis or listing of all potential tax effects of the purchase, ownership or disposition of shares and does not set forth all tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular person's decision to acquire common shares. All of the following is subject to change. Such changes could apply retroactively and could affect the consequences set forth below. This section does not refer to any U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act aspects.

Shareholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers with regard to the application of German tax law to their particular situations, in particular with respect to the procedure to be complied with to obtain a relief of withholding tax on dividends and on capital gains (*Kapitalertragsteuer*) and with respect to the influence of double tax treaty provisions, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or other foreign jurisdiction. For German tax purposes, a shareholder may include an individual who or an entity that does not have the legal title to the shares, but to whom nevertheless the shares are attributed, based either on such individual or entity owning a beneficial interest in the shares or based on specific statutory provisions.

This section does not constitute a particular tax advice. Potential purchasers of the company's shares are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares in light of their particular circumstances.

Dividends Tax

Withholding Tax on Dividends

Dividends distributed from a company to its shareholders are subject to withholding tax, subject to certain exemptions (for example, repayments of capital from the tax equity account (*steuerliches Einlagekonto*)), as described in the following. The withholding tax rate is 25% plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge (*Solidaritätszuschlag*) thereon (in total 26.375%) of the gross dividend approved by the ordinary shareholders' meeting. Withholding tax is to be withheld and passed on for the account of the shareholders by a domestic branch of a domestic or foreign credit or financial services institution (*Kredit- und Finanzdienstleistungsinstitut*), by the domestic securities trading company (*inländisches Wertpapierhandelsunternehmen*) or a domestic securities trading bank (*inländische Wertpapierhandelsbank*) which keeps and administers the shares and disburses or credits the dividends or disburses the dividends to a foreign agent, or by the securities custodian bank (*Wertpapiersammelbank*) to which the shares were entrusted for collective custody if the dividends are distributed to a foreign agent by such securities custodian bank (which is referred to as the "Dividend Paying Agent"). In case the shares are not held in collective deposit with a Dividend Paying Agent, the company is responsible for withholding and remitting the tax to the competent tax office.

Such withholding tax is levied and withheld irrespective of whether, and to what extent, the dividend distribution is taxable at the level of the shareholder, and whether the shareholder is a person residing in Germany or in a foreign country.

In the case of dividends distributed to a company within the meaning of Art. 2 of the amended EU Directive 2011/96/EU of the Council of November 30, 2011, or the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive, domiciled in another Member State of the European Union, an exemption from withholding tax will be granted upon request if further prerequisites are satisfied (*Freistellung im Steuerabzugsverfahren*). This also applies to dividends distributed to a permanent establishment located in another Member State of the European Union of such a parent company or of a parent company tax resident in Germany if the participation in the company is effectively connected with this permanent establishment. The key prerequisite for the application of the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive is that the shareholder has held a direct participation in the share capital of the company of at least 10% for at least one year.

The withholding tax on distributions to other foreign resident shareholders is reduced in accordance with a double taxation treaty if Germany has concluded such double taxation treaty with the country of residence of the shareholder and if the shareholder does not hold his shares either as part of the assets of a permanent establishment or a fixed place of business in Germany or as business assets for which a permanent representative has been appointed in Germany. The reduction of the withholding tax is procedurally granted in such a manner that the difference between the total amount withheld, including the solidarity surcharge, and the tax liability determined on the basis of the tax rate set forth in the applicable double taxation treaty (15% unless further qualifications are met) is refunded by the German tax administration upon request (Federal Central Office for Taxes (*Bundeszentralamt für Steuern*), main office in Bonn-Beuel, An der Kuppe 1, 53225 Bonn, Germany).

In the case of dividends received by corporations whose statutory seat and effective place of management are not located in Germany and who are therefore not tax resident in Germany, two-fifths of the withholding tax deducted and remitted are refunded without the need to fulfill all prerequisites required for such refund under the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive or under a double taxation treaty or if no double taxation treaty has been concluded between the state of residence of the shareholder.

In order to receive a refund pursuant to a double taxation treaty or the aforementioned option for foreign corporations, the shareholder has to submit a completed form for refund (available at the Federal Central Office for Taxes (<http://www.bzst.de>) as well as at the German embassies and consulates) together with a withholding tax certificate (*Kapitalertragsteuerbescheinigung*) issued by the institution that withheld the tax.

The exemption from withholding tax in accordance with the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive or a double tax treaty and the aforementioned options for a refund of the withholding tax (with or without protection under a double taxation treaty) depend on whether certain additional prerequisites (in particular so-called substance requirements) are fulfilled. The applicable withholding tax relief will only be granted if the preconditions of the German anti avoidance rules (so called Directive Override or Treaty Override), in particular Section 50d, paragraph 3, German Income Tax Act (*Einkommensteuergesetz*) are fulfilled. In addition, Article 28 of the Convention between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital and to certain other Taxes of August 29, 1989 in the amended version of June 4, 2008 (*Bundesgesetzblatt II 2008*, p. 611) provides for further prerequisites that need to be fulfilled in case of a shareholder who is resident of the United States.

The aforementioned reductions of (or exemptions from) withholding tax are further restricted if (i) the applicable double taxation treaty provides for a tax reduction resulting in an applicable tax rate of less than 15% and (ii) the shareholder is not a corporation that directly holds at least 10% in the equity capital of the company and is subject to tax on its income and profits in its state of residence without being exempt. In this case, the reduction of (or exemption from) withholding tax is subject to the following three cumulative prerequisites: (i) the shareholder must qualify as beneficial owner of the shares in the company for a minimum holding period of 45 consecutive days occurring within a period of 45 days prior and 45 days after the due date of the dividends, (ii) the shareholder has to bear at least 70% of the change in value risk related to the shares in the company during the minimum holding period without being directly or indirectly hedged and (iii) the shareholder must not be required to fully or largely compensate directly or indirectly the dividends to third parties. However, these further prerequisites do not apply if the shareholder has been the beneficial owner of the shares in the company for at least one uninterrupted year upon receipt of the dividends.

For individual or corporate shareholders tax resident outside Germany not holding the shares through a permanent establishment (*Betriebsstätte*) in Germany or as business assets (*Betriebsvermögen*) for which a permanent representative (*ständiger Vertreter*) has been appointed in Germany, the remaining and paid withholding tax (if any) is final (i.e., not refundable) and settles the shareholder's limited tax liability in Germany. For individual or corporate shareholders tax resident in Germany (that are, for example, shareholders whose residence, domicile, registered office or place of management is located in Germany) holding their shares as business assets, as well as for shareholders tax resident outside of Germany holding their shares through a permanent establishment in Germany or as business assets for which a permanent representative has been appointed in Germany, the withholding tax withheld (including solidarity surcharge) can be credited against the shareholder's personal income tax or corporate income tax liability in Germany. Any withholding tax (including solidarity surcharge) in excess of such tax liability is refunded. For individual shareholders tax resident in Germany holding the company's shares as private assets, the withholding tax is a final tax (*Abgeltungsteuer*), subject to the exceptions described in the following section.

Pursuant to special rules on the restriction of withholding tax credit, the credit of withholding tax is subject to the following three cumulative prerequisites: (i) the shareholder must qualify as beneficial owner of the shares in the company for a minimum holding period of 45 consecutive days occurring within a period of 45 days prior and 45 days after the due date of the dividends, (ii) the shareholder has to bear at least 70% of the change in value risk related to the shares in the company during the minimum holding period without being directly or indirectly hedged and (iii) the shareholder must not be required to fully or largely compensate directly or indirectly the dividends to third parties. Absent the fulfillment of all of the three prerequisites, three-fifths of the withholding tax imposed on the dividends must not be credited against the shareholder's (corporate) income tax liability, but may, upon application, be deducted from the shareholder's tax base for the relevant assessment period. A shareholder that has received gross dividends without any deduction of withholding tax due to a tax exemption without qualifying for a full tax credit has to notify the competent local tax office accordingly and has to make a payment in the amount of the omitted withholding tax deduction. The special rules on the restriction of withholding tax credit do not apply to a shareholder whose overall dividend earnings within an assessment period do not exceed €20,000 or that has been the beneficial owner of the shares in the company for at least one uninterrupted year upon receipt of the dividends.

Taxation of Dividend Income of Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company's Shares as Private Assets

For individual shareholders (individuals) resident in Germany holding the company's shares as private assets, dividends are subject to a flat tax rate which is satisfied by the withholding tax actually withheld (*Abgeltungsteuer*). Accordingly, dividend income will be taxed at a flat tax rate of 25% plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon (in total 26.375%) and church tax (*Kirchensteuer*) in case the shareholder is subject to church tax because of his individual circumstances. An automatic procedure for deduction of church tax by way of withholding will apply to shareholders being subject to church tax unless the shareholder has filed a blocking notice (*Sperrvermerk*) with the German Federal Tax Office (details related to the computation of the concrete tax rate including church tax are to be discussed with the individual tax adviser of the relevant shareholder). Except for an annual lump sum savings allowance (*Sparer-Pauschbetrag*) of up to €801 (for individual filers) or up to €1,602 (for married couples and for partners in accordance with the registered partnership law (*Gesetz über die Eingetragene Lebenspartnerschaft*) filing jointly), private individual shareholders will not be entitled to deduct expenses incurred in connection with the capital investment from their dividend income.

The income tax owed for the dividend income is satisfied by the withholding tax withheld by the Dividend Paying Agent. However, if the flat tax results in a higher tax burden as opposed to the private shareholder's individual tax rate, the private shareholder can opt for taxation at his individual personal income tax rate. In that case, the final withholding tax will be credited against the income tax. However, pursuant to the German tax authorities and a court ruling, private shareholders are nevertheless not entitled to deduct expenses incurred in connection with the capital investment from their income. The option can be exercised only for all capital income from capital investments received in the relevant assessment period uniformly, and married couples as well as partners in accordance with the registered partnership law filing jointly may only jointly exercise the option.

Exceptions from the flat tax rate (satisfied by withholding at source) (*Abgeltungsteuer*) may apply — that is, only upon application — for shareholders who have a shareholding of at least 25% in a company and for shareholders who have a shareholding of at least 1% in the company and work for a company in a professional capacity. In such a case, the same rules apply as for sole proprietors holding the shares as business assets. See “— Taxation of Dividend Income of Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company's shares as Business Assets — Sole Proprietors.”

Taxation of Dividend Income of Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company's shares as Business Assets

If a shareholder holds the company's shares as business assets, the taxation of the dividend income depends on whether the respective shareholder is a corporation, a sole proprietor or a partnership.

Corporations

Dividend income of corporate shareholders is exempt from corporate income tax, provided that the incorporated entity holds a direct participation of at least 10% in the share capital of a company at the beginning of the calendar year in which the dividends are paid. The acquisition of a participation of at least 10% in the course of a calendar year is deemed to have occurred at the beginning of such calendar year for the purpose of this rule. Participations in the share capital of the company which a corporate shareholder holds through a partnership, including co-entrepreneurships (*Mitunternehmenschaften*), are attributable to such corporate shareholder only on a pro rata basis at the ratio of the interest share of the corporate shareholder in the assets of the relevant partnership. However, 5% of the tax-exempt dividends are deemed to be non-deductible business expenses for tax purposes and therefore are subject to corporate income tax (plus solidarity surcharge) and trade tax, i.e., tax exemption of 95%. Business expenses incurred in connection with the dividends received are entirely tax-deductible.

For trade tax purposes the entire dividend income is subject to trade tax (i.e., the tax-exempt dividends must be added back when determining the trade taxable income), unless the corporation shareholder holds at least 15% of the company's registered share capital at the beginning of the relevant tax assessment period (*Erhebungszeitraum*). In case of an indirect participation via a partnership please refer to the section “Partnerships” below.

If the shareholding is below 10% in the share capital, dividends are taxable at the applicable corporate income tax rate of 15% plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon and trade tax (the rate of which depends on the municipalities the corporate shareholder resides in).

Special regulations apply which abolish the 95% tax exemption if the company's shares are held as trading portfolio assets in the meaning of Section 340e of the German commercial code (*Handelsgesetzbuch*) by (i) a credit institution (*Kreditinstitut*), (ii) a financial service institution (*Finanzdienstleistungsinstitut*) or (iii) a financial enterprise within the meaning of the German Banking Act (*Kreditwesengesetz*), in cases where more than 50% of the shares of such financial enterprise are held directly or indirectly by a credit institution or a financial service institution, as well as by a life insurance company, a health insurance company or a pension fund in case the shares are attributable to the capital investments, resulting in fully taxable income.

Sole Proprietors

For sole proprietors (individuals) resident in Germany holding shares as business assets dividends are subject to the partial income rule (*Teileinkünfteverfahren*). Accordingly, only (i) 60% of the dividend income will be taxed at his/her individual personal income tax rate plus 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon and church tax (if applicable) and (ii) 60% of the business expenses related to the dividend income are deductible for tax purposes. In addition, the dividend income is entirely subject to trade tax if the shares are held as business assets of a permanent establishment in Germany within the meaning of the German Trade Tax Act (*Gewerbesteuergesetz*), unless the shareholder holds at least 15% of the company's registered share capital at the beginning of the relevant assessment period. The trade tax levied will be eligible for credit against the shareholder's personal income tax liability based on the applicable municipal trade tax rate and the individual tax situation of the shareholder.

Partnerships

In case shares are held by a partnership, the partnership itself is not subject to corporate income tax or personal income tax. In this regard, corporate income tax or personal income tax (and church tax, if applicable) as well as solidarity surcharge, are levied only at the level of the partner with respect to their relevant part of the profit and depending on their individual circumstances.

If the partner is a corporation, the dividend income will be subject to corporate income tax plus solidarity surcharge. See “— Corporations.”

If the partner is a sole proprietor (individual), the dividend income will be subject to the partial income rule. See “— Sole Proprietors.”

The dividend income is subject to trade tax at the level of the partnership (provided that the partnership is liable to trade tax), unless the partnership holds at least 15% of a company's registered share capital at the beginning of the relevant assessment period, in which case the dividend income is exempt from trade tax. There are no explicit statutory provisions concerning the taxation of dividends with regard to a corporate shareholder of the partnership. However, trade tax will be levied on 5% of the dividends to the extent they are attributable to the shares of such corporate partners to whom at least 10% of the shares of the company are attributable on a look-through basis, since such portion of the dividends will be deemed to be non-deductible business expenses.

If a partner is an individual, depending on the applicable municipal trade tax rate and the individual tax situation, the trade tax paid at the level of the partnership is partly or entirely be credited against the partner's personal income tax liability.

In case of a corporation being a partner, special regulations will apply with respect to trading portfolio assets of credit institutions, financial service institutions or financial enterprises within the meaning of the German Banking Act (*Kreditwesengesetz*) or life insurance companies, health insurance companies or pension funds. See “— Corporations.”

Thus, the actual trade tax charge, if any, at the level of the partnership depends on the shareholding quota of the partnership and the nature of the partners (e.g., individual or corporation).

A new tax regime for certain German partnerships was passed. Under the new regime partnerships are able to be taxed as a corporation and their partners to be taxed like shareholders of a corporation. The election is available for fiscal years ending in 2022 or later years. See “— Corporations.”

Taxation of Dividend Income of Shareholders Tax Resident Outside of Germany

For foreign individual or corporate shareholders tax resident outside of Germany not holding the shares through a permanent establishment in Germany or as business assets for which a permanent representative has been appointed in Germany, the deducted withholding tax (possibly reduced by way of a tax relief under a double tax treaty or domestic tax law, such as in connection with the EU Parent Subsidiary Directive) is final (that is, not refundable) and settles the shareholder's limited tax liability in Germany, unless the shareholder is entitled to apply for a withholding tax refund or exemption.

In contrast, individual or corporate shareholders tax resident outside of Germany holding the company's shares through a permanent establishment in Germany or as business assets for which a permanent representative has been appointed in Germany are subject to the same rules as applicable (and described above) to shareholders resident in Germany holding the shares as business assets. The withholding tax withheld (including solidarity surcharge) is credited against the shareholder's personal income tax or corporate income tax liability in Germany.

Taxation of Capital Gains

Withholding Tax on Capital Gains

Capital gains realized on the disposal of shares are only subject to withholding tax if a German branch of a German or foreign credit or financial institution, a German securities trading company or a German securities trading bank stores or administrates or carries out the sale of the shares and pays or credits the capital gains. In those cases, the institution (and not the company) is required to deduct the withholding tax at the time of payment for the account of the shareholder and has to pay the withholding tax to the competent tax authority. In the case that the shares in CureVac N.V. are held (i) as business assets by a sole proprietor, a partnership or a corporation and such shares are attributable to a German business or (ii) in the case of a corporation being subject to unlimited corporate income tax liability in Germany, the capital gains are not subject to withholding tax. In the case of clause (i), the withholding tax exemption is subject to the condition that the paying agent has been notified by the beneficiary (*Gläubiger*) that the capital gains are exempt from withholding tax. The respective notification has to be filed by using the officially prescribed form.

Taxation of Capital Gains Realized by Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding Shares as Private Assets

For individual shareholders (individuals) resident in Germany holding shares as private assets, capital gains realized on the disposal of shares are subject to final withholding tax. Accordingly, capital gains will be taxed at a flat tax rate of 25% plus a 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon (in total 26.375%) and church tax, in case the shareholder is subject to church tax because of his individual circumstances. An automatic procedure for deduction of church tax by way of withholding will apply to shareholders being subject to church tax unless the shareholder has filed a blocking notice (*Sperrvermerk*) with the German Federal Tax Office (details related to the computation of the concrete tax rate including church tax are to be discussed with the individual tax adviser of the relevant shareholder). The taxable capital gain is calculated by deducting the acquisition costs of the shares and the expenses directly related to the disposal from the proceeds of the disposal. Apart from that, except for an annual lump sum savings allowance (*Sparer-Pauschbetrag*) of up to €801 (for individual filers) or up to €1,602 (for married couples and for partners in accordance with the registered partnership law (*Gesetz über die Eingetragene Lebenspartnerschaft*) filing jointly), private individual shareholders will not be entitled to deduct expenses incurred in connection with the capital investment from their capital gain.

In case the flat tax results in a higher tax burden as opposed to the private shareholder's individual tax rate, the private shareholder can opt for taxation at his or her individual personal income tax rate. In that case, the withholding tax (including solidarity surcharge) withheld will be credited against the income tax. However, pursuant to the German tax authorities the private shareholders are nevertheless not entitled to deduct expenses incurred in connection with the capital investment from their income. The option can be exercised only for all capital income from capital investments received in the relevant assessment period uniformly, and married couples as well as for partners in accordance with the registered partnership law filing jointly may only jointly exercise the option.

Capital losses arising from the sale of the shares can only be offset against other capital gains resulting from the disposition of the shares or shares in other stock corporations during the same calendar year. Offsetting of overall losses with other income (such as business or rental income) and other capital income is not possible. Such losses are to be carried forward and to be offset against positive capital gains deriving from the sale of shares in stock corporations in future years. In case of a derecognition or transfer of worthless shares (or other capital assets), the utilization of such loss is further restricted and can only be offset up to the amount of €10,000 per calendar year.

The final withholding tax will not apply if the seller of the shares or, in the case of gratuitous transfer, its legal predecessor has held, directly or indirectly, at least 1% of the company's registered share capital at any time during the five years prior to the disposal. In that case capital gains are subject to the partial income rule. Accordingly, only (i) 60% of the capital gains will be taxed at his individual personal income tax rate plus a 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon and church tax (if applicable) and (ii) 60% of the business expenses related to the capital gains are deductible for tax purposes. The withholding tax withheld (including solidarity surcharge) will be credited against the shareholder's personal income tax liability in Germany.

Taxation of Capital Gains Realized by Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company's Shares as Business Assets

If a shareholder holds shares as business assets, the taxation of capital gains realized on the disposal of such shares depends on whether the respective shareholder is a corporation, a sole proprietor or a partnership:

Corporations

Capital gains realized on the disposal of shares by a corporate shareholder are generally exempt from corporate income tax and trade tax. However, 5% of the tax-exempt capital gains are deemed to be non-deductible business expenses for tax purposes and therefore are subject to corporate income tax (plus solidarity surcharge) and trade tax, i.e., tax exemption of 95%. Business expenses incurred in connection with the capital gains are entirely tax-deductible.

Capital losses incurred upon the disposal of shares or other impairments of the share value are not tax deductible. A reduction of profit is also defined as any losses incurred in connection with a loan or security in the event the loan or the security is granted by a shareholder or by a related party thereto or by a third person with the right of recourse against the aforementioned persons, and the shareholder holds directly or indirectly more than 25% of the company's registered share capital.

Special regulations apply if the shares are held as trading portfolio assets by a credit institution, a financial service institution or a financial enterprise within the meaning of the German Banking Act (*Kreditwesengesetz*) as well as by a life insurance company, a health insurance company or a pension fund. See “— Taxation of Dividend Income of Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company's shares as Business Assets — Corporations.”

Sole Proprietors

If the shares are held by a sole proprietor, capital gains realized on the disposal of the shares are subject to the partial income rule. Accordingly, only (i) 60% of the capital gains will be taxed at his/her individual personal income tax rate plus a 5.5% solidarity surcharge thereon and church tax (if applicable) and (ii) 60% of the business expenses related to the dividend income are deductible for tax purposes. In addition, 60% of the capital gains are subject to trade tax if the shares are held as business assets of a permanent establishment in Germany within the meaning of the German Trade Tax Act (*Gewerbesteuer*). The trade tax levied, depending on the applicable municipal trade tax rate and the individual tax situation, is partly or entirely credited against the shareholder's personal income tax liability.

Partnerships

In case the shares are held by a partnership, the partnership itself is not subject to corporate income tax or personal income tax as well as a solidarity surcharge (and church tax) since partnerships qualify as transparent for German tax purposes. In this regard, corporate income tax or personal income tax as well as a solidarity surcharge (and church tax, if applicable), are levied only at the level of the partner with respect to their relevant part of the profit and depending on their individual circumstances.

If the partner is a corporation, the capital gains will be subject to corporate income tax plus a solidarity surcharge. See “— Corporations.” Trade tax will be levied additionally at the level of the partner insofar as the relevant profit of the partnership is not subject to trade tax at the level of the partnership. However, with respect to both corporate income and trade tax, the 95% exemption rule as described above applies.

If the partner is a sole proprietor (individual), the capital gains are subject to the partial income rule. See “— Sole Proprietors.”

In addition, if the partnership is liable to trade tax, 60% of the capital gains are subject to trade tax at the level of the partnership, to the extent the partners are individuals, and 5% of the capital gains are subject to trade tax, to the extent the partners are corporations. However, if a partner is an individual, depending on the applicable municipal trade tax rate and the individual tax situation, the trade tax paid at the level of the partnership is credited against the partner’s personal income tax liability.

With regard to corporate partners, special regulations apply if they are held as trading portfolio assets by credit institutions, financial service institutions or financial enterprises within the meaning of the German Banking Act or life insurance companies, health insurance companies or pension funds, as described above.

A new tax regime enables certain partnerships to be taxed as a corporation and their partners to be taxed like shareholders of a corporation. The election is available for fiscal years ending in 2022 or later years. See “— Corporations.”

Taxation of Capital Gains Realized by Shareholders Tax Resident Outside of Germany

Capital gains realized on the disposal of the shares by a shareholder tax resident outside of Germany are subject to German taxation provided that (i) the company’s shares are held as business assets of a permanent establishment or as business assets for which a permanent representative has been appointed in Germany, or (ii) the shareholder or, in case of a gratuitous transfer, its legal predecessor has held, directly or indirectly, at least 1% of the company’s shares capital at any time during a five-year period prior to the disposal. In these cases, capital gains are generally subject to the same rules as described above for shareholders resident in Germany. However, in case the shares are not attributable to a German permanent establishment or permanent representative the 5% taxation (see “— Corporations — Taxation of Capital Gains Realized by Shareholders Tax Resident in Germany Holding the Company’s Shares as Business Assets”) shall not apply and the capital gains are fully exempt from German tax.

However, except for the cases referred to in clause (i) above, some of the double tax treaties concluded with Germany provide for a full exemption from German taxation.

Inheritance and Gift Tax

The transfer of the company’s shares to another person by way of succession or donation is subject to German inheritance and gift tax (*Erbschaft-und Schenkungsteuer*) if:

- (i) the decedent, the donor, the heir, the donee or any other beneficiary has his/her/its residence, domicile, registered office or place of management in Germany at the time of the transfer, or is a German citizen who has not stayed abroad for more than five consecutive years without having a residence in Germany; or
- (ii) (irrespective of the personal circumstances) the shares are held by the decedent or donor as business assets for which a permanent establishment in Germany is maintained or a permanent representative is appointed in Germany; or
- (iii) (irrespective of the personal circumstances) at least 10% of the shares are held, directly or indirectly by, the decedent or person making the gift, himself or together with a related party in terms of Section 1, paragraph 2 of the Foreign Tax Act (*Außensteuergesetz*).

Special regulations apply to qualified German citizens who maintain neither a residence nor their domicile in Germany but in a low tax jurisdiction, and to former German citizens, also resulting in inheritance and gift tax. The few double tax treaties on inheritance and gift tax which Germany has entered into provide that German inheritance and gift tax is levied only in the case of (i) and, with certain restrictions, in the case of (ii).

Abolishment of Solidarity Surcharge

As of the assessment period 2021, the solidarity surcharge is partially abolished for certain individuals. The solidarity surcharge shall, however, continue to apply for capital investment and, thus, on withholding taxes levied. The solidarity surcharge shall, however, continue to apply for capital investment and, thus, on withholding taxes levied. In cases where the individual income tax burden for an individual shareholder is lower than 25%, the shareholder can apply for his/her capital investment income being assessed at his/her individual tariff-based income tax rate, in which case solidarity surcharge would be refunded.

Other Taxes

No German capital transfer tax (*Kapitalverkehrssteuer*), value added tax (*Umsatzsteuer*), stamp duty (*Stempelgebühr*) or similar taxes are levied when acquiring, holding or transferring the company's shares. No value added tax will be levied unless the shareholder validly opts for it. Net wealth tax (*Vermögensteuer*) is currently not levied in Germany.

On January 22, 2013, the Council of the European Union approved the resolution of the ministers of finance from 11 European Union member states (including Germany) to introduce a Financial Transaction Tax, or FTT, within the framework of enhanced cooperation. On February 14, 2013, the EC published a proposal for a Council Directive implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of financial transaction tax. The plan focuses on levying a tax of 0.1% (0.01% for derivatives) on the purchase and sale of financial instruments.

A joint statement issued by 10 of the 11 participating European Union member states in October 2016 reaffirmed the intention to introduce FTT. However, at the moment not many details are available. Recently, further discussions on an FTT on the basis of a draft provided by Germany were held. However, it is still unclear if and when the FTT will be implemented and what the exact scope will be. The FTT proposal remains subject to negotiation between the participating member states and is subject to political discussion. It may, therefore, be altered prior to the implementation, the timing of which remains unclear. Additional European Union member states may decide to participate.

Prospective holders of the shares are advised to seek their own professional advice in relation to FTT.

Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations to U.S. Holders

The following is a description of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to the U.S. Holders, as defined below, of owning and disposing of our common shares. It does not describe all tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular person's decision to invest in common shares.

This discussion applies only to a U.S. Holder that holds common shares as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In addition, it does not describe all of the U.S. federal income tax consequences that may be relevant in light of the U.S. Holder's particular circumstances, including alternative minimum tax consequences, the potential application of the provisions of the Code known as the Medicare contribution tax and tax consequences applicable to U.S. Holders subject to special rules, such as:

- certain financial institutions;
- dealers or traders in securities who use a mark-to-market method of tax accounting;
- persons holding common shares as part of a hedging transaction, straddle, wash sale, conversion transaction or other integrated transaction or persons entering into a constructive sale with respect to the common shares;
- persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- tax-exempt entities, including an "individual retirement account" or "Roth IRA";
- persons that own or are deemed to own ten percent or more of our common shares (by vote or value); or
- persons holding common shares in connection with a trade or business conducted outside of the United States.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds common shares, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding common shares and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisers as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning and disposing of the common shares.

This discussion is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions, final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations, and the income tax treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States, or the Treaty, all as of the date hereof, any of which is subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect.

A “U.S. Holder” is a holder who, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is a beneficial owner of our common shares, who is eligible for the benefits of the Treaty and who is:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or
- an estate or trust, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

Treasury regulations that apply to taxable years beginning on or after December 28, 2021 may in some circumstances prohibit a U.S. person from claiming a foreign tax credit with respect to certain non-U.S. taxes that are not creditable under applicable income tax treaties. Accordingly, U.S. investors that are not eligible for Treaty benefits should consult their tax advisers regarding the creditability or deductibility of any non-U.S. taxes imposed on them. This discussion does not apply to investors in this special situation. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers concerning the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences of owning and disposing of our common shares in their particular circumstances.

Taxation of Distributions

As discussed above under “Item 8. Financial Information — A. Consolidated statements and other financial information — Dividends and dividend policy” we have never paid or declared any cash dividends on our common shares, and we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends on our common shares in the foreseeable future. In the event that we do make distributions of cash or other property, subject to the passive foreign investment company rules described below, distributions paid on common shares, other than certain pro rata distributions of common shares, will generally be treated as dividends to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). Because we do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, we expect that distributions generally will be reported to U.S. Holders as dividends. For so long as our common shares are listed on the Nasdaq or another established securities market in the United States or we are eligible for benefits under the Treaty, dividends paid to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders may be eligible for taxation as “qualified dividend income” and therefore, subject to applicable limitations, taxable at rates not in excess of the long-term capital gain rate applicable to such U.S. Holders. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the availability of the reduced tax rate on dividends in their particular circumstances. The amount of a dividend will include any amounts withheld by us in respect of German income taxes. The amount of the dividend will be treated as foreign-source dividend income to U.S. Holders and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally available to U.S. corporations under the Code. Dividends will be included in a U.S. Holder’s income on the date of the U.S. Holder’s receipt of the dividend. The amount of any dividend income paid in euros will be the U.S. dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date of actual or constructive receipt, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars at that time. If the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, a U.S. Holder should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. A U.S. Holder may have foreign currency gain or loss if the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars after the date of receipt.

Subject to applicable limitations, some of which vary depending upon the U.S. Holder’s particular circumstances, German income taxes withheld from dividends on common shares at a rate not exceeding the rate provided by the Treaty will be creditable against the U.S. Holder’s U.S. federal income tax liability.

German taxes withheld in excess of the rate applicable under the Treaty will not be eligible for credit against a U.S. Holder’s federal income tax liability. The rules governing foreign tax credits are complex, and U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the creditability of foreign taxes in their particular circumstances. In lieu of claiming a foreign tax credit, U.S. Holders may, at their election, deduct foreign taxes, including any German income tax, in computing their taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits applies to all foreign taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year.

Sale or Other Disposition of Common Shares

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules described below, gain or loss realized on the sale or other disposition of common shares will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder held the common shares for more than one year. The amount of the gain or loss will equal the difference between the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the common shares disposed of and the amount realized on the disposition, in each case as determined in U.S. dollars. This gain or loss will generally be U.S.-source gain or loss for foreign tax credit purposes. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to various limitations. The Treaty generally exempts a U.S. Holder from German tax on capital gains realized on the sale or other disposition of common shares and, accordingly, no such tax will be creditable against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability.

Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules

Under the Code, we will generally be a "passive foreign investment company," or a PFIC, for any taxable year in which, after the application of certain "look-through" rules with respect to subsidiaries, either (i) 75% or more of our gross income consists of "passive income," or (ii) 50% or more of the average quarterly value of our assets consist of assets that produce, or are held for the production of, "passive income." For purposes of the above calculations, we will be treated as if we hold our proportionate share of the assets of, and receive directly our proportionate share of the income of, any other corporation in which we directly or indirectly own at least 25%, by value, of the shares of such corporation. Passive income generally includes dividends, interest, rents, certain non-active royalties and capital gains. The value of a non-U.S. corporation's goodwill that is associated with activities that produce, or are intended to produce, active income is generally an active asset for purposes of the asset test unless, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the non-U.S. corporation is a "controlled foreign corporation," or CFC, that is not publicly traded "for the taxable year." If a non-U.S. corporation is a CFC that is not publicly traded for the taxable year, its PFIC status under the asset test is determined by using the U.S. tax basis of its assets rather than their fair market value and therefore the market value of its goodwill is generally disregarded. Generally, a non-U.S. corporation is a CFC if more than 50% of its shares' voting power or value is owned, directly, indirectly or constructively, by "United States shareholders" (as defined in Section 951(b) of the Code). Although it is not certain, we may be or may have been a CFC in our 2020 taxable year. However, under the recently promulgated Treasury regulations, the fair market value of our assets (including goodwill) can be used for purposes of the asset test provided that (i) we are publicly traded on the majority of days during our taxable year or (ii) we would not be a CFC if certain constructive ownership rules were not applied. We believe, and the remainder of this discussion assumes, that we are eligible to use the fair market value of our assets for purposes of the asset test, for our 2020 taxable year.

Based on the composition of our income and assets during 2020, we do not believe that we were a PFIC for our 2020 taxable year. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with our conclusion. Whether we will be a PFIC in 2021 or any future year is uncertain because, among other things, (i) we currently own a substantial amount of passive assets, including cash, (ii) the valuation of our assets that generate non-passive income for PFIC purposes, including our intangible assets, is uncertain and may vary substantially over time, (iii) the treatment of grants as income for U.S. federal income tax purposes is unclear, and (iv) the composition of our income may vary substantially over time. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that we will not be a PFIC in 2021 or any future taxable year. If we are a PFIC for any year during which a U.S. Holder holds common shares, we generally would continue to be treated as a PFIC with respect to that U.S. Holder for all succeeding years during which the U.S. Holder holds common shares, even if we ceased to meet the threshold requirements for PFIC status. In addition, we may, directly or indirectly, have held or hold equity interests in other PFICs, collectively referred to as Lower-Tier PFICs. Under attribution rules, if we are a PFIC, U.S. Holders will be deemed to own their proportionate shares of the stock of Lower-Tier PFICs and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax according to the rules described in the following paragraphs on (i) certain distributions by a Lower-Tier PFIC and (ii) a disposition of shares of a Lower-Tier PFIC, in each case as if the U.S. Holder held such shares directly, even though holders have not received the proceeds of those distributions or dispositions directly. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors about the consequences to them of our investment in one or more Lower-Tier PFICs.

If we were a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder held common shares (assuming such U.S. Holder has not made a timely mark-to-market election, as described below), gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition (including certain pledges) of the common shares would be allocated ratably over the U.S. Holder's holding period for the common shares. The amounts allocated to the taxable year of the sale or other disposition and to any year before we became a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income. The amount allocated to each other taxable year would be subject to tax at the highest rate in effect for individuals or corporations, as appropriate, for that taxable year, and an interest charge would be imposed on the amount allocated to that taxable year. Further, to the extent that any distribution received by a U.S. Holder on its common shares exceeds 125% of the average of the annual distributions on the common shares received during the preceding three years or the U.S. Holder's holding period, whichever is shorter, that distribution would be subject to taxation in the same manner as gain, described immediately above.

A U.S. Holder can avoid certain of the adverse rules described above by making a mark-to-market election with respect to its common shares, provided that the common shares are "marketable." Common shares will be marketable if they are "regularly traded" on a "qualified exchange" or other market within the meaning of applicable Treasury regulations. If a U.S. Holder makes the mark-to-market election, it generally will recognize as ordinary income any excess of the fair market value of the common shares at the end of each taxable year over their adjusted tax basis, and will recognize an ordinary loss in respect of any excess of the adjusted tax basis of the common shares over their fair market value at the end of the taxable year (but only to the extent of the net amount of income previously included as a result of the mark-to-market election). If a U.S. Holder makes the election, the U.S. Holder's tax basis in our common shares will be adjusted to reflect the income or loss amounts recognized. Any gain recognized on the sale or other disposition of common shares in a year when we are a PFIC will be treated as ordinary income and any loss will be treated as an ordinary loss (but only to the extent of the net amount of income previously included as a result of the mark-to-market election). A mark-to-market election generally cannot be made for equity interests in any Lower-Tier PFIC unless shares of such Lower-Tier PFIC are themselves "marketable." As a result, if a U.S. Holder makes a mark-to-market election with respect to our common shares, the U.S. Holder would nevertheless be subject to the PFIC rules described above with respect to its indirect interest in any Lower-Tier PFIC unless the U.S. Holder makes a qualified electing fund election, also known as a QEF Election, with respect to such Lower-Tier PFIC, as discussed below.

In addition, in order to avoid the application of the foregoing rules, a U.S. Holder that owns stock in a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes may make a QEF Election with respect to such PFIC if the PFIC provides the information necessary for such election to be made. If a U.S. Holder makes a QEF Election with respect to a PFIC, the U.S. Holder will be currently taxable on its pro rata share of the PFIC's ordinary earnings and net capital gain (at ordinary income and capital gain rates, respectively) for each taxable year that the entity is classified as a PFIC and will not be required to include such amounts in income when actually distributed by the PFIC. There is no assurance that we will provide information necessary for U.S. Holders to make QEF Elections. A QEF Election with respect to us will not apply to any Lower-tier PFIC. If we determine that any of our subsidiaries is a Lower-Tier PFIC for any taxable year, there is no assurance that we will provide information necessary for U.S. Holders to make a QEF Election with respect to such Lower-Tier PFIC.

In addition, if we were a PFIC or, with respect to a particular U.S. Holder, were treated as a PFIC for the taxable year in which we paid a dividend or for the prior taxable year, the preferential dividend rates discussed above with respect to dividends paid to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders would not apply.

If a U.S. Holder owns common shares during any year in which we are a PFIC, the U.S. Holder generally must file annual reports, containing such information as the U.S. Treasury may require on IRS Form 8621 (or any successor form) with respect to us, generally with the U.S. Holder's federal income tax return for that year.

U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers concerning our potential PFIC status and the potential application of the PFIC rules.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments of dividends and sales proceeds that are made within the United States or through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries generally are subject to information reporting, and may be subject to backup withholding, unless (i) the U.S. Holder is a corporation or other exempt recipient, or (ii) in the case of backup withholding, the U.S. Holder provides a correct taxpayer identification number and certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding.

The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a U.S. Holder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle it to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

F. Dividends and Paying Agents

Not applicable.

G. Statement by Experts

Not applicable.

H. Documents on Display

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. Accordingly, are required to file reports and other information with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 20-F and reports on Form 6-K. The SEC maintains an Internet website that contains reports and other information about issuers, like us, that file electronically with the SEC. The address of that website is www.sec.gov.

I. Subsidiary Information

Not applicable.

ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

In the ordinary course of our business activities, we are exposed to various market risks that are beyond our control, including fluctuations in foreign exchange rates, which may have an adverse effect on the value of our financial assets and liabilities, future cash flows and profit. As a result of these market risks, we could suffer a loss due to adverse changes in foreign exchange rates in the countries in which we operate. Our policy with respect to these market risks is to assess the potential of experiencing losses and the consolidated impact thereof and to mitigate these market risks. We are not currently exposed to significant interest rate risk because we do not currently hold long-term debt that is exposed to market rates. See note 15 to our financial statements contained elsewhere in this Annual Report for further information on our risk management policies and exposure to market risks.

Credit Risk

Our credit risk arises primarily from cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets, including deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to customers, including outstanding receivables and contract assets. These financial instruments approximate fair value due to short-term maturities. We maintain our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments with high credit quality financial institutions. We believe that our credit policies reflect normal industry terms and business risk.

Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of an exposure will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. Our exposure to the risk of changes in foreign exchange rates relates primarily to our operating activities (when revenue or expense is denominated in a foreign currency) and the amounts held as cash and cash equivalents. Our consolidated financial statements are reported in euros. We generate a significant portion of our revenue and incur a significant portion of our expenditures in certain non-euro currencies, principally U.S. dollars. We are exposed to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates primarily on revenue generated from sales in these foreign currencies. Our results of operations can be affected if the U.S. dollar appreciates or depreciates against the euro. As of December 31, 2021 if the euro had weakened 10% against the U.S. dollar with all other variables held constant, pre-tax loss for the year would have been €0.4 million (2020: €8.6 million) lower and post-tax loss would have been €0.3 million lower (2020: €6.2 million). Conversely, if the euro had strengthened 10% against the U.S. dollar with all other variables held constant, pre-tax loss would have been €0.4 million (2020: €7.1 million) higher and post-tax loss would have been €0.3 million (2020: €5.0 million) higher. The effects on pre- and post-tax loss and (accumulated) other comprehensive income due to fact that our subsidiary CureVac Inc.'s functional currency is the U.S. dollar would still have been immaterial at December 31, 2020 and 2021.

To the extent that we need to convert U.S. dollars into foreign currencies for our operations, appreciation of such foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar would adversely affect the amount of such foreign currencies we receive from the conversion. Sensitivity analysis is used as a primary tool in evaluating the effects of changes in foreign currency exchange rates on our business operations. The analysis quantifies the impact of potential changes in these rates on our earnings, cash flows and fair values of assets and liabilities during the forecast period, most commonly within a one year period. The ranges of changes used for the purpose of this analysis reflect our view of changes that are reasonably possible over the forecast period. Fair values are the present value of projected future cash flows based on market rates and chosen prices.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Our exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to our cash and cash equivalents with floating interest rates. Due to persistent low interest rates we may be exposed to the risk of being charged negative interest rates on our bank deposits. If interest rates as of December 31, 2020 and 2021 had been 1% higher while all other variables had remained the same, the net loss for the year (before and after tax) would have been €8.1 million (2020: €13.2 million) lower, because the higher interest income would have been generated from floating rates on invested cash and cash equivalents.

ITEM 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES

A. Debt Securities

Not applicable.

B. Warrants and Rights

Not applicable.

C. Other Securities

Not applicable.

D. American Depositary Shares

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 13. DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES

A. Defaults

No matters to report.

B. Arrears and Delinquencies

No matters to report.

ITEM 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS

A. Material Modifications to Instruments

Not applicable.

B. Material Modifications to Rights

Not applicable.

C. Withdrawal or Submission of Assets

Not applicable.

D. Changes in Trustees or Paying Agents

Not applicable.

E. Use of Proceeds

None.

ITEM 15. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

A. Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As required by Rule 13a-15 under the Exchange Act, management, including our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Disclosure controls and procedures refer to controls and other procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitations, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in our reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding our required disclosures.

Based on the foregoing, our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer together with management have concluded that, as of December 31, 2021, due to material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting described below, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective.

B. Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over our financial reporting and has assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021. In making this assessment, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in “Internal Control – Integrated Framework” (2013 framework). Our management has concluded, based on its assessment, that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective as of December 31, 2021 due to material weaknesses related to (a) ineffective information technology general controls (ITGCs) in the area of user access over certain information technology (IT) systems and the reports generated from these systems used in the execution of controls that support the Company’s financial reporting processes and (b) business controls which were not adequately designed and operating effectively as a result of gaps in the identification of risks, precision of review controls and documentation to evidence control performance.

Notwithstanding the material weaknesses identified as of December 31, 2021, we have concluded that the financial statements and other financial information included in this Annual Report on Form 20-F, fairly present in all material respects our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows as of, and for, the periods presented.

Remediation plan

As previously disclosed, in connection with the preparation of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020, we concluded that we had a material weakness primarily related to (a) a lack of sufficient accounting and supervisory personnel who have the appropriate level of technical accounting experience and training and (b) a lack of established accounting processes and procedures for new complex transactions and consistent application of existing accounting processes and procedures. Despite our implementing measures to remediate this material weakness, and even though progress was made to strengthen our controls, we identified the material weaknesses described above at December 31, 2021. Our management has been implementing and continues to implement measures designed to ensure that control deficiencies contributing to the material weaknesses are remediated, such that these controls are designed, implemented, and operating effectively. The remediation actions include, along with other measures: (i) developing and deploying enhanced risk assessment procedures for business controls and IT systems, including increasing the precision level of controls and addressing unmitigated risks with new controls or adjusting the design of existing controls to address such risks; (ii) implementing a new access rights model in order to assess and manage access to IT systems and segregation of duties risks; (iii) training and hiring additional qualified staff; (iv) streamlining and replacing disparate IT systems; and (v) engaging third parties, as required, to assist with technical expertise, integration and streamlining of IT systems and business controls.

Management believes the foregoing plans will effectively remediate the deficiencies constituting the material weaknesses. However, there is no assurance as to when such remediation will be completed. As the remediation plans are or continue to be implemented, management may take additional measures or modify the plan elements described above. See “Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors: We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control related to ineffective information technology general controls (ITGCs) as well as business controls which, if not remediated appropriately or timely, could result in loss of investor confidence and adversely impact our stock price. If we are unable to remediate the material weakness, or if other control deficiencies are identified, we may not be able to report our financial results accurately, prevent fraud or file our periodic reports as a public company in a timely manner.”

C. Attestation Report of the Registered Public Accounting Firm

Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, or Ernst & Young, an independent registered accounting firm, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, which expressed an adverse opinion thereon, as stated in their report included herein. See “Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm” on page F-2.

D. Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Except for the material weaknesses identified in 2021, no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) have occurred during the period covered by this Annual Report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 16. [Reserved]

ITEM 16A. Audit Committee Financial Expert

Our supervisory board has determined that Hans Christoph Tanner, Craig A. Tooman and Ralf Clemens satisfy the “independence” requirements set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act and each qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert,” as such term is defined in the rules of the SEC. For more information see “Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees — C. Board Practices — Committees — Audit Committee.”

ITEM 16B. Code of Conduct

We adopted a written code of business conduct and ethics, or code of conduct, which outlines the principles of legal and ethical business conduct under which we do business, and is a code of ethics as defined in Item 16B of Form 20-F promulgated by the SEC. The code of conduct applies to all of our management board and supervisory directors and employees. The full text of the code of conduct is available on our website at www.curevac.com. Information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website does not constitute a part of this Annual Report and is not incorporated by reference herein. If we make any amendment to the code of conduct or grant any waivers, including any implicit waiver, from a provision of the code of conduct, we will disclose the nature of such amendment or waiver on our website to the extent required by the rules and regulations of the SEC.

In addition, we have implemented a compliance management policy which describes the compliance management system implemented at CureVac AG, which is designed to ensure compliance with all legal requirements, while at the same time implementing high ethical standards that are mandatory for both management and each employee. The overall responsibility for the compliance management system lies with the management board, which reports regularly to the audit committee. In the performance of its compliance responsibilities, the management board has delegated the corresponding tasks to various functions at CureVac AG.

ITEM 16C. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

Our financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB and are audited by Ernst & Young, has acted as our independent registered public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in the United States.

Ernst & Young has served as our independent registered public accounting firm for each of the three years ended December 31, 2019, 2020 and 2021, for which audited financial statements appear in this Annual Report.

Audit Fees

Ernst & Young billed us €1.4 million and €1.5 million for audit services for fiscal 2021 and 2020, respectively, including fees associated with the annual audit, consultations on various accounting issues, performance of local statutory audits and comfort letters and review of offering documents filed with the SEC.

Audit-Related Fees

Ernst & Young did not bill us for audit-related services for fiscal 2021 and 2020.

Tax Fees

Ernst & Young billed us €0.5 million and €0.1 million for tax fees, including fees associated with tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning services for fiscal 2021 and 2020, respectively.

All Other Fees

Ernst & Young billed us €0.1 million for services other than those categorized in Audit Fees, Audit-Related Fees and Tax Fees described above for fiscal 2021. Ernst & Young billed us €0.5 million for services other than those categorized in Audit Fees, Audit-Related Fees and Tax Fees described above for fiscal 2020.

Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee has adopted policies and procedures relating to the approval of all audit and non-audit services that are to be performed by our independent registered public accounting firm. These policies generally provide that we will not engage our independent registered public accounting firm to render audit or non-audit services unless the service is specifically approved in advance by the Audit Committee or the engagement is entered into pursuant to the pre-approval procedure described below.

From time to time, the Audit Committee may pre-approve specified types of services that are expected to be provided to us by our independent registered public accounting firm during the next 12 months. Any such pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or type of services to be provided and is also generally subject to a maximum dollar amount. In fiscal 2021, our Audit Committee approved all of the services provided by Ernst & Young.

ITEM 16D. Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees

None.

ITEM 16E. Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

None.

ITEM 16F. Change in Registrant's Certifying Accountant

Not applicable.

ITEM 16G. Corporate Governance

The following comparison between Dutch corporate law, which applies to us, and Delaware corporation law, the law under which many publicly listed corporations in the United States are incorporated, discusses additional matters not otherwise described in this Annual Report. Although we believe this summary is materially accurate, the summary is subject to Dutch law, including Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and the DCGC and Delaware corporation law, including the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Duties of Managing and Supervisory Directors

The Netherlands. In the Netherlands, a listed company typically has a two-tier board structure with a management board comprised of the managing directors (executive directors) and a supervisory board comprised of the supervisory directors (non-executive directors). We have a two-tier board structure consisting of our management board (*bestuur*) and a separate supervisory board (*raad van commissarissen*).

Under Dutch law, the management board is charged with the management of the company, subject to the restrictions contained in our articles of association, and the supervisory board is charged with the supervision of the policy of the management board and the general course of affairs of the company and of the business connected with it. The managing directors may divide their tasks among themselves in or pursuant to the internal rules applicable to the management board. Each managing director and supervisory director has a statutory duty to act in the corporate interest of the company and its business. Under Dutch law, the corporate interest extends to the interests of all corporate stakeholders, such as shareholders, creditors, employees, customers and suppliers. The duty to act in the corporate interest of the company also applies in the event of a proposed sale or breakup of the company, provided that the circumstances generally dictate how such duty is to be applied and how the respective interests of various groups of stakeholders should be weighed. Any resolution of the management board regarding a material change in our identity or character requires approval of the general meeting. In addition, during the initial approval period, the following additional resolutions of the management board will require approval of the general meeting and our supervisory board:

- transferring the tax domicile of CureVac N.V. and/or the approval of the transfer of the corporate or administrative seat of CureVac AG;
- relocating or ceasing (including by way of disposal, demerger or similar transactions) activities in specified areas in or to a state outside the European Union, except to the extent our supervisory board considers such activities (in particular in the area of the development of vaccines) not to be material for the protection of the health of the population of the European Union;
- entering into mergers, demergers and similar reorganizations and entering into acquisitions or businesses or participations, except to the extent our supervisory board considers such transactions not to be material;
- amendments to the articles of association of CureVac AG which would affect these approval rights during the initial approval period; and
- the exercise of voting rights in CureVac AG approving, directing or causing any of the foregoing matters.

Under our articles of association, the approval of our supervisory board is also required for resolutions of the management board, including concerning the following matters:

- the making of certain proposals to the general meeting;
- the issue of shares or the granting of rights to subscribe for shares;
- the limitation or exclusion of pre-emption rights;
- the establishment of new activities of us or our direct or indirect subsidiaries in the areas of research, development, production and administration and/or the approval to establish activities of CureVac AG or its subsidiaries in these areas, in each case in a state outside the European Union;
- the acquisition of shares by us in our own capital;
- the drawing up or amendment of our management board rules;
- the performance of legal acts relating to non-cash contributions on shares;
- material changes to the identity or the character of the company or its business;
- the charging of amounts to be paid up on shares against the company's reserves;

- the making of an interim distribution;
- designating a current or former officer or employee as indemnitees under our articles of association;
- the stipulation of additional terms, conditions and restrictions in relation to the indemnification offered under our articles of association; and
- and such other resolutions as the supervisory board shall have specified in a resolution to that effect and notified to the management board.

Under the internal rules applicable to our management board, certain additional resolutions are subject to the approval of our supervisory board.

Under the internal rules applicable to our supervisory board, resolutions of our supervisory board to approve a resolution of our management board to exclude or limit pre-emption rights (except in connection with the ordinary operation of our equity incentive plans) or to issue shares against non-cash contribution, shall require the approval of a special committee consisting of one supervisory director nominated by dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for dievini), the supervisory director nominated by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for KfW) and, if applicable, one supervisory director nominated by a nomination concert. In this special committee, the affirmative votes of one supervisory director nominated by dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for dievini) and the supervisory director nominated by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for KfW) shall be required. Similarly, the affirmative votes of at least one supervisory director nominated by dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for dievini) and the supervisory director nominated by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) (during the initial nomination period for KfW) shall be required for certain resolutions of the supervisory board specified by our articles of association and the internal rules applicable to our supervisory board.

The absence of the approval of the supervisory board shall result in the relevant resolution being null and void but shall not affect the powers of representation of the management board or of the managing directors.

Our management board is entitled to represent us. The power to represent us also vests in the chief executive officer individually, as well as in any other two managing directors acting jointly.

Delaware. The board of directors bears the ultimate responsibility for managing the business and affairs of a corporation. In discharging this function, directors of a Delaware corporation owe fiduciary duties of care and loyalty to the corporation and to its stockholders. Delaware courts have decided that the directors of a Delaware corporation are required to exercise informed business judgment in the performance of their duties. Informed business judgment means that the directors have informed themselves of all material information reasonably available to them. Delaware courts have also imposed a heightened standard of conduct upon directors of a Delaware corporation who take any action designed to defeat a threatened change in control of the corporation. In addition, under Delaware law, when the board of directors of a Delaware corporation approves the sale or breakup of a corporation, the board of directors may, in certain circumstances, have a duty to obtain the highest value reasonably available to the stockholders.

Director Terms

The Netherlands. The DCGC provides the following best practice recommendations on the terms for tenure of managing directors and supervisory directors:

- Managing directors should be appointed for a maximum period of four years, without limiting the number of consecutive terms managing directors may serve.

- Supervisory directors should be appointed for two consecutive periods of no more than four years. Thereafter, supervisory directors may be reappointed for a maximum of two consecutive periods of no more than two years, provided that any reappointment after an eight-year term of office should be disclosed in the company's annual report.

The general meeting shall at all times be entitled to suspend or dismiss a managing director or supervisory director. Under our articles of association, the general meeting may only adopt a resolution to suspend or dismiss such director by at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that such majority represents more than half of the issued share capital, unless the resolution is passed at the proposal of the supervisory board or, with respect to supervisory directors nominated by dievini or KfW, by dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) or by KfW (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for KfW, respectively, in which case a simple majority of the votes cast is sufficient. In addition, the supervisory board may at any time suspend a managing director. A suspension by the supervisory board can at any time be lifted by the general meeting. If a managing director is suspended and the general meeting does not resolve to dismiss him or her within three months from the date of such suspension, the suspension shall lapse.

Delaware. The Delaware General Corporation Law generally provides for a one-year term for directors, but permits directorships to be divided into up to three classes with up to three-year terms, with the years for each class expiring in different years, if permitted by the certificate of incorporation, an initial bylaw or a bylaw adopted by the stockholders. A director elected to serve a term on a "classified" board may not be removed by stockholders without cause. There is no limit in the number of terms a director may serve.

Director Vacancies

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, managing directors and supervisory directors of a company like ours are appointed and reappointed by the general meeting. Under our articles of association, managing directors and supervisory directors are appointed by the general meeting upon the binding nomination by our supervisory board. During the periods specified below, dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement), KfW (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement), and any nomination concert have the right to make a binding nomination for one or more supervisory directors as specified below:

- during the initial nomination period for dievini, dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) will have the right under our articles of association to make a binding nomination for the following number of supervisory directors:
 - four (4) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates, as defined by our articles of association, and ultimate beneficiaries, as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) owns at least 70% of our issued share capital;
 - three (3) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates, as defined by our articles of association, and ultimate beneficiaries, as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) owns at least 50% (but less than 70%) of our issued share capital;
 - two (2) supervisory directors for as long as dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates, as defined by our articles of association, and ultimate beneficiaries, as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) owns at least 30% (but less than 50%) of our issued share capital; and
 - one (1) supervisory director for as long as dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and its affiliates, as defined by our articles of association, and ultimate beneficiaries, as defined by our articles of association (individually or collectively) owns at least 10% (but less than 30%) of our issued share capital.

- during the initial nomination period for KfW, KfW (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) will have the right under our articles of association to make a binding nomination for one supervisory director; and
- at any time, each nomination concert (excluding dievini, its affiliates and its ultimate beneficiaries and excluding KfW and its affiliates for as long as dievini and KfW, respectively, have the nomination rights discussed above) will have the right under our articles of association to make a binding nomination for one supervisory director for each 20% of our issued share capital represented by that nomination concert, provided such nominee is independent from the nomination concert and CureVac N.V. under the DCGC and applicable U.S. securities laws and Nasdaq rules.

The general meeting may at all times overrule the binding nomination by a resolution adopted by a simple majority of the votes cast, provided that such majority represents at least one-third of the issued share capital. If the general meeting overrules the binding nature of a binding nomination, a new nomination shall be prepared by whoever made the overruled nomination.

If dievini, KfW and/or a nomination concert loses the right to nominate one or more of our supervisory directors, as applicable, the supervisory director(s) so nominated must promptly resign. A supervisory director nominated by a nomination concert must also promptly resign once that supervisory director is no longer independent from the nomination concert or our company.

Our supervisory board adopted a diversity policy for the composition of our management board and our supervisory board, as well as a profile for the composition of the supervisory board. The supervisory board shall make any nomination for the appointment of a managing director or supervisory director with due regard to the rules and principles set forth in such diversity policy and profile, as applicable.

Under Dutch law, when nominating a person for appointment or reappointment as a supervisory director, the nomination must be supported by reasons (if it concerns a reappointment, past performance must be taken into consideration) and the following information about such person must be provided: (i) age and profession; (ii) the aggregate nominal value of the shares held in the company's capital; (iii) present and past positions, to the extent relevant for the performance of the tasks of a supervisory director; and (iv) the name of each entity where such person already holds a position as supervisory director or non-executive director (in case of multiple entities within the same group, the name of the group shall suffice).

Delaware. The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that vacancies and newly created directorships may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office (even though less than a quorum) unless (i) otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation or bylaws of the corporation or (ii) the certificate of incorporation directs that a particular class of stock is to elect such director, in which case any other directors elected by such class, or a sole remaining director elected by such class, will fill such vacancy.

Conflict-of-Interest Transactions

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law and our articles of association, our managing directors and supervisory directors shall not take part in any discussion or decision-making that involves a subject or transaction in relation to which he or she has a direct or indirect personal conflict of interest with us. Such a conflict of interest would generally arise if the managing director or supervisory director concerned is unable to serve our interests and the business connected with it with the required level of integrity and objectivity due to the existence of the conflicting personal interest. Our articles of association provide that if as a result of conflicts of interests no resolution of the management board can be adopted, the resolution may be passed by the supervisory board and that, if as a result of conflicts of interests no resolution of the supervisory board can be adopted, the resolution may nonetheless be adopted by the supervisory board as if none of the supervisory directors had a conflict of interest. In that case, each supervisory director is entitled to participate in the discussion and decision-making process and to cast a vote.

The DCGC provides the following best practice recommendations in relation to conflicts of interests in respect of managing directors or supervisory directors:

- A managing director should report any potential conflict of interest in a transaction that is of material significance to the company and/or to such person to the chairman of the supervisory board and to the other members of the management board without delay. The managing director should provide all relevant information in that regard, including the information relevant to the situation concerning his or her spouse, registered partner or other life companion, foster child and relatives by blood or marriage up to the second degree;
- A supervisory director should report any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest in a transaction that is of material significance to the company and/or to such person to the chairman of the supervisory board without delay and should provide all relevant information in that regard, including the relevant information pertaining to his or her spouse, registered partner or other life companion, foster child and relatives by blood or marriage up to the second degree. If the chairman of the supervisory board has a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, he or she should report this to the vice-chairman of the supervisory board without delay;
- The supervisory board should decide, outside the presence of the managing director or supervisory director concerned, whether there is a conflict of interest;
- All transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with managing directors or supervisory directors should be agreed on terms that are customary in the market; and
- Decisions to enter into transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with managing directors or supervisory directors that are of material significance to the company and/or to the relevant managing directors or supervisory directors should require the approval of the supervisory board. Such transactions should be published in the annual report, together with a description of the conflict of interest and a declaration that the relevant best practice provisions of the DCGC have been complied with.

Delaware. The Delaware General Corporation Law generally permits transactions involving a Delaware corporation and an interested director of that corporation if:

- the material facts as to the director's relationship or interest are disclosed and a majority of disinterested directors consent;
- the material facts are disclosed as to the director's relationship or interest and a majority of shares entitled to vote thereon consent; or
- the transaction is fair to the corporation at the time it is authorized by the board of directors, a committee of the board of directors or the stockholders.

Proxy Voting by Directors

The Netherlands. An absent managing director may issue a proxy for a specific management board meeting but only to another managing director in writing or by electronic means. An absent supervisory director may issue a proxy for a specific supervisory board meeting but only to another supervisory director in writing or by electronic means.

Delaware. A director of a Delaware corporation may not issue a proxy representing the director's voting rights as a director.

Shareholder Rights

Voting Rights

The Netherlands. In accordance with Dutch law and our articles of association, each issued common share confers the right to cast one vote at the general meeting. Each holder of shares may cast as many votes as it holds shares. No votes may be cast on shares that are held by us or our direct or indirect subsidiaries or on shares for which we or our subsidiaries hold depository receipts. Nonetheless, the holders of a right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) and the holders of a right of pledge (*pandrecht*) in respect of shares held by us or our subsidiaries in our share capital are not excluded from the right to vote on such shares, if the right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) or the right of pledge (*pandrecht*) was granted prior to the time such shares were acquired by us or any of our subsidiaries. Neither we nor any of our subsidiaries may cast votes in respect of a share on which we or such subsidiary holds a right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) or a right of pledge (*pandrecht*).

In accordance with our articles of association, for each general meeting, the management board may determine that a record date will be applied in order to establish which shareholders are entitled to attend and vote at the general meeting. Such record date shall be the 28th day prior to the day of the general meeting. The record date and the manner in which shareholders can register and exercise their rights will be set out in the notice of the meeting which must be published in a Dutch daily newspaper with national distribution at least 15 days prior to the meeting (and such notice may therefore be published after the record date for such meeting). Under our articles of association, shareholders and others with meeting rights under Dutch law must notify us in writing or by electronic means of their identity and intention to attend the general meeting. This notice must be received by us ultimately on the seventh day prior to the general meeting, unless indicated otherwise when such meeting is convened.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, each stockholder is entitled to one vote per share of stock, unless the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. In addition, the certificate of incorporation may provide for cumulative voting at all elections of directors of the corporation, or at elections held under specified circumstances. Either the certificate of incorporation or the bylaws may specify the number of shares and/or the amount of other securities that must be represented at a meeting in order to constitute a quorum, but in no event will a quorum consist of less than one-third of the shares entitled to vote at a meeting.

Stockholders as of the record date for the meeting are entitled to vote at the meeting, and the board of directors may fix a record date that is no more than 60 nor less than 10 days before the date of the meeting, and if no record date is set then the record date is the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which notice is given, or if notice is waived then the record date is the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which the meeting is held. The determination of the stockholders of record entitled to notice or to vote at a meeting of stockholders shall apply to any adjournment of the meeting, but the board of directors may fix a new record date for the adjourned meeting.

Shareholder Proposals

The Netherlands. Pursuant to our articles of association, extraordinary general meetings will be held whenever required under Dutch law or whenever our management board or supervisory board deems such to be appropriate or necessary. Pursuant to Dutch law, one or more shareholders or others with meeting rights under Dutch law representing at least one-tenth of the issued share capital may request us to convene a general meeting, setting out in detail the matters to be discussed. If we have not taken the steps necessary to ensure that such meeting can be held within six weeks after the request, the requesting party or parties may, on their application, be authorized by the competent Dutch court in preliminary relief proceedings to convene a general meeting.

Also, the agenda for a general meeting shall include such items requested by one or more shareholders, and others entitled to attend general meetings, representing at least 3% of the issued share capital, except where the articles of association state a lower percentage. Our articles of association do not state such lower percentage. Requests must be made in writing or by electronic means and received by us at least 60 days before the day of the meeting.

In accordance with the DCGC and our articles of association, a shareholder shall exercise the right of putting an item on the agenda only after consulting the management board in that respect. If one or more shareholders intend to request that an item be put on the agenda that may result in a change in the company's strategy (for example, the removal of managing directors or supervisory directors), the management board must be given the opportunity to invoke a reasonable period to respond to such intention. Such period shall not exceed 180 days (or such other period as may be stipulated for such purpose by Dutch law and/or the DCGC from time to time). If invoked, the management board must use such response period for further deliberation and constructive consultation, in any event with the shareholders(s) concerned, and shall explore the alternatives. At the end of the response time, the management board shall report on this consultation and the exploration of alternatives to the general meeting. This shall be supervised by our supervisory board. The response period may be invoked only once for any given general meeting and shall not apply: (a) in respect of a matter for which a response period has been previously invoked; or (b) if a shareholder holds at least 75% of the company's issued share capital as a consequence of a successful public bid. The response period may also be invoked in response to shareholders or others with meeting rights under Dutch law requesting that a general meeting be convened, as described above.

Moreover, our management board, with the approval of our supervisory board, can invoke a cooling-off period of up to 250 days when shareholders, using their right to have items added to the agenda for a general meeting or their right to request a general meeting, propose an agenda item for our general meeting to dismiss, suspend or appoint one or more managing directors or supervisory directors (or to amend any provision in our articles of association dealing with those matters) or when a public offer for our company is made or announced without our support, provided, in each case, that our management board believes that such proposal or offer materially conflicts with the interests of our company and its business. During a cooling-off period, our general meeting cannot dismiss, suspend or appoint managing directors and supervisory directors (or amend the provisions in our articles of association dealing with those matters) except at the proposal of our management board. During a cooling-off period, our management board must gather all relevant information necessary for a careful decision-making process and at least consult with shareholders representing 3% or more of our issued share capital at the time the cooling-off period was invoked, as well as with our Dutch works council (if we or, under certain circumstances, any of our subsidiaries would have one). Formal statements expressed by these stakeholders during such consultations must be published on our website to the extent these stakeholders have approved that publication. Ultimately one week following the last day of the cooling-off period, our management board must publish a report in respect of its policy and conduct of affairs during the cooling-off period on our website. This report must remain available for inspection by shareholders and others with meeting rights under Dutch law at our office and must be tabled for discussion at the next general meeting. Shareholders representing at least 3% of our issued share capital may request the Enterprise Chamber for early termination of the cooling-off period. The Enterprise Chamber must rule in favor of the request if the shareholders can demonstrate that:

- our management board, in light of the circumstances at hand when the cooling-off period was invoked, could not reasonably have concluded that the relevant proposal or hostile offer constituted a material conflict with the interests of our company and its business;
- our management board cannot reasonably believe that a continuation of the cooling-off period would contribute to careful policy-making; or
- other defensive measures, having the same purpose, nature and scope as the cooling-off period, have been activated during the cooling-off period and have not since been terminated or suspended within a reasonable period at the relevant shareholders' request (i.e., no 'stacking' of defensive measures).

Delaware. Delaware law does not specifically grant stockholders the right to bring business before an annual or special meeting. However, if a Delaware corporation is subject to the SEC's proxy rules, a stockholder who owns at least \$2,000 in market value, or 1% of the corporation's securities entitled to vote, may propose a matter for a vote at an annual or special meeting in accordance with those rules.

Action by Written Consent

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, shareholders' resolutions may be adopted in writing without holding a meeting of shareholders, provided that (i) the articles of association allow such action by written consent, (ii) the company has not issued bearer shares or, with its cooperation, depository receipts for shares in its capital, and (iii) the resolution is adopted unanimously by all shareholders that are entitled to vote. Although our articles of association allow for shareholders' resolutions to be adopted in writing, the requirement of unanimity renders the adoption of shareholder resolutions without holding a meeting not feasible for us as a publicly traded company.

Delaware. Although permitted by Delaware law, publicly listed companies do not typically permit stockholders of a corporation to take action by written consent.

Appraisal Rights

The Netherlands. Subject to certain exceptions, Dutch law does not recognize the concept of appraisal or dissenters' rights. However, Dutch law does provide for squeeze-out procedures. Also, Dutch law provides for cash exit rights in certain situations for dissenting shareholders of a company organized under Dutch law entering into certain types of mergers. In those situations, a dissenting shareholder may file a claim with the Dutch company for compensation. Such compensation shall then be determined by one or more independent experts. The shares of such shareholder that are subject to such claim will cease to exist as of the moment of entry into effect of the merger.

Delaware. The Delaware General Corporation Law provides for stockholder appraisal rights, or the right to demand payment in cash of the judicially determined fair value of the stockholder's shares, in connection with certain mergers and consolidations.

Shareholder Suits

The Netherlands. In the event a third-party is liable to a Dutch company, only the company itself can bring a civil action against that party. The individual shareholders do not have the right to bring an action on behalf of the company. Only in the event that the cause for the liability of a third-party to the company also constitutes a tortious act directly against a shareholder does that shareholder have an individual right of action against such third-party in its own name. Dutch law provides for the possibility to initiate such actions collectively, in which a foundation or an association can act as a class representative and has standing to commence proceedings and claim damages if certain criteria are met. The court will first determine if those criteria are met. If so, the case will go forward as a class action on the merits after a period allowing class members to opt out from the case has lapsed. All members of the class who are residents of the Netherlands and who did not opt out will be bound to the outcome of the case. Residents of other countries must actively opt in in order to be able to benefit from the class action. The defendant is not required to file defenses on the merits prior to the merits phase having commenced. It is possible for the parties to reach a settlement during the merits phase. Such a settlement can be approved by the court, which approval will then bind the members of the class, subject to a second opt out. This new regime applies to claims brought after January 1, 2020 and which relate to certain events that occurred prior to that date. For other matters, the old Dutch class actions regime will apply. Under the old regime, no monetary damages can be sought. Also, a judgment rendered under the old regime will not bind individual class members. Even though Dutch law does not provide for derivative suits, directors and officers can still be subject to liability under U.S. securities laws.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a stockholder may bring a derivative action on behalf of the corporation to enforce the rights of the corporation. An individual also may commence a class action suit on behalf of himself and other similarly situated stockholders where the requirements for maintaining a class action under Delaware law have been met. A person may institute and maintain such a suit only if that person was a stockholder at the time of the transaction which is the subject of the suit. In addition, under Delaware case law, the plaintiff normally must be a stockholder at the time of the transaction that is the subject of the suit and throughout the duration of the derivative suit. Delaware law also requires that the derivative plaintiff make a demand on the directors of the corporation to assert the corporate claim before the suit may be prosecuted by the derivative plaintiff in court, unless such a demand would be futile.

Repurchase of Shares

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, when issuing shares, a public company such as ours may not subscribe for newly issued shares in its own capital. Such company may, however, subject to certain restrictions of Dutch law and its articles of association, acquire shares in its own capital. A listed public company such as ours may acquire fully paid shares in its own capital at any time for no valuable consideration. Furthermore, subject to certain provisions of Dutch law and its articles of association, such company may repurchase fully paid shares in its own capital if (i) the company's shareholders' equity less the payment required to make the acquisition does not fall below the sum of paid-in and called-up share capital plus any reserves required by Dutch law or its articles of association and (ii) the aggregate nominal value of shares of the company which the company acquires, holds or on which the company holds a pledge (*pandrecht*) or which are held by a subsidiary of the company, would not exceed 50% of its then-current issued share capital. Such company may only acquire its own shares if its general meeting has granted the management board the authority to effect such acquisitions.

An acquisition of common shares for a consideration must be authorized by our general meeting. Such authorization may be granted for a maximum period of 18 months and must specify the number of common shares that may be acquired, the manner in which common shares may be acquired and the price limits within which common shares may be acquired. The actual acquisition may only be effected pursuant to a resolution of our management board, with the approval of our supervisory board. Our management board, subject to approval of our supervisory board, has been authorized, for a period of 18 months following the completion of our initial public offering, to cause the repurchase of common shares by us of up to 20% of our issued share capital, for a price per share not exceeding 110% of the average market price of our common shares on Nasdaq (such average market price being the average of the closing prices on each of the five consecutive trading days preceding the date the acquisition is agreed upon by us). These shares may be used to deliver shares underlying awards granted pursuant to our equity-based compensation plans.

Our management board, subject to approval by our supervisory board, has also been authorized for a period of 18 months following the completion of our initial public offering to cause the repurchase of preferred shares, for a price which is higher than nil and does not exceed the nominal value thereof. No authorization of the general meeting is required if fully paid common shares are acquired by us with the intention of transferring such common shares to our employees under an applicable employee share purchase plan.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a corporation may purchase or redeem its own shares unless the capital of the corporation is impaired or the purchase or redemption would cause an impairment of the capital of the corporation. A Delaware corporation may, however, purchase or redeem out of capital any of its preferred shares or, if no preferred shares are outstanding, any of its own shares if such shares will be retired upon acquisition and the capital of the corporation will be reduced in accordance with specified limitations.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, various protective measures are possible and permissible within the boundaries set by Dutch law and Dutch case law. In this respect, certain provisions of our articles of association may make it more difficult for a third-party to acquire control of us or effect a change in our management board and supervisory board. These provisions include:

- the authorization of a class of preferred shares that, after the expiration of the later of the initial period or the initial approval period, may be issued to a protective foundation pursuant to a call option to that effect, see "Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors — Provisions of our articles of association or Dutch corporate law might deter acquisition bids for us that might be considered favorable and prevent, delay or frustrate any attempt to replace or remove the members of our managing directors or supervisory directors;
- a provision that our managing directors and supervisory directors are appointed on the basis of a binding nomination, the binding nature of which can only be overruled by a simple majority of votes cast representing at least one-third of our issued share capital;

- a provision that our managing directors and supervisory directors may only be dismissed by the general meeting by a two-thirds majority of votes cast representing more than 50% of our issued share capital (unless the dismissal is proposed by the supervisory board or, with respect to supervisory directors nominated by dievini or KfW, by dievini (or its legal successor) or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement during the nomination period for dievini or by KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for KfW, respectively, in which case a simple majority of the votes would be sufficient);
- a provision that where a supervisory director is no longer in office or is unable to act, he or she may be replaced temporarily by a person whom the supervisory board has designated for that purpose and, where a supervisory director who has been appointed upon a nomination of dievini or KfW, as applicable, is no longer in office or unable to act, such supervisory director may only be temporarily replaced by a person designated for such purposes by dievini or KfW, as applicable. Such person shall become a full member of the supervisory board with the rights of the relevant supervisory director appointed upon a nomination of dievini or KfW, as applicable, as soon as a written designation to that effect has been received by the chairman or vice-chairman of our supervisory board, subject to limitations, under applicable law regarding dievini's rights under this provision;
- a provision allowing, among other matters, a former chairman of our supervisory board, a former nominee of dievini, and a former nominee of KfW, to jointly take on the supervisory functions, which persons jointly may designate one or more other persons to be charged with the supervision of our company (instead of or together with the former chairman of our supervisory board), as applicable, to manage our affairs if all of our managing directors and supervisory directors are removed from office and to appoint others to be charged with the management and supervision of our affairs, until new managing directors and supervisory directors are appointed by the general meeting on the basis of a binding nomination discussed above;
- a provision allowing the management board to temporarily replace a managing director who is no longer in office or unable to act, by another person or persons designated for this purpose by the management board and attributing the management of the company to the supervisory board in case all managing directors are no longer in office or unable to act;
- a provision that certain provisions of our articles of association can only be amended with the affirmative vote of (i) during the nomination period for dievini, dievini (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) and (ii) during the nomination period for KfW, KfW (or its legal successors or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement); and
- a requirement that certain matters, including an amendment of our articles of association, may only be brought to our shareholders for a vote upon a proposal by our management board.

In addition, Dutch law allows for staggered multi-year terms of our managing directors and supervisory directors, as a result of which only part of our managing directors and supervisory directors may be subject to appointment or reappointment in any one year.

Furthermore, our management board may, under certain circumstances invoke a reasonable period of up to 180 days to respond to certain shareholder proposals or a statutory cooling-off period of up to 250 days to respond to certain shareholder proposals or a hostile bid. See above under "Shareholder Proposals."

Delaware. In addition to other aspects of Delaware law governing fiduciary duties of directors during a potential takeover, the Delaware General Corporation Law also contains a business combination statute that protects Delaware companies from hostile takeovers and from actions following the takeover by prohibiting some transactions once an acquirer has gained a significant holding in the corporation.

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law prohibits "business combinations," including mergers, sales and leases of assets, issuances of securities and similar transactions by a corporation or a subsidiary with an interested stockholder that beneficially owns 15% or more of a corporation's voting stock, within three years after the person becomes an interested stockholder, unless:

- the transaction that will cause the person to become an interested stockholder is approved by the board of directors of the target prior to the transactions;
- after the completion of the transaction in which the person becomes an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder holds at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation not including shares owned by persons who are directors and officers of interested stockholders and shares owned by specified employee benefit plans; or
- after the person becomes an interested stockholder, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and holders of at least 66.67% of the outstanding voting stock, excluding shares held by the interested stockholder.

A Delaware corporation may elect not to be governed by Section 203 by a provision contained in the original certificate of incorporation of the corporation or an amendment to the original certificate of incorporation or to the bylaws of the company, which amendment must be approved by a majority of the shares entitled to vote and may not be further amended by the board of directors of the corporation. Such an amendment is not effective until 12 months following its adoption.

Inspection of Books and Records

The Netherlands. The management board and the supervisory board provide the general meeting, within a reasonable amount of time, all information that the shareholders require for the exercise of their powers, unless this would be contrary to an overriding interest of our company. If the management board or supervisory board invokes such an overriding interest, it must give reasons.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, any stockholder may inspect for any proper purpose certain of the corporation's books and records during the corporation's usual hours of business.

Dismissal of Directors

The Netherlands. Under our articles of association, the general meeting shall at all times be entitled to dismiss a managing director or supervisory director. The general meeting may only adopt a resolution to suspend or dismiss a managing director or supervisory director by at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that such majority represents more than half of the issued share capital, unless the proposal was made by the supervisory board or, with respect to supervisory directors nominated by dievini or KfW, by dievini (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for dievini or by KfW (or its legal successor or permitted assigns under the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement) during the nomination period for KfW, respectively, in which latter case a simple majority is sufficient.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, any director or the entire board of directors may be removed, with or without cause, by the holders of a majority of the shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors, except (i) unless the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise, in the case of a corporation whose board is classified, stockholders may effect such removal only for cause, or (ii) in the case of a corporation having cumulative voting, if less than the entire board is to be removed, no director may be removed without cause if the votes cast against his removal would be sufficient to elect him if then cumulatively voted at an election of the entire board of directors, or, if there are classes of directors, at an election of the class of directors of which he or she is a part.

Issuance of Shares

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, a company's general meeting is the corporate body authorized to resolve on the issuance of shares and the granting of rights to subscribe for shares. The general meeting can delegate such authority to another corporate body of the company, such as the management board, for a period not exceeding five years; this authorization may only be extended from time to time for a maximum period of five years. In order for a resolution of the general meeting on an issuance or an authorization as discussed in the previous sentence to be valid, a prior or simultaneous approval shall be required from each meeting of holders of a certain class of shares whose rights are prejudiced by the issuance.

Our management board, subject to approval of our supervisory board, has been authorized, for a period of five years from the completion of our initial public offering, to issue shares or grant rights to subscribe for shares up to our authorized share capital from time to time. We may not subscribe for our own shares on issue.

Delaware. All creation of shares require the board of directors to adopt a resolution or resolutions, pursuant to authority expressly vested in the board of directors by the provisions of the company's certificate of incorporation.

Preemptive Rights

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, in the event of an issuance of common shares, each shareholder will have a pro rata preemptive right in proportion to the aggregate nominal value of the common shares held by such holder (with the exception of common shares to be issued to employees or common shares issued against a contribution other than in cash or pursuant to the exercise of a previously acquired right to subscribe for shares). Our preferred shares carry no preemptive rights. Under our articles of association, the preemptive rights in respect of newly issued common shares may be restricted or excluded by a resolution of the general meeting. Another corporate body, such as the management board, may restrict or exclude the preemptive rights in respect of newly issued common shares if it has been designated as the authorized body to do so by the general meeting. Such designation can be granted for a period not exceeding five years. A resolution of the general meeting to restrict or exclude the preemptive rights or to designate another corporate body as the authorized body to do so requires a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes cast, if less than one-half of our issued share capital is represented at the meeting. Our management board, subject to approval of our supervisory board, has been authorized, for a period of five years from the completion of our initial public offering, to limit or exclude preemptive rights in relation to an issuance of shares or a grant of rights to subscribe for shares that the management board is authorized to resolve upon. See “—Issuance of Shares.”

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, stockholders have no preemptive rights to subscribe for additional issues of stock or to any security convertible into such stock unless, and to the extent that, such rights are expressly provided for in the certificate of incorporation.

Dividends

The Netherlands. Dutch law provides that dividends (if it concerns a distribution of profits) may be distributed after adoption of the annual accounts by the general meeting from which it appears that such dividend distribution is allowed. Moreover, dividends may be distributed, whether as a distribution of profits or of freely distributable reserves, only to the extent the shareholders' equity exceeds the amount of the paid-in and called-up issued share capital and the reserves that must be maintained under the law or the articles of association. Interim dividends may be declared as provided in the articles of association and may be distributed to the extent that the shareholders' equity exceeds the amount of the paid-in and called-up issued share capital plus any reserves as described above as apparent from our interim financial statements prepared under Dutch law.

Under our articles of association, our management board, with the approval of our supervisory board, may decide that all or part of the profits are carried to reserves. Before reservation of any profit, to the extent that preferred shares have been canceled and preferred distributions on those canceled shares are outstanding, the profits are first to be used to satisfy the outstanding claim to those who held those preferred shares at the moment of such cancellation becoming effective and subsequently if any preferred shares are outstanding, the preferred dividend is paid out of the remaining profit on the preferred shares in accordance with our articles of association. The remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting at the proposal of the management board for distribution on the common shares, subject to restrictions of Dutch law and approval by our supervisory board of such proposal of our management board. Our management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting, but only with the approval of the supervisory board. Dividends and other distributions shall be made payable not later than the date determined by the management board. Claims to dividends and other distributions not made within five years from the date that such dividends or distributions became payable will lapse and any such amounts will be considered to have been forfeited to us (*verjaring*).

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a Delaware corporation may pay dividends out of its surplus (the excess of net assets over capital), or in case there is no surplus, out of its net profits for the fiscal year in which the dividend is declared and/or the preceding fiscal year (provided that the amount of the capital of the corporation is not less than the aggregate amount of the capital represented by the issued and outstanding stock of all classes having a preference upon the distribution of assets). In determining the amount of surplus of a Delaware corporation, the assets of the corporation, including stock of subsidiaries owned by the corporation, must be valued at their fair market value as determined by the board of directors, without regard to their historical book value. Dividends may be paid in the form of common stock, property or cash.

Shareholder Vote on Certain Reorganizations

The Netherlands. Under Dutch law, the general meeting must approve resolutions of the management board relating to a significant change in the identity or the character of the company or the business of the company, which includes:

- a transfer of the business or virtually the entire business to a third-party;
- the entry into or termination of a long-term cooperation of the company or a subsidiary with another legal entity or company or as a fully liable partner in a limited partnership or general partnership, if such cooperation or termination is of a far-reaching significance for the company; and
- the acquisition or divestment by the company or a subsidiary of a participating interest in the capital of a company having a value of at least one-third of the amount of its assets according to its balance sheet and explanatory notes or, if the company prepares a consolidated balance sheet, according to its consolidated balance sheet and explanatory notes in the last adopted annual accounts of the company.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote thereon generally is necessary to approve a merger or consolidation or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of a corporation. The Delaware General Corporation Law permits a corporation to include in its certificate of incorporation a provision requiring for any corporate action the vote of a larger portion of the stock or of any class or series of stock than would otherwise be required.

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, no vote of the stockholders of a surviving corporation to a merger is needed, however, unless required by the certificate of incorporation, if (i) the agreement of merger does not amend in any respect the certificate of incorporation of the surviving corporation, (ii) the shares of stock of the surviving corporation are not changed in the merger and (iii) the number of shares of common stock of the surviving corporation into which any other shares, securities or obligations to be issued in the merger may be converted does not exceed 20% of the surviving corporation's common stock outstanding immediately prior to the effective date of the merger. In addition, stockholders may not be entitled to vote in certain mergers with other corporations that own 90% or more of the outstanding shares of each class of stock of such corporation, but the stockholders will be entitled to appraisal rights.

Remuneration of Managing Directors and Supervisory Directors

The Netherlands. The supervisory board determines the remuneration of individual managing directors with due observance of the compensation policy at the recommendation of our compensation committee. A proposal with respect to remuneration schemes in the form of shares or rights to shares in which managing directors may participate is subject to approval by our general meeting. Such a proposal must set out at least the maximum number of shares or rights to subscribe for shares to be granted to the managing directors and the criteria for granting or amendment. The compensation for our supervisory directors is set by the general meeting.

Delaware. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, the stockholders do not generally have the right to approve the compensation policy for directors or the senior management of the corporation, although certain aspects of the compensation policy may be subject to stockholder vote due to the provisions of U.S. federal securities and tax law.

ITEM 16H. Mine Safety Disclosure

Not applicable.

PART III

ITEM 17. Financial Statements

We have responded to Item 18 in lieu of this item.

ITEM 18. Financial Statements

Our audited consolidated financial statements are included in this Annual Report beginning at Page F-1.

SIGNATURE

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this Annual Report on its behalf.

CureVac N.V.

By: /s/ Franz-Werner Haas

Name: Franz-Werner Haas

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Date: April 28, 2022

ITEM 19. Exhibits

<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.1	Form of Articles of Association of CureVac N.V. (translated into English) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
2.1	Investment and Shareholders' Agreement among several shareholders and CureVac AG (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.5 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
2.2	Shareholders' Agreement among Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, Dievini Hopp BioTechholding GmbH & Co KG and Mr. Dietmar Hopp, dated June 16, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.6 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
2.3	Relationship Agreement among Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, Dievini Hopp BioTechholding GmbH & Co KG and Mr. Dietmar Hopp, dated July 17, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.7 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
2.4	Registration Rights Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Form F-3 (File No. 333-259613) filed on September 17, 2021).
2.5	Description of the rights of each class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as of December 31, 2021.
4.1	Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac AG and Genmab B.V., dated December 19, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).†
4.2	Development and License Agreement by and between CureVac AG and CRISPR Therapeutics AG, dated November 9, 2017 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).†
4.3	Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac GmbH and Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH, dated August 21, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).†
4.4	Amendment No. 1 to Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac GmbH and Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH, dated June 30, 2015 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).†

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<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.5	<u>Amendment No. 2 to Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac AG and Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH, dated August 1, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.6	<u>Amendment No. 3 to Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac AG and Boehringer Ingelheim International GmbH, dated August 8, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.7	<u>Global Access Commitments Agreement, by and between Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CureVac GmbH, dated February 13, 2015 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.8	<u>Definitive Agreement and Project Collaboration Plan for Assessment of RNA Vaccine Technology for Non-live Rotavirus Vaccines in Pre-clinical Models by and between Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CureVac GmbH, dated May 15, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.9	<u>Framework Partnering Agreement between Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and CureVac AG, dated February 15, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.10	<u>Workpackage Statement (Development of CureVac Outbreak Response To Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)) between Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and CureVac AG, dated January 27, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.11	<u>Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Acuitas Therapeutics Inc., dated April 29, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.12	<u>Side Agreement and Amendment Number One to the Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Acuitas Therapeutics Inc., dated December 1, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.13	<u>Development and Intellectual Property Agreement, between CureVac AG and Tesla Grohmann Automation GmbH, dated November 24, 2015 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.14	<u>Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Arcturus Therapeutics Inc., dated January 1, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.15	<u>Restated Amendment to Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Arcturus Therapeutics Inc., dated September 28, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.16	<u>Third Amendment to Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Arcturus Therapeutics Inc., dated July 24, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.17	<u>Convertible loan, between Mr. Dietmar Hopp and CureVac AG, dated October 24, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u>

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<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.18	Collaborative Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and Yale University, dated July 1, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.18 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020). †
4.19	Sponsored Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc, dated March 15, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.19 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020). †
4.20	First Amendment to Sponsored Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc, dated May 19, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.20 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020). †
4.21	Rental contract for commercial premises, between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and Technologieparks Tübingen-Reutlingen GmbH, dated January 31, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.21 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.22	Rental Contract between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and Fränkel Immobilien-Service GmbH, dated June 6, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.22 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.23	Supplement to the rental contract, between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and Fränkel Immobilien-Service GmbH, dated July 23, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.24	Second Supplement to the rental contract, between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and Fränkel Immobilien-Service GmbH, dated August 20, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.25	Third Supplement to the rental contract, between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and HSB Vermietungs-und Verpachtungs-GmbH & Co. KG, dated November 5, 2018 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.25 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.26	Fourth Supplement to the rental contract, between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and HSB Vermietungs-und Verpachtungs-GmbH & Co. KG, dated October 22, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.27	Form of indemnification agreement between CureVac N.V. and members of the Supervisory Board or Management Board (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.28	CureVac N.V. Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.29	Curevac Virtual Share Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
4.30	Termination agreement between CureVac AG, CureVac Real Estate GmbH and Eli Lilly and Company, dated June 26, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.30 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020). †
4.31	Amendment to the convertible loan agreement, between Mr. Dietmar Hopp and CureVac AG, dated June 25, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).

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<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.32	<u>First Amendment to Collaboration and License Agreement by and between CureVac AG and Genmab B.V., dated July 2, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.32 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.33	<u>Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated July 15, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.33 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.34	<u>Amendment Two to the Development and Option Agreement, between CureVac AG and Acuitas Therapeutics Inc., dated July 10, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.34 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.35	<u>Finance Fee Letter between the European Investment Bank and CureVac Real Estate GmbH, dated June 27, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.35 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.36	<u>Finance Agreement between the European Investment Bank and CureVac Real Estate GmbH, dated June 27, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.36 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.37	<u>Guarantee Agreement between the European Investment Bank and CureVac AG, dated June 27, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.37 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.38	<u>Letter Agreement regarding the alignment between the Global Access Commitments Agreement, between CureVac AG and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Collaboration and License Agreement between CureVac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biologicals SA, dated July 15, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.38 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.39	<u>First Amendment and Joinder to Global Access Commitments Agreement, between CureVac AG, CureVac B.V. and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, dated July 15, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.39 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.40	<u>Second Amendment to Global Access Commitments Agreement, between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CureVac AG, dated July 15, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.40 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.41	<u>Form of Long Term Incentive Plan of CureVac N.V. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.41 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).</u> †
4.42	<u>1st Amendment to the Development and License Agreement, effective as of November 9, 2017, between CureVac AG and CRISPR Therapeutics, AG (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.42 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †
4.43	<u>Amendment 4 to Definitive Agreement 1 between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and CureVac AG, effective November 3, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.43 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †
4.44	<u>Addendum to Investment and Shareholders' Agreement among several shareholders and CureVac N.V., dated June 16, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.44 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †

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<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.45	<u>Advance Purchase Agreement by and between CureVac AG and the European Commission, dated November 30, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.45 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (File No. 001-39446) filed on April 27, 2021).</u> †
4.46	<u>Second Amendment to Collaboration and License Agreement between Genmab B.V. and CureVac AG, dated December 19, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.46 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †
4.47	<u>Amendment Three to Development and Option Agreement between Acuitas Therapeutics Inc. and CureVac AG, dated December 24, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.47 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †
4.48	<u>Amendment Number One to the Framework Partnering Agreement between Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and CureVac AG, dated December 11, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.48 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-252391) filed on January 25, 2021).</u> †
4.49	<u>Amendment to the Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated April 2, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.49 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (File No. 001-39446) filed on April 27, 2021).</u> †
4.50	<u>COVID Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated April 2, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.50 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (File No. 001-39446) filed on April 27, 2021).</u> †
4.51	<u>Second Amendment to the Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated September 29, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.3 to the Company's Form 6-K (File No. 001-39446) filed on December 17, 2021).</u> †
4.52	<u>Amendment to the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated September 29, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.4 to the Company's Form 6-K (File No. 001-39446) filed on December 17, 2021).</u> †
4.53	<u>Second Amendment to the Shareholders' Agreement among Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, Dievini Hopp BioTechholding GmbH & Co KG and Mr. Dietmar Hopp, dated January 13, 2022 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Form 6-K (File No. 001-39446) filed on January 13, 2022).</u>
4.54	<u>Consultancy Agreement between CureVac AG and Clarentis SRL, dated July 9, 2020</u>
4.55	<u>First Amendment to the Consultancy Agreement between CureVac AG and Clarentis SRL, dated September 3, 2020</u>
4.56	<u>Third Amendment to Collaboration and License Agreement between Genmab B.V. and CureVac AG, dated December 19, 2019, effective June 30, 2021</u> †
4.57	<u>Consortium Agreement between CureVac AG, CureVac Real Estate GMBH and Glaxosmithkline Biologicals SA, dated February 20, 2022.</u> †
4.58	<u>Fourth Amendment to the Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated March 4, 2022</u> †
4.59	<u>Third Amendment to the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement by and between Curevac AG and Glaxosmithkline Biological SA, dated March 4, 2022</u> †

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<u>Exhibit no.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4.60	Second Amendment to Sponsored Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc, dated July 29, 2021†
4.61	Third Amendment to Sponsored Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc, dated September 1, 2021†
4.62	Amendment No. 1 to the Collaborative Research Agreement, between CureVac AG and Yale University, dated July 6, 2021
8.1	List of subsidiaries (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 21.1 to the Company's Form F-1 (File No. 333-240076) filed on August 10, 2020).
12.1	Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
12.2	Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
13.1	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
13.2	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
15.1	Consent of Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft.
101	The following financial information from CureVac N.V.'s Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2021, formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2021, 2020 and 2019, (iii) Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, (iv) Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2021, 2020 and 2019, (v) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Fiscal Years ended December 31, 2021, 2020 and 2019, and (vi) Notes to the Audited Annual Consolidated Financial Statements.

† Certain information has been excluded from the exhibit because it both (i) is not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm to the Registrant if publicly disclosed.

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Audit Committee of CureVac N.V.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position of CureVac N.V. (the Company) as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the related consolidated statements of operations and other comprehensive income (loss), changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2021, in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) and our report dated April 28, 2022 expressed an adverse opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Critical Audit Matters

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

Revenue recognition for the GSK COVID Agreement

Description of the matter

As described in Note 3.1 to the consolidated financial statements, in April 2021, the Company entered into a collaboration and license agreement with GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA (GSK), referred to therein as the “GSK COVID Agreement”, from which the Company recognized revenue of €23.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 and €51.6 million in contract liabilities as of December 31, 2021. The GSK COVID Agreement contains multiple performance obligations which require the Company to deliver various goods and services, such as the technology license and development services, during the development of the product candidate.

As described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, in determining revenue recognition from collaboration arrangements, the Company assesses whether the technology license and development services are capable of being distinct and are distinct within the context of the GSK COVID Agreement, and thus whether they would be accounted for as separate performance obligations. The Company allocates the transaction price to each performance obligation on a relative standalone selling price basis and recognizes revenue as each performance obligation is satisfied.

Auditing the Company’s revenue recognition for the GSK COVID Agreement was complex and required judgment primarily in determining whether the promised goods and services are capable of being distinct and are distinct within the context of the GSK COVID Agreement.

How we addressed the matter in our audit

To test the revenue recognized from the GSK COVID Agreement, we performed audit procedures which included, among others, evaluating management’s assessment of the terms and conditions against the accounting requirements of IFRS 15. We evaluated whether the performance obligations identified by the Company represented promised goods and services that were capable of being distinct and distinct in the context of the GSK COVID Agreement through reading the agreement and through inquiries of management and research and development personnel to determine whether the customer can benefit from the technology license on a stand-alone basis or only in conjunction with a related service. Further, we assessed the adequacy of the Company’s disclosure in Note 3.1 to the consolidated financial statements.

Provisions for onerous contracts

Description of the matter

As described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company recognizes a provision for onerous contracts when the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received. As described in Note 11 of the consolidated financial statements, as of December 31, 2021, the Company recognized provisions of €40.5 million for onerous contracts based on its estimate of unavoidable costs remaining to be incurred under contracts with Clinical research organizations (CROs) for its CVnCoV clinical trials.

Auditing the provision for onerous CRO contracts was complex and required significant judgement in determining the cost to complete the clinical trial activities performed by CROs, including the number of participants completing the clinical trials, as these are dependent upon estimates from internal clinical personnel and from CROs and involves a high volume of data provided by external sources.

How we addressed the matter in our audit

We obtained an understanding over the accounting for the onerous contract provision. For example, we understood management's process for the identification and measurement of estimated accrued costs, including data inputs for progress of clinical trials and participant number tracking under each clinical trial.

To test the onerous contract provision, our audit procedures included, among others, reviewing a sample of agreements with the CROs to corroborate key financial and contractual terms and testing the underlying data used in the provision computations. We also evaluated management's estimates of the cost to complete, including the number of participants completing the clinical trials, on a sample basis, by performing inquiries of the Company's operations personnel who oversee the clinical trials and by obtaining information directly from certain CROs. We examined subsequent invoices from the CROs and cash disbursements to the CROs, to the extent such invoices were received, or payments were made, prior to the date that the consolidated financial statements were issued. Further, we assessed the adequacy of the Company's disclosure in Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements.

Provisions for contract termination costs

Description of the matter

As described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company recognizes provisions for contract termination costs where it is probable that a liability exists as of the reporting date and a reliable estimate can be made. As described in Note 11 of the consolidated financial statements, as of December 31, 2021, the Company recognized €81.6 million of provisions for the estimated costs of terminating Contract manufacturing organizations (CMOs) contracts.

Auditing the provisions for CMO contracts, which have been terminated or are anticipated to be terminated, was complex and required significant judgment in determining a reliable estimate of the settlement cost for each agreement. Such provisions are judgmental and subjective due to potential variability in the amount required to be paid to ultimately release the Company from its remaining obligations under the CMO contracts, including as a result of arbitration.

How we addressed the matter in our audit

To test the CMO contract termination provisions, our audit procedures included, among others, assessing the various components underlying management's estimate of the amount required to release the Company from its remaining obligations under these contracts. We inspected the CMO contracts and compared the nature and substance of the contract termination clauses to management's estimate. We also obtained internal and external legal counsel confirmation letters and inspected correspondence between the Company and the CMOs. Further, we assessed the adequacy of the Company's disclosure in Note 11 to the consolidated financial statements.

/s/ Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

Stuttgart, Germany
April 28, 2022

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Audit Committee of CureVac N.V.

Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited CureVac N.V.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). In our opinion, because of the effect of the material weaknesses described below on the achievement of the objectives of the control criteria, CureVac N.V. (the Company) has not maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, based on the COSO criteria.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the company's annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. The following material weaknesses have been identified and included in management's assessment. Management has identified material weaknesses in controls related to (a) ineffective information technology general controls (ITGCs) in the area of user access over certain information technology (IT) systems and the reports generated from these systems used in the execution of controls that support the Company's financial reporting processes and (b) business controls which were not adequately designed and operating effectively as a result of gaps in the identification of risks, precision of review controls and documentation to evidence control performance.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated statements of financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, the related consolidated statements of operations and other comprehensive income (loss), changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes. These material weaknesses were considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of audit tests applied in our audit of the 2021 consolidated financial statements, and this report does not affect our report dated April 28, 2022, which expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Stuttgart, Germany
April 28, 2022

CureVac N.V.

**Consolidated Statements of Operations and
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

(in thousands of EUR, except per share amounts)	Note	Year ended December 31,		
		2019	2020	2021
Revenue	3.1	17,416	48,871	102,990
Cost of sales	3.2	(27,983)	(14,173)	(238,195)
Selling and distribution expenses	3.3	(1,755)	(733)	(1,743)
Research and development expenses	3.4	(43,242)	(113,808)	(815,907)
General and administrative expenses	3.5	(48,969)	(53,554)	(100,402)
Income from release of governmental contract liabilities	3.6	—	—	574,502
Other operating income	3.7	5,587	24,150	67,702
Other operating expenses		(552)	(568)	(1,210)
Operating loss		(99,498)	(109,815)	(412,263)
Finance income		833	2,070	10,103
Finance expenses		(1,460)	(22,103)	(10,338)
Loss before income tax		(100,125)	(129,848)	(412,498)
Income tax benefit/ (expense)	13	252	726	782
Net loss for the period		(99,873)	(129,122)	(411,716)
Other comprehensive income:				
Items that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss				
Foreign currency adjustments		32	35	(91)
Total comprehensive loss for the period		(99,841)	(129,087)	(411,807)
Net loss per share (basic and diluted)		(1.03)	(0.98)	(2.21)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CureVac N.V.

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

(in thousands of EUR)	Note	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2021
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Intangible assets	4.1	14,146	13,238
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	66,605	168,264
Right-of-use assets	4.2	33,984	32,129
Other assets	4.3	6,322	1,731
Deferred tax assets	13	445	2,861
Total non-current assets		121,502	218,223
Current assets			
Inventories	5	14,531	56,159
Trade receivables		1,014	18,504
Contract assets		808	—
Other financial assets	6	2,619	4,648
Prepaid expenses and other assets	7	48,289	49,244
Cash and cash equivalents		1,322,593	811,464
Total current assets		1,389,854	940,019
Total assets		1,511,356	1,158,242
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
	8		
Issued capital		21,655	22,454
Capital reserve		1,334,704	1,728,658
Treasury Shares		—	(5,817)
Accumulated deficit		(645,069)	(1,056,785)
Other comprehensive income		57	(34)
Total equity		711,347	688,476
Non-current liabilities			
Finance Liabilities	12	25,189	—
Lease liabilities	4.2	26,853	25,423
Contract liabilities	3.1	500,061	86,345
Other liabilities		284	264
Total non-current liabilities		552,387	112,032
Current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	4.2	3,234	3,469
Trade and other payables	10	21,685	127,703
Other liabilities	11	64,326	170,073
Income taxes payable	13	392	739
Contract liabilities	3.1	157,985	55,750
Total current liabilities		247,622	357,734
Total liabilities		800,009	469,766
Total equity and liabilities		1,511,356	1,158,242

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CureVac N.V.

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity

(in thousands of EUR)	Issued capital	Capital reserve	Treasury Shares	Accumulated deficit	Currency translation reserve	Total equity
Balance as of January 1, 2019	11,603	436,564	0	(416,074)	(10)	32,083
Net loss	—	—	—	(99,873)	—	(99,873)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	—	32	32
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(99,873)	32	(99,841)
Share-based payment expense (Net of Taxes)	—	19,564	—	—	—	19,564
Equity component of convertible loans (net of tax)	—	7,604	—	—	—	7,604
Deferred taxes on convertible loan	—	(2,212)	—	—	—	(2,212)
Balance as of December 31, 2019	11,603	461,520	0	(515,947)	22	(42,802)

(in thousands of EUR)	Issued capital	Capital reserve	Treasury Shares	Accumulated deficit	Currency translation reserve	Total equity
Balance as of January 1, 2020	11,603	461,520	0	(515,947)	22	(42,802)
Net loss	—	—	—	(129,122)	—	(129,122)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	35	35
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(129,122)	35	(129,087)
Equity component of convertible loans (net of tax)	—	87	—	—	—	87
Share-based payment expense (Net of Taxes)	—	15,432	—	—	—	15,432
Exercise of options	383	(383)	—	—	—	—
Issuance of share capital (net of transaction costs)	9,669	858,048	—	—	—	867,717
Balance as of December 31, 2020	21,655	1,334,704	0	(645,069)	57	711,347

(in thousands of EUR)	Issued capital	Capital reserves	Treasury Shares	Accumulated deficit	Currency translation reserve	Total equity
Balance as of January 1, 2021	21,655	1,334,704	0	(645,069)	57	711,347
Net loss	—	—	—	(411,716)	—	(411,716)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	—	(91)	(91)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(411,716)	(91)	(411,807)
Share-based payment expense (Net of Taxes)	—	15,789	—	—	—	15,789
Exercise of options	109	3,077	—	—	—	3,186
Issuance of share capital (net of transaction costs)	690	403,372	—	—	—	404,062
Repurchase of common shares	—	(28,284)	(5,817)	—	—	(34,101)
Balance as of December 31, 2021	22,454	1,728,658	(5,817)	(1,056,785)	(34)	688,476

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CureVac N.V.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(in thousands of EUR)	Year ended December 31,		
	2019	2020	2021
Loss before income tax	(100,125)	(129,848)	(412,498)
Adjustments to reconcile loss before tax to net cash flows			
Finance income	(833)	(2,070)	(10,103)
Finance expense	1,460	22,103	10,338
Depreciation and amortization	7,164	10,671	15,674
Impairment to property, plant and equipment	—	—	22,810
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	241	5,921	587
Impairment of inventory and prepayments	—	—	185,832
Share-based payment expense	19,564	14,240	14,956
Income from release of governmental contract liabilities	—	—	(574,502)
Working capital changes			
Decrease / (increase) in trade receivables and contract assets	(10,117)	15,332	(16,682)
Decrease / (increase) in inventory	(3,246)	(8,334)	(227,460)
Decrease / (increase) in prepaid expenses and other assets	630	(47,578)	(3,118)
Receipts from grants from government agencies and similar bodies	9,304	31,599	93,531
(Decrease) / increase in trade and other payables and contract liabilities	(9,584)	620,305	179,316
(Decrease) / increase in other current financial and other liabilities	(334)	(55)	(20)
Decrease / (increase) in deferred taxes	—	(1,096)	(1,583)
Income taxes paid	(345)	(93)	(502)
Interest received	81	—	81
Interest paid	(823)	(8,694)	(9,785)
Net cash flow provided by (used in) operating activities	(86,963)	522,403	(733,128)
Investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(11,172)	(36,329)	(124,222)
Purchase of intangible assets	(1,052)	(11,023)	(3,679)
Proceeds from asset-related grants	2,325	3,239	—
Purchases of financial assets	—	(1,161)	—
Proceeds from sale of other financial assets	38,080	—	—
Net cash flow provided by (used in) investing activities	28,181	(45,274)	(127,901)
Financing activities			
Payments on lease obligation	(1,910)	(2,995)	(3,183)
Proceeds from the issuance of shares (net of transaction costs)	—	867,717	404,062
Proceeds from the exercise of options	—	—	3,186
Proceeds from (repayment of) the EIB loan	—	25,000	(25,000)
Proceeds from the convertible loan	69,889	24,860	—
Payment on treasury shares	—	—	(34,101)
Repayments of convertible loan	—	(94,749)	—
Net cash flow provided by financing activities	67,979	819,833	344,964
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	9,197	1,296,962	(516,065)
Effect of currency translation gains on cash and cash equivalents	107	(5,053)	4,936
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	21,380	30,684	1,322,593
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	30,684	1,322,593	811,464

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

1. Corporate Information

CureVac N.V. (“CureVac” or “CV” or the “Company”) is the parent company of CureVac Group (“Group”) and, along with its subsidiaries, is a global biopharmaceutical company developing a new class of transformative medicines based on the messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) that has the potential to improve the lives of people.

The Company is incorporated in the Netherlands and is registered in the commercial register at the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce under RSIN 861149336. The Company’s registered headquarters is Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tuebingen, Germany. During fiscal 2021, dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG (dievini), which is an investment company dedicated to the support of companies in health and life sciences, was the largest shareholder of CureVac. Together with its related parties, dievini has held shares and voting rights in CureVac between appr. 46 – 49 % during that period. dievini is thus considered to be the de facto parent of the Group. Dietmar Hopp, Daniel Hopp and Oliver Hopp are the ultimate controlling persons (of the main shareholders) of dievini, and, therefore, control the voting and investment decisions of dievini.

On August 14, 2020, the Company completed an initial public offering (IPO) on the Nasdaq Global Market; in connection with the IPO, the Company underwent a corporate reorganization by which CureVac N.V. became the parent holding company with 100% interest in CureVac AG. Prior to the reorganization, CureVac AG was the parent holding company of the Group; as part of the reorganization, CureVac B.V. was formed and existing shareholders of CureVac AG subscribed for new common shares in CureVac B.V. and agreed to transfer their respective shares in CureVac AG to CureVac B.V. as a contribution in kind against the issuance of the common shares in CureVac B.V. shares (share split) on a 1-to-133.0778 basis. As a result, CureVac B.V. became the holding company of CureVac AG, while the existing shareholders had a 100% shareholding in CureVac B.V. Effective with the IPO, CureVac B.V. changed its legal form and became CureVac N.V. and the common shares of CureVac B.V. were converted to common shares of CureVac N.V. These consolidated financial statements and corresponding financial statement notes reflect the retrospective effect of the share split, where applicable.

2. Significant accounting policies

These consolidated financial statements are prepared on a historical cost basis under the going concern assumption. The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are described below. These accounting policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated. The corporate reorganization, as described above, is considered a continuation of the CureVac Group resulting in no change in the carrying values of assets or liabilities. As a result, the financial statements for periods prior to the IPO and the corporate reorganization are the financial statements of CureVac AG as the predecessor to the Company for accounting and reporting purposes.

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in applying the Group’s accounting policies. The areas that require a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed below.

Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and were authorized by the Management Board for presentation to the Supervisory Board on April 28, 2022. The Group’s consolidated financial statements are presented in Euros (“EUR”), which is also the parent company’s functional currency. Unless otherwise stated, the numbers are rounded to thousands of Euros, except per share amounts.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the Company’s wholly-owned subsidiaries CureVac AG (Tuebingen, Germany), CureVac Inc. (Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA), CureVac Real Estate GmbH (Tuebingen, Germany) with CureVac Corporate Services GmbH, CureVac RNA Printer GmbH, CureVac Beteiligungsverwaltungs AG and CureVac Swiss AG being incorporated in 2021. Control is achieved when the Company is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee.

All intra-group assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses, and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated upon consolidation.

The fiscal year of all Group entities corresponds to the calendar year ending December 31.

Current and non-current classification

The Group presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/non-current classification.

Current assets include assets that are sold, consumed, or realized as part of the normal operating cycle (the operating cycle is assumed to be 12 months), or cash and cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

Current liabilities, such as trade payables, lease liabilities, or employee benefits with a term of up to 12 months, and payables for operating costs or social security charges, are part of the working capital used in the Group's normal operating cycle. Such operating items are classified as current liabilities even if they are due to be settled more than 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Foreign currency translation

For each entity, the Group determines the functional currency and items included in the financial statements of each entity are measured using that functional currency. Foreign currency transactions are initially translated at the spot rate applicable between the functional currency and the foreign currency on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated to the functional currency using the prevailing rate at the reporting date. Foreign currency exchange differences are recorded in the statement of operations. Upon consolidation, the assets and liabilities of foreign operations are translated into Euro at the rate of exchange prevailing at the reporting date and their statements of operations are translated at the average exchange rate of the fiscal period. The exchange differences arising on translation for consolidation are recognized in other comprehensive income (loss).

Revenue recognition

Revenue from the sale of products and services is recognized when the Group transfers control to the customer. Control generally transfers when the customer gains the ability to direct the use of and obtain substantially all of the remaining benefits from the good or service. If the contract contains more than one performance obligation, the consideration which the Group expects to receive is allocated to each of the performance obligations, using the relative stand-alone selling price method. Revenue is recognized at the amount of consideration that the Group is expected to receive in exchange for these goods or services. The Group has concluded that it acts as a principal in sales transactions as it has control over the goods or services before transferring control to the customer.

The Group primarily generates revenue from its licensing and development agreements with collaboration partners for the development of mRNA medicines against a variety of targets in diseases and conditions. These arrangements contain multiple contractual promises, including (i) licenses, or options to obtain licenses, to the Group's mRNA technology, (ii) delivery of products, and (iii) research and development services. Such arrangements provide for various types of payments to the Group, including upfront fees, funding of research and development services, payment for delivered products, development, regulatory and commercial milestone payments, license fees, and royalties on product sales, all of which may be satisfied at different points in time. Outlicensing agreements may be entered into with or without any further significant contractual obligations.

Goods or services promised in collaborative arrangements are accounted for as separate performance obligations if such promises are distinct (i.e., if the customer can benefit from the good or service on its own or together with other resources readily available to it and if the promise is separately identifiable from other promises in the contract).

In determining whether contractual promises are separately identifiable, the Group considers whether:

- It provides a significant service of integrating the goods or services with other goods or services that represent the combined output or outputs for which the other party has contracted

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- One or more of the goods or services significantly modifies or customizes one or more of the other goods or services promised in the agreement.
- The goods or services the Group promised to transfer or to provide are highly interdependent or highly interrelated.

Based on these criteria, management evaluates whether the intellectual property (IP) licenses granted, and to which further research and development activities may apply under the terms of a collaboration agreement, are distinct from the unperformed obligations to the collaboration partner, considering the relevant facts and circumstances of each arrangement. Factors considered in this determination include the nature of the IP license, the stage of development of the IP license granted, the research capabilities of the partner, and the availability of mRNA technology research expertise in the general marketplace.

When an IP license is not considered to be distinct from research services, the Group generally recognizes revenue, including any upfront payment, attributable to the license on a straight-line basis, which reflects the performance of services by the Group towards satisfaction of the obligation, over the contractual or estimated performance period, which is typically from the effective date of the related collaboration agreement through the estimated date of market entry of a product developed under the agreement. The determination of the estimated date of market entry requires a significant amount of judgment given the uncertainty inherent in developing innovative pharmaceutical products and is based upon development plans with the customer, which are subject to change, clinical trials, and approval of regulatory authorities. Changes in the estimated date of market entry could have a material impact on the amount and timing of revenue the Group records in future periods.

When an IP license is considered to be distinct, the Group determines whether it provides the customer with either (1) a right to access the IP throughout the license period (for which revenue is recognized over the license period) or (2) a right to use the IP as it exists at the point in time that the license is granted (for which revenue is recognized at a point in time where the customer can first use and benefit from the license).

If the transaction price in an agreement includes a variable amount, the Group estimates the amount of consideration to which the Group will be entitled in exchange for transferring the goods to the customer. At contract inception, the variable consideration is estimated based on the most likely amount of consideration expected from the transaction and constrained until it is highly probable that a significant revenue reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognized will not occur when the associated uncertainty with respect to the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. The estimated deferred contract liability is updated at each reporting date to reflect the current facts and circumstances.

Collaboration agreements may also provide a customer with the option to acquire additional goods or services. The accounting treatment for such options depends on the nature of these options. Options are considered to be substantive if, at the inception of an agreement, the Group is at risk as to whether the customer will choose to exercise the options to secure additional licenses. Factors that are considered in evaluating whether options are substantive include the overall objective of the arrangement, the benefit the customer might obtain from the agreement without exercising the options, the cost to exercise the options relative to the total upfront consideration, and the additional financial commitments or economic penalties imposed on the customer as a result of exercising the options.

Product sales related to collaboration agreements include RNA products and are recognized over time as goods are produced because such goods have no alternative use and the Group has an enforceable right to payment. Otherwise, revenue for product sales is recognized at a point in time. In 2021, 2020, and 2019, no revenue from product sales was recognized on a point-in-time basis. Revenue from certain research and development services, delivered as a distinct performance obligation under the collaboration agreements, are recognized over time as the services provided have no alternative use and the Group has an enforceable right to payment.

A receivable is recognized when the consideration is unconditional and only the passage of time is required before payment is due. The transaction price is quoted in the relevant contractually agreed pricing in force at the date of the customer placing the respective order for such goods or services. Amounts received prior to satisfying the above revenue recognition criteria are recorded as contract liability in the statements of financial position.

The Group may present the following contract balances:

- Contract assets — Represents the Group’s right to consideration in exchange for goods or services that the Group has transferred to the customer when that right is conditioned on something other than the passage of time
- Trade receivables — Represents the Group’s right to an amount of consideration that is unconditional (i.e., only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due)
- Contract liabilities — Represents the Group’s obligations to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Group has received consideration (or consideration is due) from the customer

The Group recognizes revenue from contracts with customers relating to its core business. All other operating proceeds are presented as other operating income in the statements of operations.

Grants from government agencies and similar bodies

The Group receives grants from government agencies and similar bodies for the active participation in specific research and development projects. Each grant agreement is assessed to determine whether there are elements of the supply of products that are recognized separately from the grant. For the supply of products, the standalone selling price is determined by reference to observed prices with other customers. The grants are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. If grant funds are received prior to qualifying expenses being incurred or assets purchased, they are recorded as a liability in other liabilities. If the funds reimburse expenses, the liability is amortized into other operating income on a systematic basis over the period in which the corresponding expenses are incurred. If the funds reimburse purchased assets, the liability is reduced with a corresponding amount deducted from the asset’s carrying amount upon recording of the qualified asset. According to the terms of the grants, grantors generally have the right to audit qualifying expenses submitted by the Group.

Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

i) Financial assets

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value. After the initial measurement, the financial assets are subsequently classified as either amortized cost, fair value through other comprehensive income, or fair value through profit or loss.

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset’s contractual cash flow characteristics and the Group’s business model for managing them. The Group initially measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs. Trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at the transaction price determined under IFRS 15.

For a financial asset to be classified and measured at amortized cost or fair value through other comprehensive income, it needs to give rise to cash flows that are “solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI)” on the principal amount outstanding. This assessment is referred to as the SPPI test and is performed at an instrument level.

Subsequent measurement

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified into four categories:

- financial assets at amortized cost (debt instruments);

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- financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income with recycling of cumulative gains and losses (debt instruments);
- financial assets designated at fair value through other comprehensive income with no recycling of cumulative gains and losses upon derecognition (equity instruments); or
- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

In fiscal 2019, 2020, and 2021, the Group only had the following financial assets to be measured at amortized cost:

- Cash and cash equivalents
- Other financial assets
- Trade receivables and contract assets

Financial assets at amortized cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest (EIR) method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognized in the statement of operations when the asset is derecognized, modified, or impaired.

Derecognition

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognized when the Group no longer has the contractual rights to the asset or the right to receive cash flows from the asset have expired.

Impairment of financial assets

An allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) is recognized for all debt instruments not held at fair value through profit or loss. ECLs are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all of the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate. The expected cash flows will include cash flows from the sale of collateral held or other credit enhancements that are integral to the contractual terms.

For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12- months (a 12- month ECL). For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime ECL).

For cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables, and contract assets, the Group applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Group does not track changes in credit risk but instead recognizes a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date.

The Group considers a financial asset in default when contractual payments are 180 days past due. However, in certain cases, the Group may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the Group is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full before taking into account any credit enhancements held by the Group. A financial asset is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows.

ii) Financial liabilities

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, loans and borrowings or as payables.

All financial liabilities are recognized initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings and payables, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

The Group's financial liabilities include lease liabilities, trade payables, the EIB-loan, which was repaid in fiscal 2021 (see note 12), and the convertible loans (see note 12), which were repaid immediately before the IPO in fiscal 2020.

Subsequent measurement

After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings, trade payables, and other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the EIR method. Gains and losses are recognized in the statement of operations when the liabilities are derecognized as well as through the EIR amortization process.

Amortized cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortization is included as finance costs in the statement of operations.

This category generally applies to interest-bearing loans and borrowings, including convertible loans.

Derecognition

A financial liability is derecognized when the obligation under the liability is discharged or canceled or expires.

Accounting for EIB loan

In 2020, the Group received from the European Investment Bank, or EIB, a line of credit which is available in three tranches, each of which can be drawn separately. In addition, any of the tranches carry a fixed interest but also a specified amount of variable remuneration. The agreement provides for multiple rights and obligations, including rights to terminate and repay the agreement early with varying amounts of variable remuneration.

The Group accounts for the first tranche of EUR 25 million drawn in 2020 as a financial liability at amortized cost, using the effective interest method based on expected cashflows including any amount of variable remuneration. In doing so, the Group assessed what is the most probable scenario for the exercise of its rights as the borrower. In addition, the Group determined an effective interest rate that is consistent with the accounting for other financing arrangements. In December 2021, the loan was early terminated and as of December 31, 2021 the EIB loan was fully repaid. For further information on the EIB loan, see Note 12.

Accounting for convertible loans

IFRS requires that a convertible loan be bifurcated into a debt component and a conversion right if the latter is an equity instrument.

In 2019, the Group assessed that the conversion right of the convertible loan is not an equity instrument, but a liability with an insignificant value.

The debt component of the convertible loan was measured using the market interest rate obtainable on similar debt instruments. The debt component was measured as a liability at amortized cost until it is converted into equity or becomes due for repayment. The carrying amount of the debt component was based on an expected repayment in 2021, which was the earliest possible date at which repayment could be required by the lender unless specified events occurred.

The component of the loan proceeds allocated to equity represents the residual value between the consideration received for each single tranche and the fair value of the corresponding financial liabilities at initial recognition.

For further information on the convertible loan, see Note 12.

Acquired Intangible assets

Acquired intangible assets are initially measured at cost. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and any accumulated impairment losses.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortized over their useful life, generally using the straight-line method. The amortization period and the amortization method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least annually at each fiscal year-end. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits are accounted for prospectively. Amortization of an intangible asset is reported in the consolidated statement of operations in accordance with the function of the intangible asset.

Gains or losses arising from the derecognition of an intangible asset are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognized in the consolidated statement of operations in the period in which the asset is derecognized.

Acquired intangible assets are mainly comprised of software and licenses. The Group has entered into non-exclusive license agreements for patent rights and/or know-how with reputable universities, cancer research institutes, and other research partners. The cost of these licenses includes fixed as well as contingent consideration mainly linked to specified events in the collaborations for which the licenses are used. The licenses are measured initially at cost which comprises the fixed purchase price components. The Group records a liability for contingent consideration and capitalizes such amounts as part of the cost of the acquired intangible asset when the future event, upon which the contingent consideration depends, occurs or a present obligation exists.

The estimated useful lives for each intangible asset class are as follows:

Software	3 to 5 years
Licenses	8 to 20 years

The Group does not have any intangible assets with indefinite useful lives.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairments. These costs also comprise the costs for replacement parts, which are recognized at the time they are incurred, providing they meet the recognition criteria. All other repair and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is recognized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	1 to 10 years
Technical equipment and machines:	3 to 14 years
Other equipment, furniture and fixtures:	3 to 14 years

Property, plant and equipment are derecognized upon disposal or when no further economic benefits are expected from their continued use or sale. The gain or loss on derecognition is determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount and recognized in profit or loss in the period in which the item is derecognized.

The residual values of the assets, useful lives, and depreciation methods are reviewed at the end of each fiscal year and any changes are accounted for prospectively.

The estimated useful lives and depreciation methods remained unchanged from fiscal 2019 through fiscal 2021. The residual values of the assets are generally considered to be zero.

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If there is any indication of impairment or if an annual impairment test is required, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the asset. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and its value-in-use. It is determined for an individual asset unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets, in which case it is determined at the level of the cash-generating unit. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is impaired and written down to its recoverable amount. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

When there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognized, any impairment loss previously recognized is reversed. The reversal may not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined after amortization or depreciation had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset in prior periods. The amount of the reversal is recognized in profit or loss for the period.

There were no impairments or reversals of impairments in 2019 and 2020. However, in fiscal year 2021, impairments of EUR 22,810k were recognized. These pertained largely to machinery and technical equipment recorded under assets under construction and resulted from the partial impairment of production lines which are obsolete due to the withdrawal of the EMA regulatory approval application for CVnCoV.

Non-current other assets — costs to obtain a contract

Amortization of assets recognized from the costs to obtain a contract with a customer within the scope of IFRS 15 is recognized on a straight-line basis over their associated estimated useful lives.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction, or production of an asset that necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale are capitalized as part of the cost of the asset. All other borrowing costs are expensed in the period in which they occur. Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

The Group capitalizes borrowing costs when it meets all the following conditions: (a) it incurs expenditures for the asset; (b) it incurs borrowing costs, and (c) it undertakes activities that are necessary to prepare the asset for its intended use or sale.

The Group capitalized EUR 2,932k borrowing costs during fiscal 2021 (2020: 1,989k, 2019: 2,188k). The capitalization rate used to determine the amount of the borrowing costs eligible for capitalization during fiscal 2021 was a weighted average of 7.17% (2020: 8.90%, 2019: 9.13%).

Right-of-use assets

The Group recognizes right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e., the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognized, initial direct costs incurred, and lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received as well as any estimated costs to be incurred by the lessee for dismantling and removing the underlying asset. Unless the Group is reasonably certain to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the recognized right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis

over the shorter of its estimated useful life, indicated below, and the lease term. Right-of-use assets are subject to impairment according to IAS 36.

Land and Buildings:	1 to 15 years
Vehicles:	3 to 4 years
Other equipment:	2 to 5 years

Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Group recognizes lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees. The lease payments also include the exercise price of a purchase option reasonably certain to be exercised by the Group and payments of penalties for terminating a lease, if the lease term reflects the Group exercising the option to terminate.

Variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are recognized as expenses in the period in which the event or condition that triggers the payment occurs. In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Group uses the incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date if the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the in-substance fixed lease payments, or a change in the assessment to purchase the underlying asset. When the lease liability is remeasured, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount for the right-of-use asset or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Group applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases of machinery and equipment (i.e., leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases of office equipment that are considered of low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognized as expenses on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Furthermore, the Group also elected to use the recognition exemptions for lease contracts that, on January 1, 2019, had a remaining lease term of 12 months or less.

Separation of lease and non-lease components

As a practical expedient, the Group elected not to separate the fixed (but not variable) portion of non-lease components in respect of leases of building and instead accounts for them as a single lease component.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale. Inventories are comprised of raw materials, work in progress, and finished goods.

Costs incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition are accounted for, as follows:

- Raw materials: purchased cost on a first-in/first-out basis
- Finished goods and work in progress: cost of direct materials and labor and a proportion of manufacturing overhead based on normal operating capacity, but excluding borrowing costs

The costs of inventories may not be recoverable if those inventories are damaged, if they become wholly or partially obsolete, or if the selling prices have declined. The practice of writing inventories down below cost to net realizable value is consistent with the view that assets should not be carried in excess of amounts expected to be realized from the sale or use.

Pre-launch products

Prior to initial regulatory approval, costs relating to the production of products are expensed as research and development expenses in the period incurred unless recoverable through means other than sale. If pre-launch products are sold, the respective product gross margin may be higher compared to the expected recurring margin as the underlying costs will not be included in cost of sales. For the year ended December 31, 2021, 2020, and, 2019, no revenues have been recorded related to pre-launch products.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, bank balances on-demand, and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

Onerous contract provisions

An unfavorable and onerous contract provision is recognized when the expected benefits to be derived from a contract are lower than the unavoidable costs of meeting its obligations under the contract. Unavoidable costs under a contract reflect the least net cost of exiting from the contract, which is the lower of the cost of fulfilling it and any compensation or penalties arising from failure to fulfil it. The Group measures the cost of fulfilling a contract as the incremental costs of fulfilling that contract and the incremental costs of fulfilling that contract. Before a separate provision for an onerous contract is established, the Group recognizes any impairment loss that has occurred on assets used in fulfilling the contract, if applicable. Onerous contract provisions are released over the remaining term of the contract.

Share-based payment awards

The Group operates several share-based payment programs.

An equity-settled share-based payment award is accounted for by recognizing the related expense over the vesting period of the award, with a corresponding increase recorded in equity. The expense is based on the fair value determined at the grant date of the award and the number of awards expected to vest. The fair value remains unchanged after grant date. Once the award has vested, there is no reversal of expense related to the award.

When a share-based payment award provides for different ways of settlement (i.e. cash versus shares) depending on the occurrence of contingent events, the award is accounted for based on the manner of settlement that is most probable. A change in the expected manner of settlement is accounted for as a modification.

Expenses for employer taxes arising upon the exercise of equity-settled share-based payments are recognized in profit or loss.

The related share-based payment expense is recorded in the functional cost category to which the award recipient's costs are classified.

Taxes

Current tax assets and liabilities

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities based on the tax rates and tax laws that are enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period.

Deferred taxes

Deferred tax is recognized using the liability method on all temporary differences as of the end of the reporting period between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their tax bases.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized for all taxable temporary differences. The only exception is if the deferred income tax arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination which, at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor loss nor taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax assets are recognized for deductible temporary differences and to the extent that it is probable that future taxable income will allow the deferred tax asset to be realized.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realized or the liability is settled based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

If transactions and other events are recognized directly in equity, any related taxes on income are also recognized directly in equity.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset if there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and current tax liabilities and these relate to income taxes levied by the same tax jurisdiction.

Segments

An operating segment is defined as a component of an entity for which discrete financial information is available and whose operating results are regularly reviewed by the Chief Operating Decision Maker (CODM). The CODM is comprised of the Management Board of the Group. The Group operates as a single segment dedicated to the discovery and development of biotechnological applications and the CODM makes decisions about allocating resources and assessing performance based on the Group as a whole. Accordingly, the Group has determined it operates in one operating and reportable segment.

Significant accounting judgments, estimates, and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgments, estimates, and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgments and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenues, and expenses. Management bases its judgments and estimates on historical experience and other various factors, which it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances, the result of which forms the basis of the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions and may materially affect the financial results or the financial position reported in future periods.

Significant judgments

In the process of applying the accounting policies, management has made the following judgments, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements.

Accounting for share-based payments

The Group has multiple share-based payment programs. Significant judgments include the determination of the grant date fair value of the awards.

The awards granted in 2021 as well as in prior years are accounted for as equity-settled share-based payments and described under Note 9.

Revenue recognition and collaboration agreements

The Group applied the following judgments in determining the amount and timing of revenue from collaboration agreements:

- Identification and determination of the nature of performance obligations in collaboration and license agreements.

The Group generates revenues from collaboration and license agreements under which the Group grants licenses to use, research, develop, manufacture, and commercialize candidates and products. As these agreements comprise several promises, it must be assessed whether these promises are capable of being distinct within the context of the contract. If these promises are not distinct, they are combined until the bundle of promised goods and services is distinct. For some agreements, this results in the Group accounting for all goods and services promised in a collaboration and license agreement as a single performance obligation with a single measure of progress.

For these combined performance obligations, it must be assessed which of these promises is the predominant promise to determine the nature of the performance obligation. The Group determined that the grant of the license is the predominant promise within the (combined) performance obligation to grant a license to the customers. It was assessed that the Group grants its customers a right to access or a right to use the Group's IP due to the collaboration and license agreements.

As a result, the promise to grant a license is accounted for as a performance obligation satisfied over time as the Group's customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits from the Group's performance.

- Estimation of variable consideration and assessment of the constraint when determining the amount of revenue of which to defer recognition

The Group's collaboration and license agreements comprise variable considerations which are contingent on the occurrence or non-occurrence of a future event (i.e., reaching a certain milestone). When determining the deferral of revenue in a collaboration and license agreement, the Group is required to estimate the amount of consideration to which it will be entitled in exchange for transferring the promised goods or services to the customer.

As there are usually only two possible outcomes (i.e., a milestone is reached or not), the Group has assessed that the method of the most likely amount is the best method to predict the amount of consideration to which the Group will be entitled.

The most likely amount of these milestone payments (i.e., the full milestone payment) is only included in the transaction price if the occurrence of reaching a future milestone is highly probable. The Group has assessed that the likelihood of achieving the respective milestone decreases depending on how far the expected date of achieving the milestone lies in the future.

The Group has concluded that future milestone payments are fully constrained at each of the fiscal years. Future milestone payments would become unconstrained at the satisfaction of the milestone event, specifically a development event, regulatory approval, or achievement of a sales milestone.

Clinical trial accruals and related research and development costs

The value of goods and services received from contract research organizations (CROs) and contract manufacturing organizations (CMOs) in the reporting period is estimated based on the level of services performed and progress made in the respective period. Amounts are recorded as accrued expenses in cases where the Company has not received an invoice from the service provider. Advance payments for goods or services that will be used or rendered for future research and development activities are recognized as (current) prepaid expenses and other assets or in (non-current) other assets if the benefit is expected to be received more than a year from the statement of financial position date. These amounts are recognized as an expense as the related goods are delivered or the services performed. Management's estimates are based on the best information available at the time. However, additional information may become available in the future and management may adjust the estimate in such future periods. In this event, the Company may be required to record adjustments to research and development expenses in future periods when the actual level of activity becomes more certain. The Company considers resulting increases or decreases in cost as changes in estimates and reflects such changes in research and development expenses in the period identified.

Accounting for onerous contract provisions

The Group has entered into binding legal agreements for the supply of services by CROs to the Group for CVnCoV clinical trials. Such services are generally associated with the ongoing monitoring and care for enrolled participants in the clinical trials. Due to the discontinuation of the CVnCoV program, the remaining services, which the Group is obligated to procure, do not have a value for the Group anymore. Judgment is required in estimating the cost of the remaining services, particularly in estimating the number of participants completing the clinical trials, when measuring provisions for such contracts with clinical research organizations.

Accounting for contract termination provisions

Contract termination provisions are established under certain conditions in the case of legal risks. Settlement and legal proceedings often raise complex issues and are subject to many uncertainties and complexities including, but not limited to, the facts and circumstances of each particular case. The outcome of any current or future proceedings cannot normally be predicted. The Group considers the need for accounting measures in respect of pending or future settlements for terminated contracts on the basis of the information available to its legal department and in close consultation with legal counsel acting for the Group. Where it is more likely than not that such settlement will result in an outflow of resources that is already reasonably estimable, a provision for settling terminated contracts is recorded in the amount of the present value of the expected cash outflows.

Accounting for determining the lease term of contracts with renewal options

The Group determines the lease term as the non-cancelable term of the lease, together with any periods covered by an option to extend the lease if it is reasonably certain to be exercised, or any periods covered by an option to terminate the lease if it is reasonably certain not to be exercised.

The Group has the option, under some of its leases to lease the assets for additional terms of five to ten years. The Group applies judgment in evaluating whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the option to renew. The Group considers all relevant factors that create an economic incentive for it to exercise the renewal.

After the lease commencement date, the Group reassesses the lease term if there is a significant event or change in circumstances that is within its control and affects its ability to exercise (or not to exercise) the option to renew (e.g., a change in business strategy).

The Group included the renewal period (five years) as part of the lease term for certain building lease arrangements. Optional lease payments from both of these aforementioned extension options not included in the measurement of the lease liability exist in a gross amount of EUR 34,300k (2020: 34,201k, 2019: 12,548k)

Estimating the incremental borrowing rate

In most cases, the Group cannot readily determine the interest rate implicit in the lease. Therefore, it uses its incremental borrowing rate (IBR) to measure lease liabilities. The IBR is the rate of interest that the Group would have to pay to borrow over a similar term, and with a similar security, the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment. The IBR, therefore, reflects what the Group “would have to pay,” which requires estimation when no observable rates are available (such as for subsidiaries that do not enter into financing transactions) or when they need to be adjusted to reflect the terms and conditions of the lease. The Group estimates the IBR using observable inputs (such as market interest rates, country risk premiums, and credit spreads) when available and is required to make certain entity-specific adjustments.

Changes in accounting policies and disclosures

Summary of significant accounting policies

This section describes significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented unless otherwise stated.

The below-listed amendments and interpretations apply for the first time in 2021, but do not have any impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Group:

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- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform - Phase 2, Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16
- COVID-19-related Rent Concessions, Amendment to IFRS 16

The Group has not early adopted any standards, interpretations, or amendments that have been issued but are not yet effective.

Standards issued but not yet effective

The following amendments will be adopted effective January 1, 2022, or at a later effective date, and are not expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Group:

- Amendments to IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts
- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts, including Amendments to IFRS 17
- Amendments to IAS 37 Onerous Contracts – Costs of Fulfilling a Contract
- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current (effective 1 January 2023)
- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations; IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment; IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets; Annual Improvements 2018-2020
- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2: Disclosure of Accounting policies
- Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors: Definition of Accounting Estimates

Impact of COVID-19

As the Group is currently devoting significant resources to the development of COVID vaccines, such development may impair the ability to timely progress other product candidates in clinical trials or into clinical trials from their current preclinical stage. In addition, enrollment in other programs may be delayed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and could have a negative impact on revenue recognition related to non-COVID-19 collaborations. For instance, the Group's flu program with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation was delayed. The partial disruption, even temporary, may negatively impact the Company's operations and overall business by delaying the progress of its clinical trials and preclinical studies. The Group's operations, including research and manufacturing, could also be disrupted due to the potential of the impact of staff absences as a result of self-isolation procedures or extended illness. However, the Group has taken a series of actions aimed at safeguarding its employees and business associates, including implementing a work-from-home policy for employees except for those related to its laboratory and production operations. The Group is running COVID Antigen tests on a weekly basis for employees on the premises.

3. Notes to the consolidated financial statements

3.1 Revenue from contract with customers

The Group recognized the following revenues in 2019, 2020 and 2021:

	December 31		
	2019 EUR k	2020 EUR k	2021 EUR k
Belgium			
GSK	—	8,809	74,298
Germany			
Boehringer Ingelheim	2,474	1,885	26,003
Others	104	—	—
Netherlands			
Genmab	—	2,628	1,770
Switzerland			
CRISPR	519	695	919
United States			
Eli Lilly	14,319	34,854	—
Total	17,416	48,871	102,990

Of these revenues, all of which were recognized over time as part of collaboration agreements, in 2021, EUR 79,827 k (2020: EUR 46,597k, 2019: EUR 5,777k) related to delivery of research services combined with an IP license (recognized from the upfront payments as further illustrated in the table below), EUR 457k (2020: EUR 556k, 2019: EUR 8,617k) related to delivery of products and EUR 22,706k (2020: EUR 1,718k, 2019: EUR 3,022k) were recognized from those research and development services considered distinct within the agreements.

GlaxoSmithKline

In July 2020, the Group entered a collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) for the research, development, manufacture and commercialization of mRNA-based vaccines and monoclonal antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens. In addition to an equity investment of EUR 150,000k as part of the 2020 Private Investment (see Note 8.2), GSK made a non-refundable upfront cash payment of EUR 120,000k which was deferred upon receipt and recognized as a contract liability. Additionally, the Group is eligible to receive a one-time reimbursable payment of EUR 30,000k for manufacturing capacity reservation, upon certification of CureVac's commercial scale manufacturing facility currently under construction in Germany as well as to receive development and regulatory milestone payments of up to EUR 320,000k, commercial milestone payments of up to EUR 380,000k and tiered royalties on product sales. GSK will fund R&D activities incurred by CureVac related to the development projects covered by the collaboration. CureVac will be responsible for the preclinical- and clinical-development through the Phase 1 trials of these projects, after which GSK will be responsible for further development and commercialization. CureVac will be responsible for the manufacturing of the product candidates, including for commercialization, and will retain commercialization rights for selected countries for all product candidates. Revenue is being recognized in accordance with the Company's accounting policy for collaboration arrangements with the exception that the upfront payment, attributable to the IP license, is being recognized straight-line from the effective date of the collaboration agreement through the estimated completion date of Phase 1 clinical trials, at which time GSK will be responsible for further development and commercialization. Refer to Note 20 Subsequent events for additional information regarding an additional collaboration agreement entered into with GSK following December 31, 2020. In the year ended December 31, 2021, EUR 47,148k (2020: EUR 8,809k) in revenue was recognized under the collaboration agreement with GSK, entered into in July 2020, for the research, development, manufacturing and commercialization of mRNA-based vaccines and monoclonal antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens.

Additionally, in April 2021, the Group entered into a new collaboration agreement with GSK, which we refer to as the GSK COVID Agreement, pursuant to which we are collaborating with GSK to research, develop and manufacture next-generation mRNA vaccines targeting the original SARS-CoV-2 strain as well as emerging variants, including multivalent and monovalent approaches (“GSK COVID Products”), such as the CureVac’s second-generation COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CV2CoV. These vaccine candidates may either be used to protect unvaccinated individuals or to serve as boosters in the event that SARS-CoV-2 immunity gained from an initial vaccination reduces over time. The GSK COVID Agreement was amended and restated in September 2021. Pursuant to the amendment in September 2021, CureVac and GSK are required to complete certain development activities with respect to the GSK COVID Products set forth in updated development plans. CureVac and GSK agree to decide whether the GSK COVID Products required for clinical studies will be manufactured by CureVac, GSK or jointly.

Under the GSK COVID Agreement, GSK has paid CureVac an upfront payment of EUR 75,000k. Under the terms of the 2020 GSK Agreement, CureVac granted GSK a worldwide exclusive, sublicensable (subject to certain conditions) license under certain of our intellectual property relating to vaccines and antibodies encoded by our proprietary mRNA targeting certain selected pathogens, or GSK Program Products, and a non-exclusive license under certain LNP technology to develop, manufacture and commercialize a certain number of such GSK Program Products for use in connection with the infectious diseases targeted under the 2020 GSK Agreement. CureVac also granted GSK an exclusive option, after a certain date, to obtain exclusive licenses to develop, manufacture and commercialize CVnCoV and boosters for such vaccine. CureVac and GSK agreed to equally share all development costs for GSK COVID Products, subject to certain exceptions. CureVac and GSK will share all net profits generated from sales of GSK COVID Products, other than certain products defined in the agreement as "Combination Products", under profit sharing arrangements that in certain cases vary depending upon the GSK COVID Product in question, the time of sale, the number of doses sold and the party to whom the sale is made. CureVac is eligible to receive tiered royalty payments ranging from a low-teen percentage to a mid-teens percentage on net sales of Combination Products, subject to certain customary reductions. Under the GSK COVID Agreement, CureVac have the right to commercialize GSK COVID Products in Austria, Germany and Switzerland and if CureVac exercises such right, CureVac’s sales of GSK COVID Products, other than Combination Products will be subject to the profit share and CureVac will be required to pay GSK a high-teen percentage royalty on net sales of all Combination Products in such countries. In the year ended December 31, 2021, EUR 27,150k (2020: EUR 0k) in revenue was recognized under the new collaboration with GSK, entered in April 2021.

Boehringer Ingelheim

In August 2014, the Group entered into an Exclusive Collaboration and License Agreement, which it refers to as the Boehringer Agreement, with Boehringer Ingelheim, whereby it granted Boehringer Ingelheim exclusive global rights for development and commercialization of its investigational therapeutic mRNA vaccine BI 1361849 (formerly CV9202) formulated with a legacy protamine technology. The Group received, in 2014, an upfront payment of EUR 30,000K, as well as, an option fee payment of EUR 5,000K and in 2018 an additional EUR 7,000K in development milestone payments, all of which are non-refundable and non-creditable in the event of expiry or termination of the agreement. In June 2021, Boehringer Ingelheim provided notice of its intention to terminate the Boehringer Agreement, with such termination to become effective on November 17, 2021. Upon termination of the Boehringer Agreement, the rights and licenses granted by the Group to Boehringer Ingelheim reverted back to the Group, provided that Boehringer Ingelheim has the right to sell off existing inventory of BI 1361849 for a certain period. In addition, Boehringer Ingelheim must assign to us all regulatory approvals or applications and grant us a non-exclusive, cost-free, perpetual and worldwide license to intellectual property held by Boehringer Ingelheim that has been used in the development, manufacture or commercialization of BI 1361849 or any other product developed under the Boehringer Agreement. As a result of the termination, the remaining contract liability, related to the upfront payment, was recognized over a shorter period through the termination date. In addition, the option fee payment of EUR 5,000k and the additional EUR 7,000k development milestone were recognized. Therefore, for the year ended December 31, 2021, EUR 26,003k (2020 1,885) was recognized as revenue related to this agreement.

CRISPR Therapeutics Development and License Agreement

In November 2017, we entered into a Development and License Agreement with CRISPR Therapeutics, which, as amended by an amendment entered into in June 2020, we refer to as the CRISPR Therapeutics Agreement, pursuant to which we will develop novel Cas9 mRNA constructs for use in gene editing therapeutics. CRISPR Therapeutics has paid us an upfront one-time technology access fee of USD 3 million, which is being recognized through the date of market entry of a product developed under the agreement. In the year ended December 31, 2021, EUR 919k (2020: EUR 695k, 2019: EUR 519k) in revenue was recognized under this agreement.

Genmab Collaboration and License Agreement

In December 2019, the Group entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement with Genmab, which we refer to as the Genmab Agreement, to research and develop up to four potential differentiated mRNA-based antibody products, to be selected by Genmab, based on the combination of our proprietary RNAntibody technology with Genmab's proprietary antibody technology for the treatment of human diseases. In partial consideration for entering into the Genmab Agreement, Genmab made a USD 20 million equity investment and paid us an upfront fee of USD 10 million, which is being recognized through the date of market entry of a product developed under the agreement. In the year ended December 31, 2021, EUR 1,770k (2020: EUR 2,628k) in revenue was recognized under this agreement.

Eli Lilly

In June 2020, the Group and Eli Lilly terminated their collaboration and the following agreements: License and Collaboration Agreement dated November 29, 2017, Early Clinical Supply Agreement dated July 5, 2018 and related Quality Agreement dated June 29, 2018. As a result, on the termination date, EUR 33,100k in contract liabilities from an upfront payment was recognized as no further associated performance obligations remained.

The Group has received upfront payments which were initially deferred and are subsequently recognized as revenue as the Group renders services over the performance period or upon termination of the agreement, when no services are provided anymore. Below is a summary of such payments and the related revenues recognized:

Customer	Upfront payments (in thousands)	Upfront payments included in contract liabilities at		Revenue recognized from upfront payments		
		December 31, 2020 (in thousands of Euro)	December 31, 2021 (in thousands of Euro)	2019	2020	2021
GSK	EUR 195,000	112,222	135,494	—	7,778	51,728
Boehringer Ingelheim	EUR 30,000	14,003	—	1,951	1,867	14,003
Genmab	USD 10,000 (EUR 8,937) *	7,150	5,362	—	1,787	1,787
CRISPR	USD 3,000 (EUR 2,524)*	1,549	1,239	310	310	310
Eli Lilly	USD 50,000 (EUR 42,200)*	—	—	3,516	34,855	—
BMBF	EUR 124,502 **	61,122	—	—	—	—
European Commission	EUR 450,000 **	450,000	—	—	—	—
Total		646,046	142,095	5,777	46,597	67,828

*Translated at the currency exchange rate prevailing on the transaction date

**Released as "Income from release of governmental contract liabilities" see Note 3.2.

Contract balances:

	December 31, 2020 EUR k	December 31, 2021 EUR k
Trade receivables	1,014	18,504
Contract assets	808	—
Contract liabilities	658,046	142,095

Contract liabilities include advances received from the Group's major license and collaboration agreements, from other customers and from the European Commission and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung), or BMBF.

The outstanding balances of these accounts decreased in 2021 mainly due to the release of the governmental contract liabilities (EC and BMBF/BMG) by EUR 574,502 (see Note 3.6.) partially compensated by an increase due to a GSK upfront payment of EUR 75,000k.

Contract liabilities allocated to the remaining performance obligations (unsatisfied or partially unsatisfied) as at year-end are as follows:

	Year ended December 31,	
	2020	2021
Within one year	157,985	55,750
More than one year	500,061	86,345
Total	658,046	142,095

Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally settled within 30 to 45 days.

As of December 31, 2021, the Group had three collaboration partners (2020: four) that owed 100% (2020: 100)% of all the receivables and contract assets outstanding. There was one collaboration partner (2020: two) with balances greater than 10% of the total amounts of receivable and contract assets.

The nature of expenses recognized in the functional categories of the statement of operations are as follows:

3.2 Cost of sales

The cost of sales consists of the following:

	2019	2020	2021
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Personnel	(9,855)	(2,896)	(22,159)
Materials	(7,542)	(1,598)	(46,250)
Third-party services	(7,268)	(2,652)	(145,515)
Maintenance and lease	(1,060)	(1,016)	(2,874)
Amortization, depreciation and derecognition	(2,038)	(5,913)	(21,262)
Other	(220)	(98)	(135)
Total	(27,983)	(14,173)	(238,195)

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, cost of sales increased compared to the same period of 2020 mainly due to activities for production processes for the Group's CVnCoV and CV2CoV vaccine candidate. The increase of EUR 224,022k in cost of sales was also driven primarily by recognition of expenses related to ineffective set-up activities of several contracted CMOs and, to a significantly lesser extent, write-offs related to inventory in the period preceding the withdrawal of the EMA application for CVnCoV.

3.3 Selling and distribution expenses

Selling and distribution expenses consist of the following:

	2019	2020	2021
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Personnel	(1,263)	(631)	(1,369)
Maintenance and lease	(167)	(1)	(1)
Amortization and depreciation	(81)	(98)	(86)
Other	(244)	(3)	(287)
Total	(1,755)	(733)	(1,743)

Personnel expenses mainly include salary and salary-related expenses of EUR 1,076k (2020: EUR 370k, 2019: EUR 520k) and expenses from share-based payments of EUR 293k (2020: EUR 261k, 2019: 743k). Refer to Note 9 for further information.

3.4 Research and development expenses

R&D expenses consists of the following:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Materials	(4,015)	(29,834)	(232,292)
Personnel	(14,385)	(21,313)	(33,733)
Amortization and depreciation	(474)	(2,578)	(4,259)
Patents and fees to register a legal right	(4,551)	(7,337)	(11,157)
Third-party services	(18,626)	(51,306)	(531,827)
Maintenance and lease	(670)	(717)	(347)
Other	(521)	(723)	(2,292)
Total	<u>(43,242)</u>	<u>(113,808)</u>	<u>(815,907)</u>

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, research and development expenses increased in comparison to the same period of 2020 mainly due to an increase in development expenses from the Group's CVnCoV program. These expenses consist primarily of cost incurred to CROs involved in the CVnCoV development. As of December 31, 2021, the Group had no development expenditures that met the requirements for capitalization. Related to the remaining costs for the CVnCoV studies a provision for onerous contracts was set up. The increase of EUR 702,099k was also driven by recognition of expenses related to onerous contract provisions related to CRO arrangements, to estimated costs of settling several terminated CMO contracts, and to write-offs of CVnCoV-related prepayments and inventory.

Personnel expenses mainly include salary and salary-related expenses of EUR 32,779k (2020: EUR 16,543k 2019: EUR 14,127k) and expenses from share-based payments of EUR 954k (2020: EUR 4,770k 2019: nil); Refer to Note 9 for further information.

3.5 General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses include the following:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Personnel	(31,645)	(29,884)	(37,393)
Maintenance and lease	(4,604)	(2,505)	(4,306)
Third-party services	(5,970)	(6,914)	(28,875)
Legal and other professional services	(2,110)	(3,531)	(9,230)
Amortization and depreciation	(2,182)	(6,020)	(8,895)
Other	(2,458)	(4,700)	(11,703)
Total	<u>(48,969)</u>	<u>(53,554)</u>	<u>(100,402)</u>

Personnel expenses mainly include salary and salary-related expenses of EUR 24,274k (2020: EUR 20,442k, 2019: EUR 13,083k) and expenses from share-based payments of EUR 13,119k (2020: EUR 9,442k, 2019: EUR 18,562k). During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, third-party services expenses increased, compared to the same period of 2020, mainly due to consulting services for product launch readiness. Other mainly consists of insurance expenses of EUR 6,749k (2020: EUR 1,401k, 2019: EUR 115k) and real estate transfer taxes of EUR 0k (2020: EUR 930k, 2019: nil).

3.6. Income from release of governmental contract liabilities

Advance Purchase Agreement with European Commission

On November 30, 2020, CureVac entered into an Advance Purchase Agreement (APA) with the European Commission (EC), acting on behalf and in the name of all Member States of the European Union. The APA provided for the advance purchase by the Member States of 225 million doses of our SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. In order to support our accelerated efforts to develop a safe and effective vaccine, the APA provided for support to our operations in the form up-front payments. The first up-front payment of € 450 million was paid by the EC on behalf of the Member States and was included in contract liabilities.

The second up-front payment would have had been due after the submission of the interim data package to the EMA in view of obtaining EC marketing authorization for CVnCoV. The up-front payments were designed to support the development and prepare the commercial supply of the vaccine.

In October 2021, we notified the EC of the withdrawal of our regulatory approval application for CVnCoV, which notification automatically terminated the APA. According to the APA, in such case of termination, CureVac would only return the unspent amount of the up-front payment. In the context of the APA, “spent” means either costs occurred, or commitments made in relation to the purpose as set out in the APA. CureVac was able to demonstrate that the up-front payment was used in accordance with the contract and no repayment was required.

As described above, CureVac recognized the consideration related to its delivery obligations, existing at the outset of the arrangement, as contract liabilities. Upon the automatic termination of the APA, the ability for CureVac to satisfy the contractual performance obligations of the arrangement ceased and the EC ceased to have the ability to exercise its rights for performance by the CureVac. As such, the substance of the arrangement changed from a revenue contract to that of a government grant. Due to the material magnitude of the amount, its non-recurring nature and to better enable comparability to past performance and predictability of future performance, CureVac recognized the €450 million into income in an additional line item “Income from release of governmental contract liabilities” in the statement of operations. The “spent” amounts incurred by CureVac, and which demonstrate use of the up-front payment, have been included in research and development expenses (refer to Note 3.4).

Additionally, CureVac will transfer, upon EC’s request any raw material and primary components paid for with the up-front payment and not used as of the termination date. Should the EC request any raw material and primary components or should CureVac successfully sell some of these, an applicable portion of raw material, primary components or proceeds will be forwarded to the EC. This agreement expires at the end of 2022.

German Federal Ministry of Education and Research

In 2020, the Company announced with the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung), or BMBF, a German government-related entity, established a grant to support the development and production of its COVID-19 vaccine candidates. In July 2020, CureVac applied for this grant as part of a special program to accelerate the research and development of urgently needed vaccines against SARS-CoV-2. The grant amounted up to EUR 252 million and the payments were contingent to reaching predefined milestones. Based on the terms and conditions of the arrangement, the Company assessed the arrangement as having two components: a grant component and a supply component. Both were separated. The amount attributed to the supply of future deliveries was determined based on the relative stand-alone selling price of the vaccine observed in similar arrangements and is presented in contract liabilities.

The Company reached all the predefined milestones for 2020. Due to the withdrawal of the EMA regulatory approval application for CVnCoV in October 2021, CureVac was not able to reach all predefined milestones in 2021. From 2020 to December 2021, CureVac received a total of € 196.3 million. In November 2021, CureVac notified BMG of the inability to supply CVnCoV, triggering the automatic termination of the supply agreement.

Consistent with the rationale and treatment described above under the APA with the EC, the substance of the supply component of the BMBF arrangement changed from a revenue contract to that of a government grant and thus, consistent with the presentation of the contract liabilities under the APA, CureVac recognized the EUR 124 million from the BMBF agreement as income in the line item “Income from release of governmental contract liabilities” and the corresponding expenses have been included in research and development expenses. The remaining amount of EUR 65 million, not related to the supply component, was reflected as grant income in “other operating income”. (Refer to Note 3.7).

3.7 Other operating income

Other operating income relates to:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Grants and other reimbursements from government agencies and similar bodies	5,385	23,736	66,394
Income from reversal of provisions	—	—	272
Other	<u>202</u>	<u>414</u>	<u>1,036</u>
Total	<u>5,587</u>	<u>24,150</u>	<u>67,702</u>

In 2021, 2020 and 2019 income from grants with government agencies and similar bodies resulted from the following:

German Federal Ministry of Education and Research

As discussed in Note 3.6, in 2020 the Company received a grant from BMBF to support the development of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate for which it was determined the arrangement contained two components: a grant component (in the scope of IAS 20) and a supply component (in the scope of IFRS 15). With regard to the grant component, as of December 31, 2020 the Group has recognized grant income in the amount of EUR 65,218k (2020 EUR 6,602k).

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations

The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) is an innovative partnership between public, private, philanthropic, and civil organizations, launched at the World Economic Forum in Davos in 2017, to develop vaccines to stop future epidemics. CEPI's priority diseases include Ebola virus, Lassa virus, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus, Nipah virus, Rift Valley Fever and Chikungunya virus. CEPI also invests in platform technologies that can be used for rapid vaccine and immunoprophylactic development against unknown pathogens (i.e., Disease X).

In February 2019, CureVac entered into a partnership agreement worth up to USD 34,000k with CEPI to further develop CureVac's The RNA Printer™ prototype. Under the three-year partnership agreement, CureVac will use its mRNA platform for the preclinical development of a Lassa virus vaccine (a high-priority disease on the World Health Organization R&D list), a yellow fever vaccine and CureVac's rabies virus vaccine. Funds are to be received semi-annually in advance, to cover costs for the next six months. These payments are allocated to the agreed and signed statements of work. Management concluded that the arrangement should be accounted for by analogy to IAS 20.

CureVac is required to use reasonable efforts to achieve certain development milestones and is responsible for conducting certain clinical trials. In the event of an infectious disease outbreak, where such outbreak can be addressed by a Lassa virus, SARS-CoV-2 or future vaccine developed under the agreement, CureVac must manufacture such vaccine for use in the area affected by the outbreak on economic terms that satisfy CEPI's equitable access guidelines or otherwise allow CEPI or a third party to supply such vaccine in the affected area.

CureVac is required to grant certain approved manufacturers all necessary rights to use certain of CureVac's pre-existing IP and IP developed under the CEPI Agreement to further develop CureVac's automation solution and manufacture products for the treatment of certain diseases in geographic areas where there is an outbreak on economic terms that satisfy CEPI's equitable access guidelines. CureVac must provide all necessary commercially reasonable support to such approved manufacturers to facilitate such efforts.

CureVac solely owns all IP developed under the CEPI Agreement but is required to obtain CEPI's consent prior to exploiting any IP developed under the CEPI Agreement if such exploitation is in conflict with or goes against CEPI's mission or policies.

In the event that CEPI terminates the agreement, CureVac will grant CEPI a license under CureVac's background IP and IP developed under the agreement to, among other things, develop and use CureVac's RNA Printer for use in treating certain infectious diseases and to manufacture products developed under the agreement.

In January 2020, CureVac and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) entered a collaboration to develop a vaccine against the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. The aim of the cooperation is to safely advance vaccine candidates into clinical testing as quickly as possible. The agreement builds upon the existing partnership between CureVac and CEPI to develop a rapid-response vaccine platform and included additional initial funding of up to USD 8,300k. In May 2020, CEPI increased its grant award to the Group for SARS-CoV-2 vaccine development to up to USD 15,300k.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, CureVac recognized the reimbursement of approved expenses of EUR 688k (2020: EUR 15,953k; 2019: EUR 3,607k) as "other operating income" and EUR 0k (2020: EUR 3,239k; 2019: EUR 2,325k) were deducted from the carrying amount of qualifying assets recorded in property, plant and equipment.

As of December 31, 2021, EUR 1,289k in grant funds received have been deferred and are presented within other liabilities (as of December 31, 2020: EUR 1,325k).

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

BMGF finances, in the form of grants, various programs that CureVac operates for the development of vaccines, hence promoting and accelerating the development of CureVac's technology platform. Through its equity investment, BMGF supports mainly the development of CureVac's technology platform including the construction of a production plant in accordance with the GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) standard on an industrial scale.

In 2015, CureVac entered into a Global Access Commitments Agreement with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pursuant to which the Company is required to take certain actions to support the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's mission.

In November 2016, in connection with the Global Access Agreement, CureVac received a grant of USD 653k (EUR 614k) in funding for the development of a vaccine for picornaviruses. In November 2017, also in connection with the Global Access Agreement, the company received two additional grants: an amount of USD 1,000k (EUR 852k) was received for the development of a universal influenza vaccine and an amount of USD 800k (EUR 673k) was received for a malaria vaccine. In August 2019, the Company received a second payment for the universal influenza program amounting to USD 540k (EUR 486k). In November 2020, the Company received a third payment for the universal influenza program amounting to USD 322k (EUR 280k). In November and December 2020, the Company received further payment for the malaria program amounting to USD 1,449k (EUR 1,208k).

During the year ended December 31, 2021 CureVac recognized EUR 488k (2020: EUR 1,183k 2019: EUR 768k) from the amortization of the grants on a straight-line basis and for services as other operating income.

As of December 31, 2021, EUR 1,879k in grant funds received have been deferred and presented within other liabilities (as of December 31, 2020: EUR 2,164k).

4. Fixed Assets

4.1 Development of intangible assets and property, plant and equipment and intangible assets

The development of intangible assets and property, plant and equipment for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

Intangible assets

(in thousands of EUR)	Software	Licenses	Advance payments	Total
<i>Acquisition costs</i>				
As of January 1, 2020	8,063	1,386	282	9,731
Additions	1,919	8,501	598	11,018
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Reclassifications	192	—	(192)	—
Currency translation	(2)	—	—	(2)
As of December 31, 2020	10,172	9,887	688	20,747
<i>Cumulative amortization and impairment charges</i>				
As of January 1, 2020	3,587	446	—	4,033
Amortization	913	1,656	—	2,569
Currency translation	(1)	—	—	(1)
As of December 31, 2020	4,499	2,102	—	6,601
<i>Acquisition costs</i>				
As of January 1, 2021	10,172	9,887	688	20,747
Additions	2,454	234	991	3,679
Disposals	—	—	(576)	(576)
Reclassifications	—	138	(138)	—
Currency translation	—	—	—	—
As of December 31, 2021	12,626	10,259	965	23,850
<i>Cumulative amortization and impairment charges</i>				
As of January 1, 2021	4,499	2,102	—	6,601
Amortization	1,466	2,545	—	4,011
Currency translation	—	—	—	—
As of December 31, 2021	5,965	4,647	—	10,612
<i>Carrying amount</i>				
As of January 1, 2020	4,476	940	282	5,698
As of December 31, 2020	5,673	7,785	688	14,146
As of December 31, 2021	6,661	5,612	965	13,238

Property, plant and equipment

(in thousands of EUR)	Buildings	Technical equipment and machines	Other equipment, furniture and fixtures	Assets under construction	Total
<i>Acquisition costs</i>					
As of January 1, 2020	6,844	17,052	5,901	39,229	69,026
Additions	5,690	4,622	3,772	14,522	28,606
Disposals	(77)	(839)	(398)	(5,579)	(6,893)
Reclassifications	7,493	1,549	9	(9,051)	—
Currency translation	—	—	(41)	—	(41)
As of December 31, 2020	19,950	22,384	9,243	39,121	90,698
<i>Cumulative depreciation and impairment charges</i>					
As of January 1, 2020	2,450	7,257	4,124	7,120	20,951
Depreciation	1,042	1,813	1,277	—	4,132
Disposals	(77)	(739)	(133)	—	(949)
Attributions	—	(23)	(1)	—	(24)
Currency translation	—	—	(17)	—	(17)
As of December 31, 2020	3,415	8,308	5,250	7,120	24,093
<i>Acquisition costs</i>					
As of January 1, 2021	19,950	22,384	9,243	39,121	90,698
Additions	3,353	28,047	2,228	98,071	131,699
Disposals	(4)	(10)	(15)	(7,123)	(7,152)
Reclassifications	3,973	1,553	—	(5,526)	—
Currency translation	—	—	38	—	38
As of December 31, 2021	27,272	51,974	11,494	124,543	215,283
<i>Cumulative depreciation and impairment charges</i>					
As of January 1, 2021	3,415	8,308	5,250	7,120	24,093
Depreciation	1,934	3,420	1,883	—	7,237
Impairment	—	—	—	22,810	22,810
Disposals	(1)	(2)	(15)	(7,120)	(7,138)
Attributions	—	—	—	—	—
Currency translation	—	—	17	—	17
As of December 31, 2021	5,348	11,726	7,135	22,810	47,019
<i>Carrying amount</i>					
As of January 1, 2020	4,394	9,795	1,777	32,109	48,075
As of December 31, 2020	16,535	14,076	3,993	32,001	66,605
As of December 31, 2021	21,924	40,248	4,359	101,733	168,264

In fiscal 2021, impairments of EUR 22,810k were included in the accumulated depreciation and impairment charges. These pertained largely to machinery and technical equipment recorded under assets under construction and resulted from the partial impairment of production lines which are obsolete due to the withdrawal of the EMA regulatory approval application for CVnCoV.

In fiscal 2020, EUR 5,579k was recognized as loss on derecognition. The planned capacity of the new production plant GMP IV was reassessed and management determined that certain capitalized costs, consisting mainly planning costs related to the previous design, and classified in assets under construction, were determined not to have any further economic benefit and therefore were derecognized from property, plant and equipment and were recognized as expense in cost of sales.

4.2 Right of use assets

Set out below, are the carrying amounts of the Group's right-of-use assets and the movements during the period:

	Right-of-use assets			Total EURk
	Land and Buildings EURk	Vehicles EURk	Other equipment EURk	
As of January 1, 2021	33,296	113	575	33,984
Additions	2,666	97	—	2,763
Disposals	(943)	—	—	(943)
Depreciation expense	(3,698)	(68)	(135)	(3,901)
Foreign currency translation	226	—	—	226
As of December 31, 2021	31,547	142	440	32,129

Below are the carrying amounts of lease liabilities and the movements during the period:

	EUR k
As of January 1, 2021	30,087
Additions	2,763
Disposals	(943)
Accretion of interest	1,729
Payments	(4,913)
Foreign currency translation	169
As of December 31, 2021	28,892
Current	3,469
Non-current	25,423

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities is disclosed in Note 15.

The following are the amounts recognized in the statement of operations:

	EUR k
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	(3,901)
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(1,729)
Expense relating to short-term leases (included in cost of sales)	(119)
Expense relating to leases of low-value assets (included in administrative expenses)	(39)
Total amount recognized in profit or loss	(5,788)

Set out below, are the carrying amounts of the Group's right-of-use assets and the movements of prior period:

	Right-of-use assets			Total EURk
	Land and Buildings EURk	Vehicles EURk	Other equipment EURk	
As of January 1, 2020	13,375	126	110	13,611
Additions	23,738	58	638	24,434
Disposals	—	—	(51)	(51)
Depreciation expense	(3,525)	(70)	(124)	(3,719)
Foreign currency translation	(292)	(1)	2	(291)
As of December 31, 2020	33,296	113	575	33,984

Below are the carrying amounts of lease liabilities and the movements during the period 2020:

	<u>EUR k</u>
As of January 1, 2020	14,130
Additions	19,310
Disposals	(42)
Accretion of interest	1,665
Payments	(4,661)
Foreign currency translation	(315)
As of December 31, 2020	30,087
Current	3,234
Non-current	26,853

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities is disclosed in Note 15.

The following are the amounts recognized in the statement of operations in 2020:

	<u>EUR k</u>
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	(3,719)
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(1,665)
Expense relating to short-term leases (included in cost of sales)	(48)
Expense relating to leases of low-value assets (included in administrative expenses)	(30)
Total amount recognized in profit or loss	(5,462)

Commitments for leases not yet commenced as of December 31, 2021, relate to a lease of technical equipment for GMP IV in Tuebingen, Germany over a 10-year term with fixed lease payments in the gross amount of EUR 3,904k with technical approval in the first year 2022 (and a respective earliest end date in 2032). In addition, optional lease payments for the renewal of this lease term for five-year extension option exist which could lead to further payments in a gross amount of EUR 291k. In addition to this agreement, in 2021 three new lease agreements of buildings in Tuebingen, Germany have been signed. One building has a fixed lease term of 24 month with starting date January 1, 2022 and two five-year extension options. The fixed gross lease-payments are EUR 78k and the optional payments EUR 517k. The second building is leased over a fixed term of 10 years having two 5 years extension options. The starting date of this lease will be between October 1st, 2022 and March 1st, 2023 and the fixed gross lease-payments are EUR 1,292k and the optional payments EUR 1,292k. The third lease agreement is starting on January 1, 2024 over fixed lease term of 15 years, having two five years extension options. The fixed gross lease-payments are EUR 28,975k and the optional payments EUR 26,556k.

4.3 Non-current other assets

Non-current other assets of EUR 1,731k (2020: EUR 6,322k) consist of costs to obtain a contract of EUR 515k (2020: EUR 1,034k) and deposit payments for leases of EUR 1,215k (2021: EUR 1,080k). In 2020 non-current other assets also included deposits paid for dedicated equipment for CureVac production at the CMOs of EUR 4,203k.

The amortization of capitalized costs to obtain a contract in 2021 was EUR 694k (2020: EUR 215k).

5. Inventories

Inventories include the following:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>EUR k</u>	<u>EUR k</u>
Raw materials / semi-finished goods	13,790	56,159
Finished goods	741	—
Total	14,531	56,159

Raw materials and semi-finished goods were written down by EUR 180,048k (2020: EUR 787k) due primarily to CVnCoV inventory, following the withdrawal of the EMA application, which was recognized in research & development expense. Finished goods, relating to our collaboration agreements, were written down by EUR 5,784k (2020: none) due to obsolescence and were recognized in cost of sales.

6. Other financial assets

Other financial assets as of December 31, 2021 amounted to EUR 4,647k (December 31, 2020: EUR 2,619k) mainly include deposits held by third parties in amount of EUR 1,936k (December 31, 2020: EUR 430k) and other receivables in the amount of EUR 2,711k (December 31, 2020: EUR 2,189k).

7. Prepaid expenses and other current assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets of EUR 49,244k (2020: 48,289k) mainly include prepayments for future service agreements (e.g., for the CROs and CMOs) and material in the amount of EUR 5,724k (2020: EUR 40,054k). As of December 31, 2021 we recorded tax receivables of EUR 35,234k as other current assets. This consists mainly of outstanding VAT refund claims of EUR 32,202k and other tax receivables of EUR 3,032k. As of December 31, 2020, the net amount of VAT is reflected in the other current liabilities. These net amounts of VAT refund claims and VAT payables do not bear interest and are reported to the tax authorities on a monthly basis. As of December 31, 2020, a receivable against the BMBF related to the grant in the amount of EUR 8,235k was included in the other current assets.

8. Equity

Overview

According to the Company's articles of association, the Company's authorized shares are divided into 386,250,000 common shares and 386,250,000 preferred shares, each having a nominal value of EUR 0.12. As of December 31, 2020, no preferred shares had been issued and all issued common shares issued and outstanding were fully paid. However, in certain events, BMGF has the right to require the Company to redeem or facilitate the purchase by a third-party of all common shares it holds and Genmab has the right to subscribe once for common shares at a certain price under an anti-dilution and down round-protection clause which expired in February 2022.

All payments received from shareholders in excess of the nominal value of the shares issued and net of transaction costs are recognized in capital reserves. Capital reserves also consists of recognition of share-based payments and the equity components of convertible loans. The Company may only make distributions, whether a distribution of profits or of freely distributable reserves, to shareholders to the extent shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the paid-in and called-up share capital plus any reserves required by Dutch law or by the Company's articles of association.

Due to the effect of the corporate reorganization described in Note 1, the number of shares issued and outstanding has been retrospectively adjusted to reflect the impact of the resulting 1:133.0778 share split and developed as follows in fiscal 2020:

Common shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2019	96,693,265
Genmab Investment	2,175,157
2020 Private Investment	55,688,535
Initial Public Offering and Private Placement	22,708,332
Share option exercises	3,195,276
Common shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2020	180,460,565
Follow-on public offering, incl. Greenshoe	5,750,000
Share option exercises	910,163
Common shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2021	187,120,728

No share transactions occurred in fiscal 2019 and, as such, the number of shares outstanding was unchanged as of December 31, 2019. The share transactions which occurred in fiscal 2020 and 2021 are as described below.

Genmab Investment

Pursuant to an Investment and Shareholders` Agreement ("ISA"), effective December 19, 2019, Genmab, agreed to purchase 2,175,157 Series B shares in the Company in exchange for EUR 20,000k in cash. As of December 31, 2019, the Group had received a total amount of EUR 16,345, corresponding to the par value of EUR 1 per share agreed to be purchased under the ISA. However, as the shares were not yet registered in the commercial register as of December 31, 2019, according to German law, the shares were not considered issued as of this date. The remaining amount of EUR 19,983,655 was paid at the beginning of 2020 and the shares were finally issued on February 18, 2020.

2020 Private Investment

In July 2020, the Group issued to Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (or "KfW", a German government-related entity), GSK and various other investors a total of 55,688,534 common shares in exchange for an aggregate investment of EUR 559,280k (2020 Private Investment).

Initial Public Offering and Private Placement

In August 2020, the Group completed its IPO whereby it sold 13,333,333 common shares at USD 16.00 per share. In addition, the underwriters exercised their option to purchase an additional 1,999,999 common shares at the public offering price less the underwriting discount. The aggregate proceeds, net of underwriting discounts, received by the Group from these transactions were USD 228,200k (EUR 192,946k). Additional offering costs for legal, accounting, printing and registration fees of USD 5,200k (EUR 4,397k) were recognized as a reduction to capital reserve against the proceeds from the IPO.

Additionally, in August 2020, DH-LT Investments GmbH, a company beneficially owned by Dietmar Hopp, managing director of dievini, the Group's largest shareholder, purchased EUR 100,000k of the Group's common shares at a price of USD 16.00 per share.

Follow-on public offering

In February 2021, the Group completed a follow-on public offering whereby it sold 5,000,000 common shares at a price of USD 90.00 per share. In addition, the underwriters exercised their option to purchase an additional 750,000 common shares at this same price less the underwriting discount. The aggregate proceeds, net of underwriting discounts, received by the Group from these transactions were EUR 426,652k. Additional offering costs for legal, accounting, printing and registration fees of EUR 22,590k were recognized as reduction to capital reserve against the proceeds from the offering.

Exercises of share options by the former CEO

Between August and October 2020, the Group's former CEO exercised 3,766,309 options against the issuance of 3,195,276 common shares of CureVac N.V. for no cash consideration (i. e., cashless exercise). Refer to Note 9 for additional information regarding this share-based payment. Between April and June 2021, the outstanding 100,000 options were exercised through the transfer of 92,738 own shares held (Treasury Shares).

Exercises of share options under the old VSOP plan

The IPO in August 2020 triggered an exercise event under the set terms of the old VSOP plan. In March 2021 CureVac received 759,677 shares from the old shareholders and handed over 390,023 shares to the participants of the old VSOP plan. CureVac withheld 369,654 shares equaling the amount to be paid for income tax and social security tax. Another triggering event, minimum trading volume and liquidity was met one year after IPO. In October CureVac received 765,223 shares from the old shareholders and handed over 523,897 shares to the participants of the VSOP plan. CureVac withheld 241,326 shares equaling the amount to be paid for income tax and social security tax. As of December 31, 2021, the company still held 168,322 treasury shares.

Exercises of share options under the new VSOP plan

Participants of the new VSOP plan were able to exercise their options throughout the year of 2021. In 2021 207,251 shares were issued and 349,920 options were fulfilled through the usage of the treasury shares held by CureVac.

Exercises of share options under the Legacy program

Three of the original founders used their granted 5,282 options from the legacy program and exercised their options throughout June until October 2021. The 5,282 options were restructured upon the completion of our Corporate Reorganization. Following this restructuring, the option holder was able to exchange his options for common shares of CureVac N.V. (instead of shares of CureVac AG) on a 1 to 133.0778 basis. Therefore, the exercise resulted in issuance of 702,915 shares.

Shareholders' Agreement Among KfW, dievini, DH-LT Investments GmbH and Dietmar Hopp

In connection with the KfW's investment as part of the 2020 Private Investment, KfW, dievini and Dietmar Hopp entered into a shareholders' agreement on June 16, 2020, or the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement, agreeing to certain transfer restrictions and rights of first refusal relating to their interests in CureVac, nomination rights, and a voting agreement relating to certain specified actions. In particular, dievini and Mr. Hopp agree to vote a specified number of their shares as directed by KfW on certain specified actions, subject to certain exceptions. These specified actions include, inter alia: (1) transferring the tax domicile of CureVac N.V. and/or the approval of the transfer of the corporate or administrative seat of CureVac; (2) relocating or ceasing activities in specified areas to a state outside the European Union to the extent (in particular in the area of the development of vaccines) they are material for the protection of the health of the population of the European Union; (3) entering into material mergers and acquisitions; and (4) amendments to the articles of association of CureVac which would affect the foregoing matters. The KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement has an initial fixed term that expires on December 31, 2023, subject to a right to extend for one year for the benefit of KfW and dievini, and may be terminated after the initial fixed term, or the extended term, if applicable, by either party subject to six months' notice prior the end of the applicable calendar year. In addition, the agreement shall automatically terminate if KfW sells all or a part of its interest in the Company to a third party, subject to certain exceptions. On August 14, 2020, DH-LT Investments GmbH joined the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement via a First Supplement Agreement to the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement and on January 13, 2022, the parties to the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement entered into a Second Supplement to the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement which revised certain of the parties' restrictions and rights with respect to transfer of the shares held by them. Moreover, triggered by transfer of certain shares from dievini to so-called "dievini Shareholders", on dievini's side certain additional parties entered into the KfW dievini Shareholders' Agreement.

9. Share-based payments

Amounts in this Note reflect the retrospective effect of the share split resulting from the corporate reorganization described in Note 1.

During the years ended December 31, 2021, December 31, 2020, and December 31, 2019, the Group operated the following share-based plans for members of management and other key employees of the Group, as well as members of the supervisory board:

- Virtual shares program I (Prior VSOP)
- Virtual shares program II (New VSOP) — for US employees
- LTIP stock options
- LTIP RSUs
- Former Chief Executive Officer Grant
- Legacy Plan

All programs were accounted for as equity-settled.

Measurement of the grant date fair value is based on valuation techniques appropriate in the circumstances, such as Black Scholes option pricing models or a Monte Carlo simulation. Expected volatility, a key input to such models, was based on an evaluation of the historical volatilities of comparable listed biotech-companies over the historical period commensurate with the expected option life. Regarding the expected option life of the stock option programs, this was based on the assumptions that the beneficiary would exercise his option in equal installments from the date of the first time possible (taking into account lock-up and potential trading windows restrictions) until maturity. The risk-free interest was derived from German or US-Government bonds, as appropriate.

Prior VSOP

Exercise and/or vesting of the Prior VSOP is dependent on the occurrence of specified exit events, such as IPO or trade sale, and/or additional contingent events, such as financing rounds, product approvals or minimum trading volumes and liquidity levels of the CureVac N.V. shares. Further exit events relating to the program can be settled in cash or shares.

As CureVac considered the IPO-scenario most probable at the end of fiscal 2019 and had the discretion and the stated intent to settle in shares instead of cash in the case of an IPO, CureVac accounted for this program as equity-settled as of December 31, 2019. In August 2020 the IPO materialized and confirmed the Group's settlement choice. The Prior VSOP has a term of nine years after the day of the Group's initial listing in the case of an IPO.

The development of the virtual shares in this program granted to management and key employees was as follows:

	2019	2020	2021
Outstanding at the beginning of the period	6,640,449	7,305,838	7,951,265
Granted during the period	665,389	658,735	0
Expired during the period	0	(13,308)	0
Exercised during the period	0	0	(1,524,900)
Outstanding at the end of the period	7,305,838	7,951,265	6,426,365
Thereof vested	7,305,838	7,582,906	6,365,422
Thereof exercisable	none	none	none

658,735 (2019: 665,389) virtual shares were awarded in May and June 2020 to 18 key employees.

As of December 31, 2019, none of the virtual shares of the Prior VSOP were exercisable because an exit event or capital market transaction had not occurred. The IPO on August 14, 2020, triggered the right to exercise 10 % of the vested virtual shares at the end of the lock-up period, which ended on February 10, 2021. Until March 10, 2021, the beneficiaries declared the exercise of all their then exercisable 759,677 virtual shares and CureVac received 759,677 shares from their former majority shareholders as of 2015, on that day. On March 11, 2021, CureVac transferred 390,023 shares to the exercising beneficiaries and withheld 369,654 (treasury) shares equal to the monetary value (approximately EUR 26 million) of the beneficiaries (wage) tax and social security obligations, which CureVac transferred to the relevant authorities on the exercising employee's behalf in cash.

The share price of CureVac on March 11, 2021, was EUR 69.69

All the remaining outstanding virtual shares can be exercised in full if there is a non-conditional drug approval. Furthermore, another 10 % portion of the (vested) virtual shares was exercisable on the first anniversary after IPO i. e., on August 14, 2021, because certain minimum trading volumes of the CureVac N.V. shares and liquidity levels were reached.

The beneficiaries declared the exercise of their then exercisable 765,223 virtual shares by October 18 and CureVac received 765,223 shares from the old shareholders on that day. On October 19, 2021, CureVac transferred 523,897 shares to the exercising beneficiaries and withheld 241,326 (treasury) shares equal to the monetary value (approximately EUR 8 million) of the beneficiaries (wage) tax and social security obligations, which CureVac transferred to the relevant authorities on the exercising employee's behalf in cash.

The share price of CureVac on October 19, 2021, was EUR 34.56

Expense recognized in the statement of operations and other comprehensive income (loss)

The expense recognized for share-based payment plans during the years ended 31, December is as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Selling and distribution expenses	—	(213)	(25)
Research and development expenses	—	(1,840)	(369)
General and administrative expenses	(6,074)	(3,135)	(230)
Total	<u>(6,074)</u>	<u>(5,188)</u>	<u>(624)</u>

Measurement of Fair Values

The grant date fair value of the 658,735 (2019: 665,389) virtual shares granted in May and June 2020 (2019: April 18, 2019) was derived from the estimated equity value of CureVac on these dates, which lead to a fair value of one virtual share of EUR 10.04 (2019: EUR 9.13) at that time.

New VSOP

Effective November 25, 2019, the Group granted 745,236 share options to key employees of CureVac Inc. under the New VSOP program. Furthermore, in the first quarter of fiscal 2020, the Group granted another 267,822 share options. The share options have an exercise price of USD 6.21.

The awards vest over a period of four years, which starts on the date the awardee was hired by the Group, with 25% vesting after 12 months and the rest in monthly installments. The awards have a term of 10 years.

In addition, the Group set up a provision for employer taxes arising according to US regulations for future exercises of EUR 147k as of December 31, 2021 (2020: EUR 1,052k).

Measurement of Fair Values

An advanced Black-Scholes Model (Enhanced American Stock Option Model) has been used to measure the fair value at the grant date of November 25, 2019.

For the grants in the first quarter of 2020, the same model has been used as in fiscal 2019. The inputs used in the measurement of the fair value at grant date were as follows:

The inputs used in the measurement of the fair value at grant dates in the first quarter of 2020 were as follows:

	Grant Date	
	<u>Q4 2019</u>	<u>Q1 2020</u>
Weighted average fair value	EUR3.80	EUR4.05
Weighted average share price	EUR9.19	EUR8.91
Exercise price (USD 6.21)	EUR5.64	EUR5.60
Expected volatility (%)	50.0 %	55.0 %
Expected life (years)	1.16	1.11
Risk-free interest rate (%)	1.77 %	1.79 %

The remaining life of the option awards as of December 31, 2021 is between 3.7 and 8.5 years (2020: range between 4.7 and 9.2 years; 2019: range between 5.7 and 9.9 years).

Reconciliation of outstanding awards

The number of awards in this program granted to key employees developed as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Outstanding at the beginning of the period	—	745,236	906,595
Granted during the period	745,236	267,822	—
Forfeited during the period	—	(106,462)	—
Exercised during the period	—	—	(557,171)
Outstanding at the end of the period	<u>745,236</u>	<u>906,595</u>	<u>349,424</u>
Thereof vested	<u>175,397</u>	<u>420,595</u>	<u>88,464</u>
Thereof exercisable	none	none	88,464

As of December 31, 2019, none of the awards were exercisable because an exit event or capital market transaction had not occurred. With the defined exit event “financing round” before the IPO the awards became exercisable, but none of them were exercised. As the IPO had taken place on August 14, 2020, shortly after the “financing event” before the IPO, the awards became subject to the lock-up period, which is 180 days after the initial listing, i. e. on February 10, 2021. Hence, as of December 31, 2020, none of the awards were exercisable. In 2021 multiple exercises happened throughout the year. In total 557,171 options were exercised with an average share price of 61.28 USD. These exercises led to CureVac having to pay an amount of USD 493k employer taxes and to use USD 981k of the provision booked in 2020.

Before the financial statements were authorized for issue, a total of 98,831 options were exercised from January up to beginning of April. For these exercises Treasury shares were used. These exercises have led to employer taxes in the amount of USD 43k which have to be paid by CureVac and have been provided for as of December 31, 2021 (2020: USD 1,144k).

Expense recognized in the statement of operations and other comprehensive income (loss)

The expense recognized for employee services received during the years ended December 31, 2021, December 31, 2020, and 2019 is shown in the following table:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>EUR k</u>	<u>EUR k</u>	<u>EUR k</u>
Research and development expenses	(258)	(1,421)	(349)
Selling and distribution expenses	(743)	(296)	(188)
General and administrative expenses	(79)	(47)	(35)
Total	<u>(1,080)</u>	<u>(1,764)</u>	<u>(591)</u>

Long-Term Incentive Plan (LTIP)

On November 16, 2020, CureVac granted 266,155 options to the Chief Scientific Officer (CSO). Furthermore, on December 1, 2020, CureVac granted 266,156 options (in 3 tranches) to the company’s Chief Business Officer (CBO) and Chief Commercial Officer (CCO). All grants were made at no cost under the terms of a new long-term incentive plan put in place by Curevac N.V. Options will be settled in shares of Curevac N.V.

Options granted to the CSO have an exercise price of EUR 10.04 per share option and an expiration date of July 14, 2030. The exercise price was based on value of the shares at entry date of the CSO. The award vests over a period of four years, with 25% vesting after 12 months and the rest in 1/36 monthly installments thereafter. Exercise is contingent to a share price increase of 20%, based on the 10 day VWAP at time of exercise.

Options granted to the CBO / CCO have been granted in 3 tranches vesting over 1 to 3 years, with exercise prices applicable to future tranches being estimated. The exercise price of the first tranche is EUR 43.87 (USD 52.96). The exercise prices for future installments, 2021 and 2022, were estimated to be EUR 81.48 (USD 98.36) and EUR 81.65 (USD 98.57). For the second tranche the

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actual exercise price in fiscal year 2021 was determined to be EUR 33.07 (USD 39.92). The tranches have a term of 10 years. Exercise of all three tranches is contingent on a share price increase of 10 %, based on a 10 day VWAP at the time of each exercise

On July 1, 2021, CureVac granted 20,000 options to the Chief Operations Officer (COO). Furthermore, on August 1, 2021, CureVac granted 30,000 options to the Chief Development Officer (CDO). All grants were made at no cost under the terms of the new long-term incentive plan (LTIP) put in place by Curevac N.V. Options will be settled in shares of Curevac N.V.

Options granted to the COO have an exercise price of EUR 70.92 (USD 84.03) per share option and an expiration date of July 2, 2026. The exercise price was based on the 20 day VWAP of the shares at entry date of the COO. The award vests over a period of four years, with 25% vesting after 12 months and the rest in 1/36 monthly installments thereafter. Exercise is contingent to a share price increase of +20%, based on the 10 day VWAP at time of exercise.

Options granted to the CDO have, an exercise Price: EUR 46.16 (USD 54.79) per share option and an Expiration Date: August 2, 2026. The exercise price was based on the 20 day VWAP of the shares at entry date of the COO. The award vests over a period of four years, with 25% vesting after 12 months and the rest in 1/36 monthly installments thereafter. Exercise is contingent to a share price increase of +20%, based on the 10 day VWAP at time of exercise.

For the grants to the CSO, CBO/CCO, COO and CDO, a Monte Carlo simulation has been used to measure the fair value at the relevant grant dates. The inputs used in the measurement of the fair value at grant date were as follows:

- For the grant to the CSO

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR57.40
Weighted average share price (10-days VWAP before grant date)	EUR50.01
Exercise price (USD 11.90)	EUR10.04
Expected volatility (%)	62.06 %
Expected life (years)	1.82
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.07 - 1.48 %

- For the grant to the CBO/CCO

First tranche:

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR48.27
Weighted average share price (actual 10-days VWAP before grant date, USD 81.03)	EUR67.12
Exercise price (USD 52.96)	EUR43.87
Expected volatility (%)	62.27 %
Expected life (years)	1.78
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.07 - 1.50 %

Second tranche:

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR24.36
Weighted average share price (estimated by Monte Carlo simulation to be USD 98.36)	EUR81.48
Exercise price (estimated by Monte Carlo simulation to be USD 98.36)	EUR81.48
Expected volatility (%)	62.27 %
Expected life (years)	2.23
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.07 - 1.50 %

Third tranche:

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR20.01
Weighted average share price (estimated by Monte Carlo simulation to be USD 98.57)	EUR81.65
Exercise price (estimated by Monte Carlo simulation to be USD 98.57)	EUR81.65
Expected volatility (%)	62.27 %
Expected life (years)	2.66
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.07 - 1.50 %

For the grant to the COO

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR17.56
Weighted average share price (20-days VWAP before grant date)	EUR56.51
Exercise price (USD 84.03)	EUR70.92
Expected volatility (%)	70.95 %
Expected life (years)	4.5
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.099 – 0.903 %

For the grant to the CDO

Weighted average fair value per option	EUR17.56
Weighted average share price (20-days VWAP before grant date)	EUR41.81
Exercise price (USD 54.79)	EUR46.16
Expected volatility (%)	75.13 %
Expected life (years)	4.6
Risk-free interest rate (%)	0.075 – 0.704 %

At December 31, 2021, none of the totals of 50,000 options granted to the COO and CDO under the LTIP were vested and hence, not exercisable yet.

The expense recognized for employee services received under the LTIP during the years ended December 31, 2021, is in an amount of EUR 12,472k (2020:EUR 4,736k) is included in general and administration expenses.

Grant to Former Chief Executive Officer

In 2019, CureVac granted 3,866,309 options to Dan Menichella, then Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of CureVac from June 20, 2018, to March 10, 2020, with an exercise price of USD 8.28 per share option.

2,819,120 of these options vested in 2019 and the remainder in 2020. Except for 100,000 options, all options were exercised in 2020 against the issuance of 3,195,276 common shares of CureVac NV for no cash consideration. The weighted average share price at the date of exercises was USD 114.0345 (EUR 93.765) in fiscal 2021 and USD 55.22 (EUR 46.72) in fiscal 2020. The outstanding 100,000 options were all exercised as of June 30, 2021.

An advanced Black-Scholes Model (Enhanced American Stock Option Model) has been used to measure the fair value at the grant date of October 14, 2019. The inputs used in the measurement of the fair value at grant date were as follows:

Weighted average fair value	EUR3.87
Weighted average share price	EUR9.19
Exercise price (USD 8.28)	EUR7.50
Expected volatility (%)	50.0 %
Expected life (years)	4.77
Risk-free interest rate (%)	1.71 %

In FY 2020, EUR 2,551k (2019: EUR 12,409k) were recognized as expense in general and administrative expenses. Employer taxes were expensed and paid upon exercise under US regulations amounting to USD 139k in 2021 (2020: EUR: 2,033k expensed and paid or payable). These exercises led to CureVac having to pay an amount of USD 139K employer taxes and the use USD 146K of the provision booked in 2020.

Legacy plan

Under the terms of a legacy plan, at January 1, 2019, three members of (former) management held 702,917 of share options outstanding and exercisable. These share options grant the holder the right to acquire shares of CureVac AG at nominal value and are classified as equity-settled share-based payments.

All options were exercised in 2021.

No expenses have been recognized during the years ended December 31, 2021, 2020 and December 31, 2019 under this program.

Restricted Stock Units (RSUs)

In 2021, as part of the LTIP program, the group awarded RSUs (restricted stock units) to senior executives as well as supervisory board members.

On June 24th, 2021, the group awarded 10,956 RSUs to supervisory board members and on December 23, 2021, the group awarded 63,095 RSUs to the executive board and various key employees. These RSU awards vest over 3 years with one third vesting taking place each year on December 31, 2021. One third of these RSU awards had vested as of December 31, 2021.

In addition, as of July 1, 2021, the group also awarded 4,691 special RSU awards. These special RSU awards vest over 12 months and are fully vested as of December 31, 2021.

The RSU program is accounted for by recognizing the related expense over the vesting period of the award, with corresponding increases recorded in equity. The expense is based on the fair value determined at the grant date of the award and the number of awards expected to vest. The fair value remains unchanged after grant date. Once the award has vested, there is no reversal of expense related to the award.

Expenses for employer taxes arising upon the delivery of RSUs are recognized in profit or loss.

The related RSU expense is recorded in the functional cost category to which the award recipient's costs are classified.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Research and development expenses	—	—	(240)
Selling and distribution expenses	—	—	(82)
General and administrative expenses	—	—	(383)
Total	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(705)</u>

10. Trade and other payables

Trade payables and other payables are all due within one year and include the following:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k
Trade payables	17,623	122,263
License fees payable	537	38
Miscellaneous liabilities	3,525	5,402
Total	<u>21,685</u>	<u>127,703</u>

The significant increase of Trade Payables refers to invoices received before fiscal year end mainly for raw materials and CMO services. There is no concentration of risk.

Miscellaneous liabilities consist mainly of withholding taxes of EUR 499k (2020: EUR 88k) and of payroll-related taxes and social-security liabilities of EUR 4,802k (2020: EUR 1,178k).

11. Other liabilities

Other current liabilities include the following:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	EUR k	EUR k
Personnel accrued liabilities (e.g. bonus, vacation)	5,871	7,210
Grants from government agencies and similar bodies	36,063	3,167
Outstanding invoices	7,577	35,242
Professional fees	511	1,183
VAT and other taxes (real estate transfer taxes)	12,268	924
Provision for onerous contracts	—	40,455
Contract termination provisions	—	81,587
Other	2,036	305
Total	<u>64,326</u>	<u>170,073</u>

In fiscal 2021, EUR 66,394k (2020:EUR 23,736k) of the grants from government agencies and similar bodies were recognized as other operating income. The increase of the accrued liability for outstanding invoices was mainly driven by the receipt of materials/services under the CMO agreements.

The provision for onerous contracts relates to the CRO agreements and is expected to be used within one year from December 31, 2021. All amounts recognized as of December 31, 2021 arose during the year and no such provisions were utilized or reversed during the year. As described in Note 2, for onerous contract provisions relating to CRO agreements, judgment is required in estimating the cost of the remaining services, particularly in estimating the number of participants completing the clinical trials; the amount of the outflow of resources to settle the obligations to which this provision relates may vary from the provision amount recognized as of December 31, 2021 due to potential variability in the actual costs billed by CROs for their services and for pass-through activities.

Contract termination provisions relate to amounts which the Company expects to pay out to settle its obligations under certain CMO contracts which it has terminated or anticipates terminating. All amounts recognized as of December 31, 2021 arose during the year and no such provisions were utilized or reversed during the year. As described in Note 2, judgment is required in estimating these amounts. The amount of the outflow of resources to settle the obligations to which these provisions relates may vary from the provision amount recognized as of December 31, 2021 due to potential variability in the amount required to be paid to ultimately release the Company from its remaining obligations under the CMO contracts, including as a result of arbitration decisions. Contract terminations provisions are expected to be used within one year from December 31, 2021. Refer to Note 20 Subsequent events for additional information regarding a change in a contract termination provision following December 31, 2021.

The accrued liability for other taxes consists of real estate transfer taxes in the amount of EUR 924k (2020: EUR 924k).

12. Loans

As of December 31, 2019, CureVac had been granted two convertible loan facilities (i.e., First Loan and Second Loan) by Dietmar Hopp. On June 26, 2020, CureVac drew down the second tranche of the Second Loan in the amount of USD 26,800k (EUR 24,860k). On July 24, 2020, the First Loan and Second Loan were terminated and on August 7, 2020, the total principal of EUR 94,749k and total accrued interest of EUR 5,641k were repaid in full. During the year ended December 31, 2020, EUR 11,008k of interest expense, inclusive of EUR 5,194k which resulted from the early termination of the First Loan and Second Loan (December 31, 2019: EUR 11,960k), was recognized.

On June 27, 2020, CureVac signed a financing arrangement with the European Investment Bank, or EIB, under which EIB agreed to provide the Company with a line of credit in an amount of up to EUR 75 million for the partial financing of CureVac's clinical developments and large-scale production of the infectious disease vaccine candidates including a vaccine against SARS-CoV-2, or the Investment, provided that the amount of financing does not exceed 50% of the cost of the Investment. The EIB financing is available in three tranches of at least EUR 15 million and up to EUR 25 million upon completion of pre-defined milestones. These pre-defined milestones are tied to evidence of successful progress in the development and large-scale production of CureVac's vaccine candidate against SARS-CoV-2. In addition, the disbursements of the second and third tranches are contingent upon the occurrence of the disbursement of the first and second tranches, respectively. Each tranche is due 7 years from the disbursement date. The EIB loan requires fixed remuneration at an interest at a rate of 0.5% per annum. Additionally, the loan agreement requires CureVac to pay variable remuneration depending on the output produced in the Company's GMP IV manufacturing facilities, which is EUR 200k per batch, up to an aggregate remuneration cap of EUR 75 million, on batches produced during the "Remuneration Period" beginning the earlier of the first financial year when CureVac AG has a positive EBITDA or in 2025 and extending for a period of 12 years thereafter. Payment of the variable remuneration is due on the first March 31st of the Remuneration Period and then each following March 31st, thereafter, in the Remuneration Period. The loan agreement provides CureVac an option to buy-out the variable remuneration by paying an amount equal to the higher of €5 million and 150-190% of the outstanding principal of the loan, depending on the number of years following the initial disbursement under the loan, but in any case, limited to an aggregate remuneration cap of EUR 75 million.

CureVac was subject to several restrictive covenants on its business activities as described in the financing agreement, including limitations on certain merger and acquisition transactions, disposition of certain assets, and mandatory maintenance of assets related to the Investment. In November 2020, a land charge (lien) amounting to EUR 75 million was registered in favor of the EIB to secure the loan. The EIB may demand, without prior notice, the immediate repayment of outstanding principal together with any accrued interest upon certain events including, among others, the Company's failure to continue the development of its Investment following a grace period.

As of December 31, 2020, CureVac had drawn the first of the three tranches and, thus, EUR 25 million (plus accrued interest of EUR 189k) was outstanding on the loan as of that date.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, CureVac decided to early terminate the EIB loan for a total cash consideration of EUR 26,633k, which comprises of EUR 25,000k repayment of the loan and 1,633k interest and fees. As of December 31, 2021 the EIB loan was fully repaid.

13. Income tax

CureVac has tax losses in Germany that are available indefinitely for offsetting against future taxable profits of the companies in which the losses arose. Under German tax law, tax profits in a given year can be offset against tax loss carryforwards up to an amount of EUR 1,000k. 60% of tax profit in excess of this amount can be offset against any remaining tax loss carryforwards. As a result, 40% of the profits in excess of EUR 1,000k are subject to taxation.

The CureVac Group has three foreign entities:

- CureVac Inc. is an U.S.-based company

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- CureVac Beteiligungsverwaltungs AG is an Austria-based company
- CureVac Swiss AG is a Switzerland-based company

With the exception of those companies, all other CureVac' Group entities are considered Germany entities for tax purposes.

Tax loss carryforwards are examined by the German taxation authorities and may be adjusted. Furthermore, significant changes in the shareholder and company structure can lead to a reduction in the loss carryforwards under the current provisions of German tax law, which can be used to calculate the annual amount for offsetting against the future taxable income.

In fiscal 2021, 2020 and 2019, the Group recorded a consolidated income tax benefit and expense of EUR 782k, EUR 726k and EUR 252k, respectively. The income tax benefit in fiscal 2021 results from current income tax expenses of EUR 1033k (2020: EUR 403k and 2019: EUR 203k) and deferred tax income (in 2019: expenses) on taxable temporary differences of EUR 1,815k (2020: EUR 2,843k and 2019: EUR 656k). In fiscal 2021, the Group further recorded deferred tax liabilities of EUR 0k (2020: EUR 39k and 2019: EUR 2,212k) related in prior years to taxable temporary differences on the equity component of the convertible loans recognized in capital reserve. In fiscal 2021 the Group recognized deferred tax assets related taxable temporary differences arising from share-based-payments of EUR 581k (2020: EUR 1,012k) through equity. For outside basis differences of EUR 2,089k (2020: EUR 972k and 2019: EUR 770k) which are indefinitely reinvested and associated with investments in subsidiaries, deferred tax liabilities have not been recognized.

The significant components of income tax for the years ending December 31, 2021, 2020 and 2019 were as follows:

Tax reconciliation:

	2019	2020	2021
	EUR k	EUR k	EUR k
Loss before tax	(100,125)	(129,848)	(412,498)
Expected tax benefit (based on statutory tax rate of 29.48% in 2021 and 29.13% for 2020 and 2019)	29,162	37,818	121,584
Adjustments in respect of current income tax of previous years		18	0
Adjustments in respect of deferred income tax of previous years		160	0
Effects from Recognition or Non-Recognition of DTA through Equity		(1,012)	(581)
Effects of (Non-) Recognition of tax loss carryforwards recognized in prior years		(1,716)	0
Effects from differences between Group and local tax rates	8	8	(8)
Effects resulting from non-recognition of tax loss carryforwards	(22,836)	(30,168)	(114,999)
Effects resulting from non-recognition of DTA/DTL	—	(179)	(7,363)
Non-recognition of DTA for deductible temporary differences from SBP this year		(2,946)	0
Non-deductible expenses for tax purposes			0
- Effects from non-deductible share-based-payments	(5,698)		0
- Effects from (additions / deductions) for local trade taxes	(191)	(63)	(176)
- Other non-deductible expenses / including "Zinsschranke"	(78)	(1,154)	(101)
Other effects	(114)	(39)	2,426
Effective tax benefit / (expense)	252	726	782

Deferred taxes

Deferred taxes relate to the following:

	December 31, 2020 EUR k	December 31, 2021 EUR k
Intangible assets	(4)	(5)
Property, plant and equipment	(1,075)	(2,136)
Right of use-assets	(8,458)	(9,420)
Other assets	(303)	(153)
Inventories	44	0
Trade Receivables	19	151
Contract assets	(235)	0
Other financial assets	—	0
Other current assets	(286)	1,215
Cash and cash equivalents	(2,091)	(308)
Assets	(8,207)	(10,656)
Share-based payments	—	—
Lease liabilities (non-current portion)	7,774	7,445
Financial liabilities / Convertible Loan	—	—
Other Non-current financial liabilities	53	0
Other non-current liabilities	(43)	(130)
Trade and other payables	434	(229)
Lease liabilities (current portion)	934	1,011
Other liabilities	(320)	22,237
Liabilities	8,830	30,334
Deferred Taxes on temporary differences	624	19,678
Non-Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets (DTA) on temporary differences	(1,391)	(19,881)
DTA on deductible temporary differences Share-based Payment	1,212	2,769
Deferred Taxes on loss carryforwards	—	294
Deferred Taxes Total	445	2,861

The following unused tax losses for which no deferred tax asset is recognized in the statement of financial position had been carried forward as of the end of the reporting periods:

<u>Tax loss carryforwards</u>	2019 EUR k	2020 EUR k	2021 EUR k
Unused tax losses for corporate income tax	407,434	775,956	1,181,225
Unused tax losses for trade tax	405,123	773,165	1,176,844
Unused interest carryforward ("Zinsschranke")	—	3,627	2,879

DTA's for temporary differences in the amount of EUR 18.5 million are valued to zero at the year end 2021 because they are not recoverable. Most of those DTA results from differences in accruals between IFRS and German Tax GAAP.

There is an effect in the taxable income of EUR 14,3 million in 2021 between only IFRS related expenses which are not considered in the German Tax GAAP losses.

The main reasons for the increase in the unused tax loss carryforwards for corporate income and trade tax can be explained as follows:

Due to the corporate restructuring and the exit event triggered by the IPO for the several share based payments becoming exercisable in 2020 (or later) as described in detail in Note 9. share-based payments, at the first time in fiscal 2020, CureVac recognized expenses in 2020 in the amount of approximately EUR 245.3 million in its financial statements according to local GAAP and German income tax purposes. From this amount, only approx. EUR 18.9 million were recognized in 2020 cumulatively through profit or loss in the consolidated financial statements according to IFRS until fiscal year-end 2020. The difference of EUR 226.4 million in 2020 has and will not affect profit or loss in the consolidated financial statements according to IFRS. In the case of recognition of a deferred tax asset arising from this part of the tax loss carryforward, this amount would be credited against equity according to IAS 12.68A-C. Furthermore, in fiscal year 2020 EUR 18.9 million transaction costs in respect of the capital increases as described in detail in Note 8. Equity were debited to capital reserves. These amounts were tax-deductible according to German income tax regulations. In the case of recognition of a deferred tax asset arising from this part of the tax loss carryforward, this amount would be credited against capital reserves.

The following deductible temporary differences for which no deferred tax asset is recognized in the statement of financial position had been carried forward as of the end of the reporting periods:

<u>Deductible temporary differences</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>EUR k</u>	<u>EUR k</u>	<u>EUR k</u>
Not recognized over P&L	—	109,272	163,607
Not recognized over equity	—	415,018	110,749

The amounts disclosed above (in respect of the development of deductible temporary differences not recognized) also result mainly from share-based payments as described in Note 9 share-based payments. These programs will become tax-deductible according to German income tax regulations upon exercise. The reported amount “Not recognized over P&L” is the amount that has been cumulatively expensed in CureVac’s consolidated financial statements according to IFRS until December 31, 2021, for these programs (less the amounts for which deferred tax assets have been recognized) with appr. EUR 14.3 million relating to fiscal 2021 (2020: EUR 10.1 million) and the remainder to prior periods. The reported amount “Not recognized over equity” represents the amount that would be credited against equity according to IAS 12.68A-C (less the amounts for which deferred tax assets have been recognized).

An amount of EUR 2,769 k is shown as a DTA for anticipated losses of the SBP which will reduce the current tax in the next year when they options will be exercised.

The reported amount of “Not recognized over equity” may significantly fluctuate depending on the share price of CureVac which itself would lead to another allocation of the deferred tax asset recognized through profit or loss or equity. The same considerations apply to the deferred tax asset recognized for unused tax loss carryforwards. Hence, there might be significant changes in the allocation of deferred tax assets to be recognized through profit or loss or equity in the future which might lead to significant volatilities in the P&L line item income taxes solely due to the changes in the share price of CureVac. Due to the enacted increases in the trade tax levy rate by the city council of Tuebingen as of April 13, 2021, in the case of the full recognition of deferred tax assets and deductible temporary differences not recognized as of December 31, 2020, the effects on deferred tax assets would be approximately EUR 4.6 million, which would be credited by 51% to equity and 49% to profit or loss.

Deferred tax assets on tax loss carryforwards and deductible temporary differences in excess of taxable temporary differences have not been capitalized as management concluded that there is not sufficient probability as per IAS 12 that there will be future taxable profits available in the foreseeable future against which the unused tax losses can be utilized. The accumulated unused tax losses relate entirely to Germany.

14. Earnings per share

Amounts in this Note reflect the retrospective effect of the share split resulting from the corporate reorganization described in Note 1.

Earnings per share is calculated by dividing the consolidated net loss of CureVac N.V. by the weighted average number of shares outstanding in the fiscal period.

There were no share issuances in fiscal 2019 and, therefore, the weighted average number of shares outstanding was 96,693,265 in that period. The weighted average number of shares outstanding in fiscal 2020 was 132,195,792. The weighted average number of shares outstanding in fiscal 2021 was 186,012,586. This has led to basic loss per share of EUR 1.03, EUR 0.98 and EUR 2.21 for fiscal 2019, 2020 and 2021, respectively.

CureVac has several instruments, including contingently issuable shares, that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future, but are not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share because they are antidilutive for the period presented.

15. Disclosure of financial instruments and management of financial risks

General information

CureVac is exposed to certain financial risks with respect to its assets and liabilities and the transactions associated with its business model. These risks generally relate to credit risks, liquidity risks and market risks (including currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk).

The aim of risk management is to limit the potential negative impact on expected cash flows and take advantage of any opportunities that arise. As a result, the management of CureVac assesses at least once a year whether risks have changed and whether the measures in place to limit risk are still sufficient.

Credit risk

Credit risk is managed by CureVac's finance department. Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets, including deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to customers, including outstanding receivables and contract assets. Cash deposits and investments are placed only with reputable financial institutions with a credit rating of not less than A- (Standard & Poor's), A3 (Moody's) or A- (Fitch).

CureVac is exposed to bank default and concentration risk as its cash is concentrated at few financial institutions. The high cash total as of December 31, 2021 led to a concentration risk. Management therefore decided to pool 13% of the cash at Germany's largest private bank and 71% at a major German Landesbank. The focused cash management structure with few banks allows enhanced bank risk supervision. The market capitalization of all listed banks is regularly reviewed. Credit risk is further limited by investing only in liquid instruments.

CureVac is also exposed to a credit risk for all receivables and contract assets. Counterparty credit limits are reviewed by CureVac's Management Board on an annual basis and may be updated throughout the year. The limits are set to minimize the concentration of risks and therefore mitigate financial loss through a counterparty's potential failure to make payments. The Group manages its credit risk with customers by closely monitoring its receivables. The risk of default is considered to be low because the structure of customers consists of reputable collaborating parties and government grantors. Receivables management and financial accounting incorporates monitoring of payments received and any overdue receivables.

The carrying amount of other financial assets recognized determines the maximum theoretical credit risk. As of the end of fiscal 2021, available funds are deposited at two reputable financial institutions.

In connection with cash and cash equivalents, (other) financial assets, trade receivables and contract assets, CureVac uses the simplified approach under IFRS 9 in determining the loss allowance at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses. As of December 31, 2021, the loss allowance for the "expected credit losses" totaled to EUR 105k (2020: EUR 182k), resulting in an effect recognized in profit and loss in the consolidated statement of operations and other comprehensive expense in fiscal 2021 of EUR 78k (2020: EUR 106k).

Liquidity risk / Capital management

For the purpose of CureVac's capital management, capital includes share capital and all other equity reserves attributable to the equity holders. The primary objective of CureVac's capital management is to maximize the shareholder value through investment in the development activities of the Group.

Based on its business as an active research group, CureVac has historically relied almost exclusively on debt and equity funding by its shareholders and lenders as a means of financing itself prior to successful development and sales of a marketable product. In 2020, as a result of the BMBF and EC APA agreements (see Notes 3.2., respectively) the Company has received significant advance payments with contribute to its financing of its operations. Advance Payments of the BMBF agreement continued in 2021. Such funds were primarily being invested in CureVac's COVID-19 vaccine candidate research and development.

The Group's finance department reviews the total amount of cash of the Group on a weekly basis. As part of this review, the committee considers the total cash and cash equivalents, the cash outflow, currency translation differences and refinancing activities. The Group monitors cash using a burn rate. The cash burn rate is defined as the average monthly net cash flow from operating and investing activities during a financial year.

In meeting its financing objectives, the Group negotiates and enters into research cooperation agreements. In general, the aim is to maximize the financial resources available for further research and development projects.

CureVac is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements. However, certain grant funds received may be required to be returned if qualifying costs are not incurred or are not incurred in accordance with the grant terms (see also Note 3.2. and Note 3.7.). Additionally, while the Company was subject to certain loan covenants under the EIB loan, such covenants did not impose minimum capital requirements but did provide the right to the EIB to call for repayment of the loan in the occurrence of certain events (refer to Note 12 for additional information). As the EIB loan was fully repaid in December 2021, such loan covenants do not exist anymore. The objectives of CureVac's capital management were achieved in the reporting year.

No changes were made in the objectives, policies or processes for managing cash during the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

In order to safeguard liquidity, the Group invests funds not required immediately for operating purposes in short-term investments at banks with high standing and call-deposit accounts with maturity up to three months. Liquidity risks are therefore expected to be low. The Group does not enter into trading of financial instruments and monitors its risk of a shortage of funds using a liquidity planning tool.

Historically, CureVac has relied on financing from shareholders, grant income and collaborators in order to ensure sufficient liquidity. Lack of external financial support could pose a risk of going concern. The liquidity management of CureVac ensures the availability of cash and cash equivalents for operational activities and further investments through appropriate budget planning.

Ultimately, the responsibility for liquidity risk management lies with management, who has established an appropriate approach to managing short-, medium- and long-term financing and liquidity requirements. CureVac manages liquidity risks by holding appropriate reserves, as well as by monitoring forecasted and actual cash flows and reconciling the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities.

The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the Group's financial liabilities based on contractual undiscounted payments:

2021	<u>less than 3 months</u> EUR k	<u>3 to 12 months</u> EUR k	<u>1 to 5 years</u> EUR k	<u>> 5 years</u> EUR k	<u>Total</u> EUR k
Contractual commitments	—	(163,557)	—	—	(163,557)
Lease liabilities (Note 4.2)	(576)	(2,893)	(16,746)	(8,677)	(28,892)
Other liabilities (Note 11)	(79,927)	(80,116)	(10,018)	(12)	(170,073)
Trade and other payables (Note 10)	(99,035)	(638)	(28,030)	—	(127,703)
Total	(179,538)	(247,204)	(54,794)	(8,689)	(490,225)

2020	less than 3 months EUR k	3 to 12 months EUR k	1 to 5 years EUR k	> 5 years EUR k	Total EUR k
Contractual commitments	—	(97,151)	—	—	(97,151)
Lease liabilities (Note 4.2)	(728)	(2,233)	(15,805)	(11,322)	(30,087)
Other liabilities (Note 11)	(52,637)	—	(8,423)	(138)	(61,199)
Trade and other payables (Note 10)	(21,004)	(682)	—	—	(21,685)
EIB loan (Note 12)	—	—	—	(25,875)	(25,875)
Total	(74,368)	(100,066)	(24,228)	(37,335)	(235,997)

Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of an exposure will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. CureVac's exposure to the risk of changes in foreign exchange rates relates primarily to the Group's operating activities (when revenue or expense is denominated in a foreign currency) and the amounts held as cash and cash equivalents.

CureVac N.V.'s, CureVac AG's and CureVac Real Estate GmbH's functional currency is the Euro. The functional currency of CureVac Inc. is the USD and of CureVac Swiss AG the CHF. CureVac AG's exposure in foreign currency at the end of fiscal 2021 and 2020 is as follows:

	2021 (in thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	51,363 EUR	58,174 USD
Trade and other receivables	182 EUR	206 USD
Total monetary assets in foreign currency	51,545 EUR	58,380 USD
Trade and other payables	52,594 EUR	59,568 USD
	0 EUR	0 GBP
	19 EUR	20 CHF
Total monetary liabilities in foreign currency	52,613 EUR	

	2020 (in thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	84,798 EUR	104,055 USD
Trade and other receivables	76 EUR	93 USD
Total monetary assets in foreign currency	84,874 EUR	104,148 USD
Trade and other payables	3,761 EUR	4,615 USD
	5 EUR	58 GBP
	3 EUR	3 CHF
Total monetary liabilities in foreign currency	3,828 EUR	

As shown in the tables above, CureVac N.V. is exposed to a currency risk only in relation to the USD. Therefore, a foreign currency sensitivity analysis is only presented in respect to the net exposure in USD at fiscal year ends. CureVac's net exposure in USD is the difference between monetary assets in USD and monetary liabilities in USD and developed as follows:

Net exposure in USD

2020 (1 EUR= 1.2271 USD)	2021 (1 EUR = 1.1326 USD)
EUR 77,669k from USD 95,311k	EUR -3,964 from USD -4,490k

At December 31, 2021, if the EUR had weakened 10 per cent against the US dollar with all other variables held constant, pre-tax loss for the year would have been EUR -440k (2020: EUR 8,630k) lower and post-tax loss would have been EUR -310k (2020: EUR 6,116k). Conversely, if the EUR had strengthened 10 per cent against the US dollar with all other variables held constant, pre-tax loss would have been EUR -360k (2020: EUR 7,061k) higher and post-tax loss would have been EUR -254k (2020: EUR 5,004k) higher. The effects on pre- and post-tax loss and (accumulated) other comprehensive income due to fact that CureVac Inc's functional currency is the USD would still have been immaterial as of December 31, 2021.

CureVac did not have derivatives in fiscal 2021 and 2020.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. CureVac’s exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to the CureVac’s cash and cash equivalents with floating interest rates. Due to persistent low-interest-rates CureVac might be exposed to the risk of being charged negative interest rates on its bank deposits.

If interest rates as of December 31, 2021 had been 1% higher while all other variables had remained the same, the net loss for the year (before and after tax) would have been EUR 8,116k (2020: EUR 13,226k) lower because the higher interest income would have been generated from floating rates on invested cash and cash equivalents. Because interest rates on cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 had been almost near zero, lower interest rates would have had an immaterial effect on the net loss for the year (before and after tax) and on other comprehensive income.

Fair value measurement

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorized with the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- Level 1 — Inputs use quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 — Inputs are inputs, other than quoted prices included in Level 1, which are directly or indirectly observable
- Level 3 — Inputs are unobservable and have values estimated by management based on market participant assumptions which are reasonably available

All financial instruments are measured at amortized cost at December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020. Apart from this, liabilities from licenses agreements (i.e., acquired intangible assets) of EUR 932k (2020: EUR 812k), are classified as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss under the Level 2 input factors. Management assessed that the fair values of cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, trade receivables and other financial assets, trade payables and other current liabilities as well as liabilities from licensing agreement approximate their carrying amounts. Moreover, management assessed that the potential differences between carrying amounts and fair value of liabilities to banks, (finance) lease liabilities and the liabilities for licensing agreements should be immaterial.

16. Notes to the consolidated statements of cash flows

Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

<u>in thousands of EUR</u>	<u>January 1, 2021</u>	<u>Cash flows</u>	<u>Reclassification</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>New Leases</u>	<u>Accrued interest</u>	<u>Paid Interest</u>	<u>Foreign Exchange Movements</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>
EIB loan (Note 12)	25,189	(25,000)	—	—	—	1,444	(1,633)	—	—
Lease Liabilities (Note 4.2)	30,087	(3,184)	—	(943)	2,763	—	—	169	28,892
Total liabilities from financing activities	55,276	(28,184)	—	(943)	2,763	1,444	(1,633)	169	28,892

in thousands of EUR	January 1, 2020	Cash flows	Reclassification	Disposals	New Leases	Accrued interest	Paid Interest	Foreign Exchange Movements	December 31, 2020
Convertible loans (Note 12)	65,018	(69,889)	(126)	—	—	10,637	(5,640)	—	—
EIB loan (Note 12)	—	25,000	—	—	—	189	—	—	25,189
Lease Liabilities (Note 4. 2)	14,130	(2,996)	—	(43)	19,310	—	—	(315)	30,087
Total liabilities from financing activities	79,148	(47,885)	(126)	(43)	19,310	10,826	(5,640)	(315)	55,276

17. Commitments and contingencies

In the course of its ordinary activities, no major claims have been made against the Company. For contractual commitments, refer to Note 15.

18. Remuneration of the Company's key management personnel

Total remuneration of key management personnel

Remuneration of the Company's key management personnel was as follows in fiscal 2021:

Remuneration of key management in 2021	Management Board EUR k	Supervisory Board EUR k
Short-term benefits	3,098	646
Share-based payments	12,673	566
Total	15,771	1,212

Remuneration of the Company's key management personnel was as follows in fiscal 2020:

Remuneration of key management in 2020	Management Board EUR k	Supervisory Board EUR k
Short-term benefits	3,840	557
Share-based payments	7,287	—
Total	11,127	557

The amounts disclosed in the table are the amounts recognized as an expense during the reporting period related to key management personnel.

19. Other related party disclosures

dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG

As disclosed in Note 1, during fiscal 2021, dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG (dievini), which is an investment company dedicated to the support of companies in health and life sciences, was the largest shareholder of CureVac. Together with its related parties, dievini has held shares and voting rights in CureVac between appr. 46 – 49 % during that period. dievini is thus the de facto parent of the Group. Dietmar Hopp, Daniel Hopp and Oliver Hopp are the ultimate controlling persons (of the main shareholders) of dievini, and, therefore, control the voting and investment decisions of dievini.

Other related party transactions

Transfer of shares from the Funding Shareholder

As discussed in Note 4, due to certain virtual share exercises under the Prior VSOP during the year 1,524,900 common shares were transferred to the Company by the Funding Shareholders, with no consideration paid in exchange, and some of these shares were subsequently reissued to fulfill obligations from option exercises.

Molecular Health GmbH

Molecular Health GmbH (Molecular Health) is a wholly owned subsidiary of dievini. In December 2017 CureVac concluded a contract with Molecular Health, according to which Molecular Health provides services in conjunction with the Modeling of the biological and clinical effects of Toll-like receptor 7 and 8 agonists in cancer and immune cells. In fiscal 2021, the Group incurred EUR 0k (2020: 0k, 2019: 0k) in research and development expenses in connection with this contract.

Rittershaus Rechtsanwaelte

Since December 15, 2005, a consultant agreement is in place for an indefinite term with Rittershaus. The agreement can be terminated without notice by CureVac and with notice of three months to the end of the quarter by Rittershaus. In fiscal 2021, consulting fees of EUR 757k (2020: EUR 990k, 2019: EUR 208k) were paid to the Rittershaus. Prof. Dr. Christof Hettich is a managing director of Rittershaus and dievini as well.

Dr. Ingmar Hoerr

Since June 2018, an advisory agreement between CureVac and Mr. Hoerr was in place. This contract was terminated in March 2020 after the transition of Dr. Hoerr from CureVac's Supervisory Board to its Management Board on March 10, 2020. In fiscal 2021, advisory fees of EUR 0k (2020: EUR 45k, 2019: EUR 240k) were paid to Dr. Hoerr.

Dietmar Hopp

During 2019, Dietmar Hopp, principal of dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co. KG (dievini), the majority shareholder of the Group, granted two convertible loans to the Group which were terminated in July 2020 and fully repaid in August 2020; see note 12 for further information. Additionally, in 2020, he made a further equity investment in the Company as described in Note 8.

Antony Blanc

In 2020, a consulting agreement between CureVac AG and Clarentis SRL was made. Clarentis SRL is a wholly owned consulting company of Antony Blanc, PhD, the CBO of CureVac. After the transition of Antony Blanc to the Management Board in February 2021, the contract was no longer active and no new orders were placed. In Q3 2021, a milestone payment, which related to the submission of the EMA dossier for CVnCoV, and amounts to EUR 100k was made to fulfil a contractual obligation from the consulting agreement in place before Antony Blanc joined the Management Board.

BePharBel Manufacturing S.A.

In December 2020, CureVac Real Estate GmbH and BePharBel Manufacturing S.A., entered into a commercial supply agreement to develop and manufacture the diluent that was expected to be used to dilute the Group's first concentrated COVID-19 vaccine candidate, CVnCoV, to the amount specified by each dose level. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, it was intended that BePharBel Manufacturing would manufacture and deliver to CureVac Real Estate GmbH a low seven figure amount of commercial batches of diluent per year, in 2021 and 2022. Following the withdrawal of the CVnCoV in October 2021 due to COVID-19 virus drift, WHO COVID vaccine efficiency recommendation and market expectations, CureVac Real Estate GmbH terminated the commercial and supply agreement with BePharBel and entered into negotiations on a structured and rapid wind-down of the ordered production. We intend to terminate this agreement and, in March 2022, the Parties agreed on a settlement of all claims resulting from the commercial and supply agreement, while details of the settlement are still subject to negotiation the overall volume of the settlement will in no event go beyond €4 million. Baron Jean Stéphenne, our supervisory board member, holds directly and indirectly

15.61% of BePharBel Manufacturing's equity and is a director of BePharBel Manufacturing, and Baron Jean Stéphane's son, Vincent Stéphane, holds 1.43% of BePharBel Manufacturing's equity and is a managing director of BePharBel Manufacturing.

Indemnification Agreements

Our articles of association require us to indemnify our current and former managing directors and supervisory directors to the fullest extent permitted by law, subject to certain exceptions. We entered into indemnification agreements with all our managing directors and supervisory directors.

20. Subsequent events

In February 2022, the Company dosed the first participant in a Phase 1 study of its seasonal influenza second-generation mRNA vaccine candidate, CVSQIV, developed in collaboration with GSK. The differentiated multivalent vaccine candidate features multiple non-chemically modified mRNA constructs to induce immune responses against relevant targets of four different influenza strains. The use of customizable and rapidly produced mRNAs to address influenza could enable faster development and delivery of potentially improved vaccine candidates, featuring even short-term strain updates for the approaching influenza season.

In March 2022, CureVac AG and GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA amended and restated the 2020 GSK agreement and the GSK COVID Agreement in connection with GSK entering into a direct Agreement with Novartis relating to the use of the Novartis as CMO at the same time as CureVac exits its CMO agreement with Novartis and is released from its pre-existing capacity commitments under the agreement. As a result, the Company will avoid an outflow of resources in the range of €20,000k to €30,000k, for which current liabilities were recognized in the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2021. Additionally, under the restated agreement, CureVac is entitled to further compensation by GSK.

In March 2022, the Company dosed the first participant in a Phase 1 study of its COVID-19 second-generation mRNA vaccine candidate, CV2CoV, developed in collaboration with GSK. The clinical trial is expected to provide valuable data to further establish the performance of CureVac's second-generation mRNA backbone, which has the potential to be applied broadly in future vaccines against COVID-19 variants and other pathogens. The Phase 1 dose-escalation study is being conducted at clinical sites in the U.S. and is expected to enroll up to 210 healthy adults to evaluate the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of CV2CoV in the dose range of 2 to 20µg.

In February 2022, CureVac AG together with CureVac Real Estate GmbH and GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA entered into a Consortium Agreement regarding the execution of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to be concluded between the Parties and the Federal Republic of Germany. The Consortium submitted an application for the award of a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement by the Federal Republic of Germany. Accordingly, GSK and CureVac amended the 2020 GSK Agreement and the GSK COVID Agreement to address the separate Consortium Agreement between the Parties as well as the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement of the Consortium with Germany.

In April 2022, the Company and GSK entered into a contract with the German federal government to supply mRNA vaccines within a broader tender for pandemic preparedness in Germany. Following a setup period of a maximum of two years, the contract grants the German federal government access to CureVac's manufacturing capacity until 2029, enabling rapid availability of 80 million mRNA-based vaccine doses during the remainder of the current pandemic or in future infectious disease outbreaks. By reserving this manufacturing capacity, the tender seeks to mitigate risks associated with potential supply bottlenecks in a pandemic situation. Under the contract, the German federal government will pay CureVac and GSK an annual standby fee after successful completion of the setup period, which requires the companies to maintain manufacturing capacity at constant readiness.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RIGHTS OF EACH CLASS OF SECURITIES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020.

As of the date of the Annual Report on Form 20-F of which this Exhibit 2.5 is a part, CureVac N.V. (the “**Company**”, “**we**”, “**us**” or “**our**”) has only one class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended: the Company’s registered common shares.

The following description of our common shares is a summary and does not purport to be complete. It is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our articles of association, which are incorporated by reference as an exhibit to this Annual Report on Form 20-F of which this Exhibit 2.5 is a part.

As of the date of the Annual Report on Form 20-F of which this Exhibit 2.5 is a part, our authorized share capital was €92,700,000, consisting of 386,250,000 common shares and 386,250,000 preferred shares, par value €0.12 per share, of which we had 187,120,718 common shares outstanding.

Common Shares

The following summarizes the main rights of holders of our common shares:

- each holder of common shares is entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted on by shareholders generally, including the appointment of managing directors and supervisory directors;
- there are no cumulative voting rights;
- the holders of our common shares are entitled to dividends and other distributions as may be declared from time to time by us out of funds legally available for that purpose, if any, following payment of the preferred dividend if any preferred shares are outstanding;
- upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of common shares will be entitled to share ratably in the distribution of all of our assets remaining available for distribution after satisfaction of all our liabilities, following payment of the preferred dividend if any preferred shares are outstanding; and
- the holders of common shares have preemptive rights in case of share issuances or the grant or rights to subscribe for shares, except if such rights are limited or excluded by the corporate body authorized to do so and except in such cases as provided by Dutch law and our articles of association.

Limitations on the Rights to Own Securities

Our common shares may be issued to individuals, corporations, trusts, estates of deceased individuals, partnerships and unincorporated associations of persons. Our articles of association contain no limitation on the rights to own our common shares and no limitation on the rights of nonresidents of the Netherlands or foreign shareholders to hold or exercise voting rights. Our preferred shares shall only be issued to the protective foundation, if and when incorporated.

Shareholders’ Meetings

General meetings may be held in Amsterdam, Arnhem, Assen, The Hague, Haarlem, Hertogenbosch, Groningen, Leeuwarden, Lelystad, Maastricht, Middelburg, Rotterdam, Schiphol (Haarlemmermeer), Utrecht or Zwolle, all in the Netherlands. The annual general meeting must be held within six months of the end of each financial year. Additional extraordinary general meetings may also be held, whenever considered appropriate by the

management board or the supervisory board and shall be held within three months after our management board has considered it to be likely that our equity has decreased to an amount equal to or lower than half of its paid-in and called-up share capital, in order to discuss the measures to be taken if so required.

Pursuant to Dutch law, one or more shareholders or others with meeting rights under Dutch law who jointly represent at least one-tenth of the issued share capital may request us to convene a general meeting, setting out in detail the matters to be discussed. If we have not taken the steps necessary to ensure that such meeting can be held within six weeks after the request, the requesting party/parties may, on their application, be authorized by the competent Dutch court in preliminary relief proceedings to convene a general meeting. The court shall disallow the application if it does not appear that the applicants have previously requested our management board and our supervisory board to convene a general meeting and neither our management board nor our supervisory board has taken the necessary steps so that the general meeting could be held within six weeks after the request.

General meetings must be convened by an announcement published in a Dutch daily newspaper with national distribution. The notice must state the agenda, the time and place of the meeting, the record date (if any), the procedure for participating in the general meeting by proxy, as well as other information as required by Dutch law. The notice must be given at least 15 days prior to the day of the meeting. The agenda for the annual general meeting shall include, among other things, the adoption of the annual accounts, appropriation of our profits and proposals relating to the composition of the management board and supervisory board, including the filling of any vacancies in such bodies. In addition, the agenda shall include such items as have been included therein by the management board or the supervisory board. The agenda shall also include such items requested by one or more shareholders, or others with meeting rights under Dutch law, representing at least 3% of the issued share capital. Requests must be made in writing or by electronic means and received by us at least 60 days before the day of the meeting. No resolutions shall be adopted on items other than those that have been included in the agenda.

In accordance with the Dutch Corporate Governance Code (the “**DCGC**”) and our articles of association, shareholders having the right to put an item on the agenda under the rules described above shall exercise such right only after consulting the management board in that respect. If one or more shareholders intend to request that an item be put on the agenda that may result in a change in the company’s strategy (for example, the removal of managing directors or supervisory directors), the management board must be given the opportunity to invoke a reasonable period to respond to such intention. Such period shall not exceed 180 days (or such other period as may be stipulated for such purpose by Dutch law and/or the DCGC from time to time). If invoked, the management board must use such response period for further deliberation and constructive consultation, in any event with the shareholders(s) concerned, and shall explore the alternatives. At the end of the response time, the management board shall report on this consultation and the exploration of alternatives to the general meeting. This shall be supervised by our supervisory board. The response period may be invoked only once for any given general meeting and shall not apply (a) in respect of a matter for which a response period has been previously invoked; or (b) if a shareholder holds at least 75% of the company’s issued share capital as a consequence of a successful public bid. The response period may also be invoked in response to shareholders or others with meeting rights under Dutch law requesting that a general meeting be convened, as described above.

The general meeting is presided over by the chairman of the supervisory board. If no chairman has been elected or if he or she is not present at the meeting, the general meeting shall be presided over by the vice-chairman of the supervisory board. If no vice-chairman has been elected or if he or she is not present at the meeting, the general meeting shall be presided over by another supervisory director present at the meeting. If no supervisory director is present, the meeting shall be presided over by our CEO. If no CEO has been elected or if he or she is not present at the meeting, the general meeting shall be presided over by another managing director present at the meeting. If no managing director is present at the meeting, the general meeting shall be presided over by any other person appointed by the general meeting. In each case, the person who should chair the general meeting pursuant to the rules described above may appoint another person to chair the general meeting instead. Managing directors and supervisory directors may always attend a general meeting. In these meetings, they have an advisory vote. The chairman of the meeting may decide, at his or her discretion, to admit other persons to the meeting.

All shareholders and others with meeting rights under Dutch law are authorized to attend the general meeting, to address the meeting and, in so far as they have such right, to vote pro rata to his or her shareholding. Shareholders

may exercise these rights, if they are the holders of shares on the record date, if any, as required by Dutch law, which is currently the 28th day before the day of the general meeting. Under our articles of association, shareholders and others with meeting rights under Dutch law must notify us in writing or by electronic means of their identity and intention to attend the general meeting. This notice must be received by us ultimately on the seventh day prior to the general meeting, unless indicated otherwise when such meeting is convened.

Each common share and each preferred share confers the right on the holder to cast one vote at the general meeting. Shareholders may vote by proxy. No votes may be cast at a general meeting on shares held by us or our subsidiaries or on shares for which we or our subsidiaries hold depository receipts. Nonetheless, the holders of a right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) and the holders of a right of pledge (*pandrecht*) in respect of shares held by us or our subsidiaries in our share capital are not excluded from the right to vote on such shares, if the right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) or the right of pledge (*pandrecht*) was granted prior to the time such shares were acquired by us or any of our subsidiaries. Neither we nor any of our subsidiaries may cast votes in respect of a share on which we or such subsidiary holds a right of use and enjoyment (*vruchtgebruik*) or a right of pledge (*pandrecht*). Shares which are not entitled to voting rights pursuant to the preceding sentences will not be taken into account for the purpose of determining the number of shareholders that vote and that are present or represented, or the amount of the share capital that is provided or that is represented at a general meeting.

Decisions of the general meeting are taken by a simple majority of votes cast, except where Dutch law or our articles of association provide for a qualified majority or unanimity.

Dividends and Other Distributions

Dividends

We may only make distributions, whether a distribution of profits or of freely distributable reserves, to our shareholders to the extent our shareholders' equity (*eigen vermogen*) exceeds the sum of the paid-in and called-up share capital plus any reserves required by Dutch law or by our articles of association. Under our articles of association, our management board with the approval of our supervisory board may decide that all or part of the profits are carried to reserves. Before reservation of any profit, to the extent that preferred shares have been canceled and preferred distributions on those canceled shares are outstanding, the profits are first to be used to satisfy the outstanding claim to those who held those preferred shares at the moment of such cancellation becoming effective and subsequently if any preferred shares are outstanding, the preferred dividend is paid out on those preferred shares in accordance with our articles of association. The remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting at the proposal of the management board for distribution on the common shares, subject to restrictions of Dutch law and approval by our supervisory board of such proposal of our management board.

We only make a distribution of dividends to our shareholders after the adoption of our annual accounts demonstrating that such distribution is legally permitted. The management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting, but only with the approval of the supervisory board.

Dividends and other distributions shall be made payable not later than the date determined by the management board. Claims to dividends and other distributions not made within five years from the date that such dividends or distributions became payable will lapse and any such amounts will be considered to have been forfeited to us (*verjaring*).

Exchange Controls

Under Dutch law, there are no exchange controls applicable to the transfer to persons outside of the Netherlands of dividends or other distributions with respect to, or of the proceeds from the sale of, shares of a Dutch company, subject to applicable restrictions under sanctions and measures, including those concerning export control, pursuant to European Union regulations, the Sanctions Act 1977 (*Sanctiewet 1977*) or other legislation, applicable anti-

boycott regulations and similar rules. There are no special restrictions in the articles of association or Dutch law that limit the right of shareholders who are not citizens or residents of the Netherlands to hold or vote shares.

Squeeze-Out Procedures

Pursuant to Section 2:92a of the Dutch Civil Code, a shareholder who holds at least 95% of our issued share capital for his or her own account, alone or together with group companies, may initiate proceedings against the other shareholders jointly for the transfer of their shares to such shareholder. The proceedings are held before the Enterprise Chamber of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal, or the Enterprise Chamber (*Ondernemingskamer*), and can be instituted by means of a writ of summons served upon each of the other shareholders in accordance with the provisions of the Dutch Code of Civil Procedure (*Wetboek van Burgerlijke Rechtsvordering*). The Enterprise Chamber may grant the claim for squeeze-out in relation to the other shareholders and will determine the price to be paid for the shares, if necessary, after appointment of one or three experts who will offer an opinion to the Enterprise Chamber on the value to be paid for the shares of the other shareholders. Once the order to transfer becomes final before the Enterprise Chamber, the person acquiring the shares shall give written notice of the date and place of payment and the price to the holders of the shares to be acquired whose addresses are known to him. Unless the addresses of all of them are known to the acquiring person, such person is required to publish the same in a daily newspaper with a national circulation.

Dissolution and Liquidation

Under our articles of association, we may be dissolved by a resolution of the general meeting, subject to a proposal of the management board approved by our supervisory board. In the event of a dissolution, the liquidation shall be effected by the management board, under supervision of our supervisory board, unless the general meeting decides otherwise. During liquidation, the provisions of our articles of association will remain in force as far as possible. To the extent that any assets remain after payment of all debts, if any preferred shares are outstanding, the preferred dividend is first paid out on those preferred shares in accordance with our articles of association. Any remaining assets shall be distributed to the holders of common shares in proportion of their number of shares.

Consultancy Agreement

between

CureVac AG

Friedrich-Miescher-Str. 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany

- hereinafter referred to as “**CureVac**” -

and

Clarentis SRL

Route de Renipont 25c, 1380 Ohain, Belgium; registered under number BE 0740.928.560, and duly represented by its Managing Director, **Antony Blanc**

- hereinafter referred to as “**Consultant**” -

Recitals

- (1) CureVac develops and manufactures and distributes RNA based medicinal products.
- (2) Consultant shall provide consulting services under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with CureVac, details depend on the services ordered by CureVac (hereafter referred to as “Services”). These Services shall include but are not limited to business, scientific, clinical and strategic advice with regards to CureVac’s pre-clinical and clinical projects, notably but not limited to the Covid19 vaccine currently in development.
- (3) Consultant is willing to provide such Services and has been selected due to his extensive experience in developing and implementing strategy in the context of biotech/pharma/vaccine, but also in business development, strategic marketing, pricing, go to market and launch preparation of vaccines.

§ 1 Subject of the agreement

- (1) Consultant shall as independent partner carry out the services stipulated in as requested by CureVac. Services shall be as follows:
 - Covid19 vaccine: Support in coordinating and defining all business, go to market and commercial aspects of the program across the CureVac and external stakeholders. Support and active role in defining approach, shaping submissions and negotiating potential financing support and purchase contracts with the EU Commission, CEPI, the German government and other partners.
 - More broadly, help define and implement required strategy, organisation and processes
 - Further ad-hoc support to CureVac CEO and management team as requested
- (2) Consultant shall provide the consultancy to the best of his or her knowledge. Consultant shall exercise all skill, reasonable care and diligence in the discharge of his or her duties under this agreement. He or she shall carry out the consultancy in conformity with common professional practices and in accordance with current scientific standards.
- (3) Consultant shall not have the right to assign third parties the performance of the consultancy.

§ 2 Remuneration

- (1) CureVac shall pay Consultant a fee of EUR 1.800,- per full working-day for the Services ordered and actually provided according to Article 1. Services provided in fractions of a working day (8 hours) shall be reimbursed pro rata on an hourly base. If the total number of days performed under this Agreement in 2020 is below 25 days, the rate will be increased to EUR 2.000,- per day, through a true-up invoice issued at end of the year.
- (2) Furthermore, CureVac shall reimburse reasonable, necessary and directly related travel- and out-of-pocket-expenses upon separate and original invoices provided by the Consultant and approved by CureVac in advance. CureVac will only reimburse air travel in economy class, for flights longer than 6 hours business class is permissible, first-class rail and second-class public transport. Flight and hotel costs must be approved in advance by CureVac. Airfare or hotel not approved by CureVac in advance will not be reimbursed. Reimbursement for use of private vehicle is 0.30€ per kilometre.
- (3) Consultant shall provide CureVac with a proper invoice which includes his or her time sheet, copies of appropriate expenses and the respective purchase order number to the extent already known. Insofar as the Consultant is liable to pay VAT, the Consultant's invoice then itemizes the due amount for VAT in the form required for the fiscal formalities as well as the corresponding VAT number. Invoices are to be sent monthly to accounting@curevac.com.
- (4) Payments to Consultant with regard to the Services shall be realized by bank transfers to Bank J.Van Breda & C°, IBAN: BE75645100474251, BIC/SWIFT: JVBABE22.
- (5) The remuneration shall be paid within thirty (30) days upon receipt of the proper invoice on the account named by the Consultant.
- (6) The Consultant is solely responsible to cover the insurances advisable and/or necessary for his fulfilling his obligations under this Contract. The Consultant is responsible for paying tax on his or her remuneration. CureVac does not assume any responsibility for tax obligations which may result from the present agreement.

§ 3 Confidentiality

Consultant acknowledges and agrees that as a result of Consultant's Services, Consultant will receive, or become privy to, proprietary information of CureVac including but not limited to, trade secrets, processes, technologies, know-how, techniques, data, business plans, marketing plans, forecasts, potential customer lists and similar information in written, oral or electronically ("Information"). The Parties agree that such Information is the exclusive property of CureVac.

Any Information whatsoever provided hereunder, is provided "as is". No warranty, expressed or implied, is given by CureVac as to the correctness or completeness of such Information.

Consultant will use the Information solely for the purposes of performing Services in accordance with this agreement. Consultant will hold all such Information generated in performance of the Services in strict confidence and trust and will not disclose such information to any third party, unless provided for by binding law or binding public-administrative order. The undertaking to confidentiality shall apply during the term of the agreement and thereafter for a period of 10 years.

§ 4 Ownership of Results

- (1) All results, in particular but not limited to protectable rights, arising out of the conduct of this agreement (the “Works”) exclusively belong to CureVac. Consultant hereby assigns to CureVac and CureVac herewith accepts all of Consultant’s right, title and interest against CureVac and CureVac herewith accepts all of Consultant’s right, title and interest (including all patent rights, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights in and to “Works”) without any further payment beyond the payments defined in § 2 of this agreement. If rights by law belong to Consultant but cannot be assigned, Consultant hereby grants CureVac the right to use the results of the services exclusively, irrevocable and unrestricted in time, manner and place for all types of use necessary, including in particular, but not limited, the right to modify and translate the results and to transfer the right to results to third parties.
- (2) Consultant represents and warrants that he is able to grant the rights mentioned above and that the services rendered under this agreement do not infringe any Third Parties’ rights. Insofar Consultant shall relieve CureVac of any liability resulting from claims filed by Third Parties.

§ 5 Term and termination

- (1) This agreement will commence on July 9th, 2020, and continue for an unlimited period of time.
- (2) CureVac is entitled to terminate this agreement with written notice of 2 weeks. The agreement can be terminated with immediate effect prematurely for an important reason and material breach.
- (3) Consultant affirms that he or she is entitled and allowed to conduct services for CureVac. Consultant is self-employed through Clarentis SRL. No employer approval is required.

§ 6 Incidental provisions

- (1) The parties agree that this agreement does not affect the Consultant’s freedom of decision concerning recommendation and prescription of pharmaceutical preparations.
- (2) Both parties acknowledge that no influence on product sales, especially procurement decisions and pricing, are made or expected with the conclusion of this agreement.

§ 7 Prohibition of competition

For the entire duration of this agreement the Consultant shall refrain from rendering services for companies that are in competition with CureVac without the prior written consent of CureVac. Companies which research, develop and/or manufacture RNA-based products are considered to be in competition with CureVac. For clarity, the Consultant may allocate a portion of his time to serving other companies which are not in competition with CureVac without prior consent of CureVac.

§ 8 Miscellaneous

- (1) The validity, interpretation and fulfilment of this or any follow-up agreement shall be governed in accordance with the laws of Germany, without any reference to German Rules of Conflicts of Laws.
- (2) All disputes arising in connection with this agreement shall be placed under the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts competent for the city of Tübingen, Germany.
- (3) Changes, additions and notices required according to this agreement must be in written form. This applies to the lifting of the requirement regarding written form as well.
- (4) Any confidentiality agreement signed between the parties prior to this agreement and the obligations therein shall remain in force and effect.
- (5) If any of the provisions of this agreement are or become invalid or if a gap is discovered, the validity of the remaining provisions of the agreement shall not be affected thereby. The invalid provision shall be replaced by a legally permissible provision that most closely achieves the purpose of the invalid one. The same applies in the event of a gap.
- (6) This agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, and all of which together will be deemed to be one and the same instrument. Facsimile or PDF execution and delivery of this Agreement by either Party will constitute a legal, valid and binding execution and delivery of this Agreement by such Party.

CureVac AG

Tübingen,

/s/ Daniel Babka

Digital signiert von Daniel Babka
DN: cn=Daniel Babka, ou=Curevac
AG,
email=Daniel.Babka@curevac.com
Grund: Ich stimme dem Dokument zu
Datum: 2020.07.09 17:13:40 +0200

Consultant

/s/ Antony Blanc

Name:

Title: /s/ Dr. Franz-Werner
Haas

Digital signiert von Dr. Franz-Werner
Haas
DN: cn=Dr. Franz-Werner Haas,
ou=Curevac AG, email=franz-
werner.haas@curevac.com
Datum: 2020.07.09 23:56:47 +0200

Name: Antony Blanc

Title: Managing Director, Clarentis SRL

Name:

Title:

**1st Amendment to the
Consultancy Agreement**

between

CureVac AG

Friedrich-Miescher-Str. 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany
- hereinafter referred to as "CureVac" -

and

Clarentis SRL

Route de Renipont 25c, 1380 Ohain, Belgium; registered under number BE 0740.928.560, and duly represented
by its Managing Director, Antony Blanc
- hereinafter referred to as "Consultant" -

WHEREAS, CureVac and Consultant entered into a Consultancy Agreement effective July 9th, 2020 (the "Agreement").

WHEREAS, following the August 20th announcement by the European Commission that it had concluded exploratory talks with CureVac to purchase 225 million doses of CureVac's potential vaccine against COVID-19 on behalf of the Member States, the Parties have agreed to include a success fee to the Agreement terms.

THEREFORE, both Parties mutually agree to amend § 2 (1) ("Remuneration") by addition of the following wording:

"The parties agree that for the successful final execution of the EU-Tender for COVID-19 (SANTE/ 2020/C3/047) agreement for delivery of 225 million doses of vaccine, Consultant will receive a success fee of EUR 250.000,- (two-hundredfifty-thousand).

The EUR 250.000,- will be paid in two tranches, a first component of EUR 150.000,- upon signature of the EU-tender agreement. The second payment of EUR 100.000,- shall be paid within 20 calendar days after the date that the interim package has been submitted to EMA for purposes of obtaining the (conditional) marketing authorization."

This amendment shall enter into force upon signature. The remaining terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in force unamended. All capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Agreement, unless expressly stated otherwise.

Signatures on following page

AGREED:

Tübingen, September 3, 2020

Ohain, September 3, 2020

/s/ Dr. Franz-Werner Haas

/s/ Antony Blanc

CureVac AG

Clarentis SRL

By: Dr. Franz-Werner Haas

By: Antony Blanc

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Title: Managing Director.

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [***], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.**

THIRD AMENDMENT TO

COLLABORATION

AND LICENSE

AGREEMENT

Dated 19 December 2019

BETWEEN

GENMAB B.V.

AND

CUREVAC AG

THIRD AMENDMENT TO COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

This THIRD AMENDMENT TO COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT ("Third Amendment") is effective as of the 30th day of June 2021 ("Third Amendment Effective Date"), by and between:

Genmab B.V., KvK no. 3016 9902, a Dutch corporation having its principal office at Uppsalalaan 15, 3584 CM Utrecht, the Netherlands ("Genmab"); and

CureVac AG, a German corporation having its principal office at Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany ("CureVac").

(Genmab and CureVac are sometimes hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties" or individually as a "Party")

RECITALS:

- A. Genmab and CureVac entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement dated 19 December 2019 (the "Agreement");
- B. Under the Agreement, as set forth in Section 3.1, the Parties have a right to replace the First Collaboration Target;
- C. Genmab and CureVac would like to increase the replacement term in Section 3.1; and
- D. Genmab and CureVac previously entered into the First Amendment of the 2nd July 2020 to the Agreement and the Second Amendment of 15th December 2020 to the Agreement, and would now again like to extend the term for entering into a clinical supply agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, and for good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree to the following:

1. Except as otherwise defined herein, the words and phrases in the Agreement shall have the same meaning in this Third Amendment.
2. The first sentence of Section 3.1 is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*"3.1 If the pre-clinical Program with respect to the First Collaboration Target does not meet the success criteria set forth in the First Program Research Plan attached hereto as Exhibit 5.1.1 (as may be modified by JRC), Genmab has the [*****] right, [*****], to seek to replace the First Collaboration Target by another Target ("**Replacement Target**"), outside of the Field of [*****] [...]"*

"Field of [***]" shall mean [*****].**

For avoidance of doubt, the remainder of Section 3.1 of the Agreement shall remain in effect unchanged.

3. The first sentence of Section 6.2 of the Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*“6.2. No later than [*****], the Parties will enter into a clinical supply agreement and related agreements (including a quality agreement) according to which CureVac shall Manufacture or have Manufactured for Genmab by an approved subcontractor under Section 5.11 or by a CMO approved by Genmab, and will supply or have supplied to Genmab, Genmab’s demand for the Single Antibody Product which is the subject of the First Program Research Plan (whether related to the First Collaboration Target or any Replacement Target) to perform Clinical Phase I Studies (“**Early Clinical Supply Agreement**”). [...]*”

For avoidance of doubt, the remainder of Section 6.2 of the Agreement shall remain in effect unchanged.

4. This Third Amendment shall be subject to the same governing law as set forth in Section 17.4 of the Agreement.

5. Save as set forth in this Third Amendment, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

6. The Parties agree that this Third Amendment may be signed using a DocuSign® electronic signature. Such electronic signature is the legally binding equivalent to a Party’s handwritten signature, and it has the same validity, enforceability and meaning as a handwritten signature and the Parties hereby waive any objection to the contrary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Third Amendment to be executed and delivered as of the Third Amendment Effective Date.

Genmab B.V.

CureVac AG

By: /s/ Birgitte Stephensen

By: /s/ Antony Blanc

Name: Birgitte Stephensen

Name: Antony Blanc

Title: Senior VP IPR & Legal

Title: Chief Business Officer

By: /s/ Igor Splawski

Name: Igor Splawski

Title: Chief Scientific Officer

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [*****], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.

CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

dated

20 February 2022

regarding the execution of the
Pandemic Preparedness Agreement
to be concluded between
the Parties and the Federal Republic of Germany

by and between

CUREVAC AG,

CUREVAC REAL ESTATE GMBH

and

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA

CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

This Consortium Agreement (“**Agreement**”) is entered into on 20 February 2022

by and between

1. **CureVac AG**, Friedrich-Miescher-Str. 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany;
 2. **CureVac Real Estate GmbH**, Friedrich-Miescher-Str. 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany
- hereinafter together referred to as “**CureVac**”

and

3. **GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.**, Rue de l’Institut, 1330 Rixensart, Belgium
- hereinafter referred to as “**GSK**”

CureVac AG, CureVac Real Estate GmbH and GSK are hereinafter also referred to individually as a
“**Party**” or “**Consortium Member**”

and collectively as the “**Parties**” or “**Consortium Members**”.

Recitals

- A. The Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Vaccine Production Taskforce on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Health, has initiated a negotiated procedure with call for tenders (“**Tender Procedure**”) by way of contract notice dated July 13, 2021 (2021/S 133-354125). Subject of the Tender Procedure is the conclusion of framework agreements for the provision of production capacities and, on demand, for the production and supply of mRNA vaccines (lot 1) and vector- or protein-based vaccines (lot 2).
- B. The Parties are - each individually - not in a position to fully provide the range of services requested by the Federal Republic of Germany and to submit individual offers. The Parties have therefore established an application and bidding consortium in the legal form of a civil law partnership (*Gesellschaft bürgerlichen Rechts*) under the laws of Germany (“**Consortium**”) for the purposes of participating in the Tender Procedure, aiming at the award of a framework agreement for the provision of production capacities and, on demand, for the production and supply of mRNA vaccines (lot 1) (“**Pandemic Preparedness Agreement**” or “**PPA**”).
- C. The Consortium has submitted an application and an initial offer for the award of a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement for one (1) contingent of eighty (80) million doses per year. The Parties

may now jointly agree that the Consortium will submit a final offer in accordance with this Agreement.

- D. The current collaboration between GSK and CureVac is governed, inter alia, by the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement and 2020 Collaboration Agreement. If the Parties are awarded a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the collaboration between GSK and CureVac will be extended to include the due implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, in accordance with the terms set out in this Agreement. This Agreement is intended to supplement the existing agreements between GSK and CureVac by setting forth the terms for the collaboration between the Parties, and in particular to allocate their responsibilities and scope of work, with respect to the due implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises above and the following mutual covenants and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Definitions

In this Agreement, unless expressly stated otherwise: (i) terms defined in the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement shall have the same meaning when used in this Agreement; (ii) terms defined in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall have the same meaning when used in this Agreement; and (iii) the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

- 1.1 “**2020 Collaboration Agreement**” shall mean that certain Collaboration and License Agreement between CureVac AG and GSK dated July 15, 2020 on collaborating in the research, development and commercialization of mRNA based vaccines targeting infectious diseases (excluding, among others, SARS-CoV-2) based on the technology controlled by CureVac, as subsequently amended and restated a first time on April 2, 2021, a second time on September 29, 2021 and a third time on 20 February 2022.
- 1.2 “**Agreement**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Preamble.
- 1.3 “**BGB**” shall mean the civil code (*Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch*) of Germany, as amended or restated from time to time.
- 1.4 “**Calendar Quarter**” shall mean each successive period of three (3) months ending on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each Calendar Year; provided, that the first Calendar Quarter under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Effective Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Quarter in which the Effective Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Quarter of the Term will be the period beginning on January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1, as applicable, and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement, and “**Calendar Quarterly**” shall be construed accordingly.
- 1.5 “**Calendar Year**” shall mean each successive period of twelve (12) months commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31; provided, however, that the first Calendar Year under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Effective Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Year in which the Effective Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Year under this Agreement will be

the period beginning on January 1 and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement.

- 1.6 “**CMO Capacity**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Exhibit 1.
- 1.7 “**Collaboration 2020 Product**” shall mean a “Product” as defined in section 1.163 of the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.8 “**Commercially Reasonable Efforts**” shall mean, with respect to the efforts to be expended by a Party to achieve any objective, those efforts, expertise and resources as well-managed company in the pharmaceutical industry of comparable size, skill and experience would normally use to accomplish a similar objective in its own interests under similar circumstances.
- 1.9 “**Consortium**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Recitals.
- 1.10 “**Consortium Leader**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 4.1.
- 1.11 “**Consortium Member(s)**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Preamble.
- 1.12 “**Contract Partner’s Vaccine**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.13 “**Contract Term**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.14 “**Costs**” shall mean: [*****]
- 1.15 “**COVID Collaboration and License Agreement**” shall mean that certain COVID Collaboration and License Agreement between CureVac AG and GSK dated April 2, 2021 on collaborating in the research, development and commercialization of mRNA based vaccines targeting SARS-CoV-2 based on the technology controlled by CureVac, as subsequently amended and restated on September 29, 2021 and on 20 February 2022.
- 1.16 “**CureVac**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Preamble.
- 1.17 “**CureVac-only Product**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 5.9.
- 1.18 “**Effective Date**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 11.1.
- 1.19 “**Excluded GSK Product**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 5.10.
- 1.20 “**Fill & Finish Capacity**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Exhibit 1.
- 1.21 “**FTE Rate**” shall mean a rate of [*****] per annum. The FTE Rate shall include all fully loaded costs, including costs of salaries (including overtime), benefits, other employee costs, overhead and supporting general and administration allocations. The Parties may agree on an increase of the FTE Rate for inflation on an annual basis based upon the percentage increase in the European Consumer Price Index.
- 1.22 “**GMP IV Manufacturing**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Exhibit 1.
- 1.23 “**GMP IV Site**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Exhibit 1.
- 1.24 “**Governmental Authority**” shall mean any applicable government/executive authority, court, council, tribunal, arbitrator, agency, regulator, department, bureau, branch, office, legislative body,

commission or other instrumentality of (i) any government of any country, (ii) any nation, state, province, county, city, or other political subdivision thereof, or (iii) any supranational body.

- 1.25 “**GSK**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Preamble.
- 1.26 “**GSK Site**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Exhibit 1.
- 1.27 “**Manufacturing and Supply Phase**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.28 “**Obligation**” have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 9.1.
- 1.29 “**Order**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and “**Ordered**” shall be construed accordingly.
- 1.30 “**Pandemic Preparedness**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.31 “**Pandemic Preparedness Agreement**” or “**PPA**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Recitals.
- 1.32 “**Pandemic Preparedness Plan**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.33 “**PPA Sub-Committee**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 10.3.
- 1.34 “**Qualification Deadline**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.35 “**Qualification Criteria**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.36 “**Qualification Phase**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.37 “**Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach**” means a breach or default that is due to negligence or willful misconduct, excluding slight negligence (*leichte Fahrlässigkeit*); provided that
- (a) a breach or default that directly results from any decisions, actions or omissions that have been approved by the non-defaulting Party or jointly taken by the Parties (including but not limited to decisions, actions or omissions approved in accordance with Section 5.5(a) or decisions taken jointly by the Parties in accordance with Section 10.3(h)), but excluding actions or omissions not directly resulting from such decision (including, for example, negligent implementation of such decision); or
 - (b) any delays in achieving Full Functionality of the GMP IV Site that directly result from delays or changes in product development which have been approved by the non-defaulting party in the JSC established by GSK and CureVac under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement,
- shall not qualify as a Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach.

- 1.38 “**Reasonable Best Efforts**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and shall be applied *mutatis mutandis* in this Agreement.
- 1.39 “**Regular Operations**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.40 “**Reserved Capacities**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.41 “**Scope of Work**” has the meaning given in Section 5.2.
- 1.42 “**Shared Qualification Costs**” has the meaning given in Section 6.1.
- 1.43 “**Stand-by Costs**” shall mean all Costs incurred by the Parties in fulfilling the Consortium’s obligations under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, as allocated to that Consortium Member in **Exhibit 1**, during or in respect of the Stand-by Phase.
- 1.44 “**Stand-by Fee**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.45 “**Stand-by Net Profits**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 6.3.
- 1.46 “**Stand-by Phase**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.47 “**Supply Call**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.48 “**Tender Procedure**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Recitals.
- 1.49 “**Third Party**” shall mean any person or entity, other than CureVac or GSK and their respective Affiliates.
- 1.50 “**Third Party’s Vaccine**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.51 “**WIPO**” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 15.13(b).

2. Establishment of the Consortium

- 2.1 The Parties have established the Consortium under the laws of Germany for the purposes of participating in the Tender Procedure. In the event of an award of a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to the Consortium, the purpose of the Consortium shall be extended to include the due implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 2.2 In the external relationship, the Consortium shall, as from the award of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, use the name “*Arbeitsgemeinschaft CureVac/GSK*”.
- 2.3 Subject to Section 12, the Consortium shall continue to have the legal form of a civil law partnership (Section 705 et seq. BGB) and shall be organized in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and to the extent not otherwise provided herein by Sections 705 et seq. BGB.
- 2.4 The Consortium shall for all correspondence use a letterhead with the name of the Consortium and, next to or below that, the corporate logos of CureVac and GSK respectively, provided that no Consortium Member nor the Consortium shall use the logos or name of any other Consortium Member in a manner that would lead to use or creation of a composite trade mark. Each Party shall

follow all reasonable directions and requirements of each other Party, from time to time, regarding use of each other Party's logo and name. No Consortium Member shall register any trade mark or domain name for the name of the Consortium (or any part thereof, or any confusingly similar name).

- 2.5 The domicile of the Consortium shall be Tübingen, Germany. The domicile shall at all times be located in Germany in accordance with section 11.1.3 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

3. Submission of Final Bid; Execution of Pandemic Preparedness Agreement

The submission of a final offer, pursuant to the Tender Procedure, shall be subject to the prior written approval of each Consortium Member (such approval of each Consortium Member to be given or not at the sole discretion of that Consortium Member) without any liability towards any other Party or the Consortium, for any reason whatsoever). Each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses incurred in relation to the Tender Procedure and the related collaboration between the Parties to submit a final offer pursuant to the Tender Procedure. If such final offer is accepted by the Federal Republic of Germany in the form as approved by the Parties within the period of validity of the bid (or during such further period as may have been agreed between the Parties), the Consortium is obliged to sign and enter into the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

4. Management and representation; Consortium Account

- 4.1 The managing partner of the Consortium shall be CureVac AG ("**Consortium Leader**").
- 4.2 The Consortium Leader shall be responsible for the administrative management of the Consortium including the provision of commercial and organizational coordination between the Parties and their responsibilities under this Agreement and the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. The Consortium Leader shall at all times act in the interest of the Consortium and the Consortium Members and shall act towards each Consortium Member conscientiously and in good faith and not allow its interests to conflict with the duties it owes to the Consortium Members under this Agreement and Applicable Laws.
- 4.3 According to sections 11.1.3 and 11.3.3 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, each member of the bidding consortium must ensure by the principles of corporate governance of the bidding consortium that all decision-making powers that are essential for the fulfilment of and performance under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (e.g., manufacturing ramp-up, and manufacture switch to the Selected Vaccine) lie with one or more member(s) of the bidding consortium, which has/have its/their registered office in Germany. In light of overarching EU law, it is the common understanding of the Parties that such decision-making powers relate only to the manufacturing and supply of the vaccines in a public health emergency, such as the manufacturing ramp-up and the manufacture switch to a Selected Vaccine. In order to reflect the concept of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the following shall apply: Consortium Leader shall be authorized to, and will represent the Consortium vis-à-vis the Federal Republic of Germany and other Third Parties in relation to the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, provided that it obtains prior approval of each of the Consortium Members, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, in relation to any material aspects of correspondence, discussions, negotiations, or any material

commitments or binding declarations on behalf of the Consortium towards the Federal Republic of Germany or other Third Parties. Such approval requirement includes but is not limited to the following matters:

- (a) the pricing for Contract Partner's Vaccines (except for CureVac-only Products) for purposes of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement;
- (b) incurring of any liabilities on behalf of Consortium or the Consortium Members or to otherwise bind the Consortium or any Consortium Member, nor pledge the credit of any Consortium Member;
- (c) taking part in any dispute or commence or defend any court or other dispute proceedings or settle or attempt to settle or make any admission concerning such proceedings insofar as they relate to subject matter of this Agreement and the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement;
- (d) all formal notifications (*Förmliche Benachrichtigung*) to be made under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement;
- (e) approaching of the Federal Republic of Germany regarding the reorganization of the Consortium into a GmbH and transfer of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to a GmbH in accordance with Section 12;
- (f) exercise of rights under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreements (such as the right to object to the exercise of the Preferred Manufacturing Right in accordance with section 10.6.6 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement); and
- (g) conclusion of an Authorized Manufacture or Equivalent Agreement in accordance with sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and any agreements and communication with the Federal Republic of Germany relating thereto.

For clarity, the approval requirement will in no case encompass decisions to be taken by the Consortium Leader that are immediately connected to the manufacturing or supply of the mRNA vaccines under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (e.g. manufacturing ramp-up and the manufacture switch to the Selected Vaccine, treating the Federal Republic of Germany as preferred customer), and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as to be in breach with sections 11.1.3 and 11.3.3 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. The approval requirement under this Section 4.3 will not apply with respect to correspondence, discussions, negotiations, commitments or declarations that relate solely to CureVac-only Products.

- 4.4 The Consortium Leader shall promptly inform the Alliance Managers in writing of all matters of which it becomes aware of in its function as Consortium Leader and which may affect the performance of the Pandemic Preparedness Contract or any Consortium Members' Scope of Work, including results of any inspection reports, and provide the other Consortium Members through the Alliance Managers with copies of all significant correspondence sent to or received from the Federal Republic of Germany (including any Regulatory Authority) or any other Third Parties concerning the subject matter of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

4.5 The Consortium Members shall open a joint account in the name of the Consortium with a bank to be suggested by the Consortium Leader, which must be acceptable to the other Consortium Members.

5. Implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement

5.1 All Consortium Members shall timely assist one another to the best of their abilities to protect each other's and the Consortium's interests as though they were their own. In carrying out their obligations under this Agreement the Consortium Members will act in accordance with the principles of good faith and fair dealing.

5.2 Each Consortium Member shall perform the responsibilities allocated to it, for each phase of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, in **Exhibit 1**, in accordance with the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and the Pandemic Preparedness Plan, which shall be decisive for the duties, actions and obligations allocated to each Party ("**Scope of Work**"). Each Consortium Member shall provide all supplies and services and make all such investments which are necessary for the proper fulfillment of its Scope of Work, irrespective of whether or not such actions, supplies or services are completely specified in **Exhibit 1**.

5.3 Each Party will notify each other Party, as soon as reasonably practicable after such Party becomes aware, of: (i) any event or circumstances affecting the performance of its obligations under this Agreement which has or is reasonably likely to have an adverse impact on the performance of the Consortium's obligations under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (including circumstances which may lead to (a) a delay in the timetable for the fulfilment of the Qualification Conditions, (b) a Pandemic Preparedness Deficiency or Pandemic Preparedness Failure or (c) delay in the Delivery Plan of the Selected Contract Partner's Vaccine); and (ii) any breach of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or this Agreement. If any Party fails to perform its obligations under **Exhibit 1**, it shall advise the other Parties as soon as reasonably practicable of the failure, and, at its own cost and expense, perform a root cause analysis of the failure and report the results to the other Parties and use Reasonable Best Efforts to rectify the failure. If a Consortium Member does not or does not duly comply with its obligation to perform its Scope of Work and/or rectify failures in the performance of its obligations under its Scope of Work, the Parties will discuss and agree in good faith on a detailed cure plan in the PPA Sub-Committee.

5.4 If deliveries, services and/or other actions which are necessary for due implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement are not expressly assigned to a particular Consortium Member under this Agreement, the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement (including as a result of any amendments to the Pandemic Preparedness Plan), the PPA Sub-Committee shall discuss and agree which Consortium Member is best suited to perform such deliveries, services and/or actions, taking into account all relevant factors, including capability, related responsibilities of the Parties as set out in **Exhibit 1**, timing, quality and cost efficiency.

5.5 Without limiting the responsibilities of either Party under **Exhibit 1**:

- (a) during the Qualification Phase, (i) changes to (x) the GMP IV Site that relate to the required manufacturing capacity (as set out in section 7.1.1 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement), technology, quality standards and procurement of tender-specific raw material (stockpile), or (y) GSK's Fill & Finish Capacity, as stipulated in **Exhibit 1**; and (ii) similar decisions, actions or omissions; in each case of (i) and (ii) which could reasonably be expected to have a material negative impact on, and/or could significantly prejudice the performance of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or the Pandemic Preparedness Plan (including successful qualification under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement), shall be subject to the respective other Party's prior consultation and approval, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed; and
- (b) during the Stand-by Phase, decisions, actions or omissions relating to a Party's Scope of Work, which could reasonably be expected to have a material negative impact on the performance of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, shall be subject to the respective other Party's prior consultation, provided that nothing in this Section 5.5(b) shall supersede or limit the Parties' respective rights and responsibilities under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement (as applicable) which relate to or otherwise impact a Party's Scope of Work.

- 5.6 According to section 7.3.6 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Consortium is obliged to notify the Federal Republic of Germany once the Qualification Conditions are satisfied by the Qualification Deadline. The Parties, through the PPA Sub-Committee, shall discuss and agree on whether the Qualification Conditions are satisfied. If the Parties, through the PPA Sub-Committee, cannot agree on whether the Qualification Conditions are satisfied, this shall be determined by an expert panel in accordance with Section 10.4.
- 5.7 According to section 9.3.1 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Consortium shall use the Reserved Capacities in its Regular Operations during the Stand-by Phase. Each Consortium Member shall prioritize the use of: (a) tender-specific raw materials, and (b) capacities at its own manufacturing facilities and those of relevant CMOs, in each case in its own Regular Operations. Nothing in this Section shall require any Party to use any manufacturing facilities, capacities or raw materials (other than tender-specific raw materials) of any other Party in its Regular Operations.
- 5.8 In case the Federal Republic of Germany, in accordance with the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, requests the Consortium to (a) manufacture and supply any product other than a COVID Vaccine as a Contract Partner's Vaccine (including, for clarity, a CureVac-only Product), or (b) manufacture a Third Party's Vaccine under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Parties will discuss and agree in good faith on an addendum to this Agreement, including terms on (i) the allocation of responsibilities and liabilities between the Parties with respect to the manufacture and supply of such other product (and the Parties will update Exhibit 1 accordingly), and (ii) the cost and profit split between the Parties with respect to the manufacture and supply of such other product; provided however, that in the case of (a) only, if the Federal Republic of Germany requests the Consortium to manufacture and supply a Collaboration 2020 Product, the terms and principles set forth in the 2020 Collaboration Agreement shall apply.

- 5.9 In the event that an mRNA-based vaccine is developed by CureVac independently (“**CureVac-only Product**”), and is subsequently qualified as Contract Partner’s Vaccine under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Parties shall, in the event of a Supply Call with respect to that CureVac-only Product, and for the period of performance of such Supply Call, treat each other as if the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement only existed between the Federal Republic of Germany and CureVac. As a result, for the Scope of Work assumed by GSK under this Agreement, a sub-contractor must be contracted by CureVac. Upon the request of CureVac, GSK shall assign, novate or otherwise transfer the agreement with the contract manufacturer for the CMO Capacity to CureVac, provided that CureVac will re-assign, novate or otherwise transfer to GSK, and GSK will re-assume, such agreement upon the end of the Manufacturing and Supply Phase (and GSK shall use Commercially Reasonable Efforts to ensure that the respective contract manufacturing agreement allows for such assignment, novation or transfer and re-assignment, novation or transfer). If the agreement with the contract manufacturer for the CMO Capacity cannot be transferred to CureVac, CureVac will not bear any of the Stand-by Costs that are incurred under or in relation to such contract manufacturing agreement during the Manufacturing and Supply Phase. For clarity, GSK shall not be under any obligation to carry out any step of manufacture or supply of such product unless and until expressly agreed by the Parties, and if GSK does not carry out any step of manufacture or supply, CureVac will receive one hundred percent (100%) of the Purchase Price for CureVac-only Products.
- 5.10 An mRNA-based vaccine that is developed by GSK independently (“**Excluded GSK Product**”) shall fall outside the scope of this Agreement and CureVac shall not be obliged to carry out any step of manufacture or supply of such Excluded GSK Product. GSK shall not identify an Excluded GSK Product as a Contract Partner’s Vaccine to the Federal Republic of Germany.

6. **Cost and Profit Sharing; Payments**

- 6.1 **Qualification Phase.** For clarity, during the Qualification Phase each Party shall bear its own Costs under this Agreement, except that (a) the Costs for tender-specific raw materials incurred during or in relation to the Qualification Phase, and (b) the Costs for the qualification of suppliers in accordance with the Scope of Work and the Pandemic Preparedness Plan up to a maximum amount of two million three hundred thousand Euros (EUR 2,300,000) (“**Shared Qualification Costs**”) shall be shared equally between GSK and CureVac in accordance with this Section 6.
- 6.2 **Net Profit Split (including Cost Split).** Subject to the qualification of the Consortium under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the Parties agree as follows:
- (a) **Stand-by Phase:** [*****]
 - (b) **Manufacture and Supply Phase:** [*****]
 - (i) [*****]; and
 - (ii) [*****].

[*****]

6.3 **Calculation of Stand-by Net Profit.** For the purposes of this Agreement, “**Stand-by Net Profits**” shall mean (whether resulting in a positive or negative number) the Stand-by Fee less the Stand-by Costs. Stand-by Costs shall be: (i) subject to the caps set out in Section 6.4; and (ii) determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) applied in a consistent manner.

6.4 **Cost Caps for Stand-by Costs.** The Stand-by Costs of each Party are capped as follows:

(a) for CureVac, [*****]; and

(b) for GSK, [*****],

in each case excluding any liability incurred by any Party to the Federal Republic of Germany, the Consortium or any other Party in relation to a breach of, or otherwise arising under, the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, no cap shall apply in relation to (x) CureVac’s Stand-by Costs for raw materials, and (y) GSK’s Stand-by Costs for Third Party contract manufacturers in relation to the GSK Fill & Finish Capacity.

6.5 **Treatment of liabilities under this Agreement and the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.** Any liability incurred by or on behalf of any Party to any other Party (or any Third Party beneficiary or indemnified party) under this Agreement (including for any breach of this Agreement, for breach of warranty, under any indemnity or otherwise), shall not be taken into account in the calculation of Stand-by Net Profits shared by the Parties under this Agreement. For clarity, and without limiting the foregoing, any liability incurred by any Party to the Federal Republic of Germany under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall not be taken into account as a Stand-by Cost, or otherwise, in the calculation of Stand-by Net Profits, but shall be allocated in accordance with Section 9.1.

6.6 **Sharing of Shared Qualification Costs and Stand-by Net Profit.** Within thirty (30) days after the end of each Calendar Quarter, each Party will submit to the other Parties a statement of Shared Qualification Costs and Stand-by Costs incurred by or on behalf of that Party during the respective Calendar Quarter with supportive documentation including a detailed breakdown of such Shared Qualification Costs and Stand-by Costs (together, if applicable, with the applicable exchange rate to convert from the currency in which the costs and expenses were incurred to Euro). Within sixty (60) days after the end of each Calendar Quarter, the Consortium shall calculate the amount owed to each of GSK and CureVac by the Consortium or owed by each of GSK and CureVac to the Consortium with respect to the Shared Qualification Costs and the Stand-by Net Profits, for the respective Calendar Quarter in accordance with Section 6.1 and 6.2(a), as applicable. Each Party shall pay the amount owed to the Consortium (if any), and the Parties shall instruct the transfer of the share of profits owed to each Party, within thirty (30) days after the end of each Calendar Quarter. Without prejudice to the foregoing, the Parties shall, within thirty (30) days after the execution of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, develop and document ways of working in relation to the reporting of Shared Qualification Costs and Stand-by Costs, which shall be submitted to the PPA Sub-Committee for approval.

- 6.7 **Financial Audit.** Each Party shall keep and maintain records of all costs and expenses incurred by or on behalf of it which are reimbursable (or shared by the Parties) under this Agreement, so that the costs and expenses reimbursable (or which are shared) may be verified. Such records shall upon reasonable written notice be open to inspection during business hours for a three (3) year period after the Calendar Quarter to which such records relate, but in any event not more than once per Calendar Year, by a nationally recognized independent certified public accountant selected by the auditing Party and retained at the auditing Party's expense. Said accountant shall have the right to audit the records kept pursuant to this Agreement for a period covering not more than three (3) years. If said examination of records reveals any underpayment(s) or overpayment(s) of any amounts payable, then the audited Party shall promptly pay or credit the balance due to the auditing Party (and if no further payments are due, the audited Party shall refund or pay the overpaid amount to the auditing Party at the request of the auditing Party), and if the underpayment(s) is/are more than five percent (5%), then the audited Party shall also bear the expenses of said accountant.
- 6.8 **Repayment of the Stand-by Fee due to State aid infringement.** In the event the Consortium is required to fully or partly refund the Stand-by Fee plus interest in accordance with the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement due to the European Commission or a competent national court of final instance having ruled the Stand-By Fee to contain an unlawful State aid, the Parties shall refund the respective amount of the Stand-by Fee in equal shares.
7. **Taxes.**
- 7.1 Each Party shall be responsible for its own income taxes assessed by a tax or other authority except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement. The Parties agree, in accordance with Section 2.3, the relationship between the Parties under this Agreement is that of a civil law partnership, and agree not to take (or cause any person to take) any position on any tax return or in the course of any audit, examination or other proceeding inconsistent with such treatment, unless otherwise required by Applicable Laws and except upon a final determination of the applicable tax authority.
- 7.2 The Parties acknowledge and agree that it is their mutual objective and intent to optimize, to the extent feasible and in compliance with Applicable Laws, taxes payable with respect to their collaborative efforts under this Agreement and that they shall use reasonable efforts to cooperate and coordinate with each other to achieve such objective.
- 7.3 If any taxes are required to be withheld under Applicable Laws, from any payment to be made by a Party under this Agreement, that Party shall (a) deduct such taxes from the payment to be made to any other Party, (b) timely pay the taxes to the proper taxing authority, and (c) send proof of payment to the other Party with an explanation of payment of such taxes within twenty (20) Business Days following such payment. For purposes of this Section 7.3, each Party shall provide the other with reasonably requested assistance which assistance includes provision of any tax forms and other information that may be reasonably necessary for a Party not to withhold tax.
- 7.4 All payments due to the terms of this Agreement are expressed to be exclusive of VAT and Indirect Taxes. VAT and Indirect Taxes shall be added to the payments due to the terms if legally applicable.

8. Intellectual Property

- 8.1 Any intellectual property discovered, made, conceived, or first reduced to practice by or on behalf of a Party or jointly by the Parties under this Agreement, shall be allocated between CureVac and GSK in accordance with the principles set forth in article 9 of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement.
- 8.2 Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute the grant of any license or other right to any Party in respect of any technology of the other Parties, except as expressly set forth herein and the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, and no license rights shall be created hereunder by implication, estoppel or otherwise. No Party shall represent to any Third Party that it enjoys, possesses, or exercises any proprietary or property right or otherwise has any other right, title or interest in the technology of another Party except for such rights as are expressly set forth herein. Any rights of a Party not expressly granted to another Party under the provisions of this Agreement shall be retained by such Party.

9. Liability and Indemnification

- 9.1 Each Party shall be solely liable towards the Consortium and the other Parties for the proper and timely discharge of all duties, obligations, liabilities and responsibilities assumed for its Scope of Work under or in connection with this Agreement or in accordance with the requirements of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (each an “**Obligation**”), subject to the provisions of the following sub-paragraphs:
- (a) As between the Parties, the Party that is solely responsible for a culpable breach or default of any Obligation (other than those relating to the Qualification Phase) shall be solely liable for any claims or demands out of or in connection with such culpable breach or default.
 - (b) If the claim or demand is attributable to both CureVac’s and GSK’s Scope of Work, the Parties shall be liable pro rata to their respective responsibilities or, if the responsibilities cannot be determined, the liability shall be borne fifty percent (50%) by CureVac and fifty percent (50%) by GSK. The latter shall also apply if the claim or demand asserted by the Federal Republic of Germany or any Third Party is not attributable to any of the Parties’ Scope of Work or is not due to negligence or willful misconduct of a Party.
 - (c) If the Parties are unable to agree which Party or Parties, in accordance with subsections (a) to (b) above, is or are liable for the claim or demand by the Federal Republic of Germany or any Third Party and provided that imminent payment to the Federal Republic of Germany or any Third Party is in the Parties’ joint interest, the liability shall provisionally be borne fifty percent (50%) for CureVac and fifty percent (50%) for GSK, and thereafter the dispute shall be resolved by the Parties in the Joint Steering Committee.
- 9.2 With respect to a Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach of any Obligation relating to the Qualification Phase, the following shall apply:
- (a) if the Consortium does not enter into the Stand-by Phase under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement due to non-fulfilment of the Qualification Conditions, and such non-fulfilment

is caused by a Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach of a Party, the defaulting Party shall bear all Shared Qualification Costs, and to the extent any such costs have already been covered by the non-defaulting Party, the Party in default shall reimburse the non-defaulting Party for such cost already paid, unless such Shared Qualification Costs were incurred after informed approval by the non-defaulting Party or an informed joint decision by the Parties through the PPA Sub-Committee, and such Shared Qualification Costs are incurred by the Parties in line with such approval or joint decision;

- (b) in any case, and irrespective of qualifying for the Stand-by Phase, to the extent that an Obligation is not fulfilled due to a Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach of a Party and such Qualification Phase-related Culpable Breach results in higher Shared Qualification Costs, such increase shall be borne solely by the breaching Party; and
- (c) the remedy under Section 9.2(a) and (b) above shall be the exclusive remedy for any breach or default of any Obligation relating to the Qualification Phase. In particular, the breaching Party shall not be liable to any other Party for a loss of Stand-by Fees or Purchase Price payments under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

9.3 Subject to Section 9.4, each Party shall indemnify and hold harmless the other Parties from and against all loss, expense, damage, injury and liability suffered or incurred by each other Party in consequence of such breach or default in accordance with Section 9.1. This shall, in particular, include the recourse of a Party in a scenario where the Federal Republic of Germany has sought satisfaction from such Party pursuant to Section 128 (analogue) of the German Commercial Code or any other contractual or statutory provision or joint and several liability and such Party is not (fully) liable in accordance with the principles set out in Section 9.1 above.

9.4 Except in the case of any breach of Section 13, or in the case of willful misconduct or gross negligence, to the extent permissible, no Party shall be liable to any other Party for any indirect, punitive or consequential damages, or for damages for loss of profits or loss of business opportunity, whether based on contract or tort, or arising under Applicable Laws or otherwise; except that this provision shall not limit a Party's obligation to indemnify, the other Party in accordance with Section 9.1 and 9.3 above from any contractual penalties incurred under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement). Any insurance will not be construed to create a limit of the insured Party's liability with respect to its indemnification or other obligations under this Agreement.

9.5 For the avoidance of doubt, Product liability claims and other Third Party claims with respect products Ordered in the Manufacturing and Supply Phase, as well as the Parties' corresponding indemnification claims, shall be subject to the liability regime set forth in the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement in the case of COVID Products, and to the liability regime set forth in the 2020 Collaboration Agreement in the case of Collaboration 2020 Products.

If CureVac-only Products are Ordered in the Manufacturing and Supply Phase, CureVac shall be solely liable for Product liability claims and other Third Party claims with respect to such products and shall indemnify and hold harmless GSK from and against all loss, expense, damage, injury and liability suffered or incurred by GSK in consequence of such claims. The limitations set forth in Section 9.4 shall not apply.

9.6 If an mRNA-based vaccine is developed by GSK independently, and if such vaccine is an Excluded GSK Product, such Excluded GSK Product falls outside the scope of this Agreement and no Party shall have any liability towards the other Parties in respect of any such vaccine. Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, where any obligation, representation, warranty or undertaking in this Agreement is expressed to be made, undertaken or given by CureVac, CureVac AG and/or CureVac Real Estate GmbH, CureVac AG and CureVac Real Estate GmbH shall be jointly and severally responsible in respect of it.

10. Governance

10.1 **Alliance Management.** Management of the collaborative alliance reflected in this Agreement will be under the responsibility of: (a) for CureVac, the CureVac Alliance Manager designated under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement; and (b) for GSK: the GSK Alliance Manager designated under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement. Each Alliance Manager will be the primary point of contact for the other Parties on all matters relating to the operation of this Agreement.

10.2 **Joint Steering Committee.** Oversight over the collaboration under this Agreement shall be under the responsibility of the JSC established by GSK and CureVac under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement. The JSC will be responsible generally for facilitating the Parties' interactions under this Agreement and specifically for overseeing the implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. The JSC has (i) no jurisdiction to make any amendments to this Agreement, which right is reserved to the Parties; and (ii) no jurisdiction over any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement.

10.3 **PPA Sub-committee.** No later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, the JSC shall establish a sub-committee (the "**PPA Sub-Committee**") comprising of three (3) representatives of CureVac and three (3) representatives of GSK, one representative being the Alliance Manager of the respective Party, in each case with appropriate scientific and technical expertise and sufficient seniority within the applicable Party consistent with the scope of the PPA Sub-Committee's responsibilities. Each Party may replace its PPA Sub-Committee representatives at any time upon written notice to the other Party, provided, however, that each Party shall use all reasonable efforts to ensure continuity on the PPA Sub-Committee. The governance provisions of section 7 of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement shall apply accordingly to the PPA Sub-Committee. The PPA Sub-Committee will be responsible for:

- (a) overseeing the performance of activities by the Parties for the implementation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with **Exhibit 1**, and discussing and agreeing in good faith a timeline for the manufacturing activities of each Party during the Manufacturing and Supply Phase in accordance with Sections 3.3.6, 3.5.2, 3.5.3 of Exhibit 1, using the timeline in section 4.2 of the Pandemic Preparedness Plan as the initial point of reference;
- (b) discussing the identification and notification to the Federal Republic of Germany of any product as Contract Partner's Vaccine for purposes of the Pandemic Preparedness

Agreement; provided, however, that (i) any COVID Product or any Collaboration 2020 Product will be notified to the Federal Republic of Germany at the latest once it qualifies as a Promising Vaccine, and (ii) the identification and notification of any CureVac-only Product as Contract Partner's Vaccine shall remain in the sole discretion of CureVac or GSK, as applicable;

- (c) discussing and agreeing on the pricing for Contract Partner's Vaccines (except for CureVac-only Products, for which CureVac shall have the right to determine the pricing in its sole discretion) for purposes of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement;
- (d) serving as a forum for the exchange of information between the Parties relating to the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (excluding, for the sake of clarity, information on GSK products that are treated as Third-Party Products under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement);
- (e) discussing and agreeing on the terms of an agreement to Manufacture a Third Party's Vaccine, providing for market standard and economically reasonable terms;
- (f) regularly updating the Pandemic Preparedness Plan in line with the Consortium's obligations under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement;
- (g) discussing and agreeing the negotiation strategy (including request for proposal) and all terms of the contracts with contract manufacturers (including market standard terms and reasonable financial terms);
- (h) discussing and agreeing on the specifications for, the quality and the quantity of raw materials to be procured by either Party in accordance with the Scope of Work and the Pandemic Preparedness Plan;
- (i) coordinating the utilization of raw materials by the Consortium under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or the Consortium Members during its Regular Operations;
- (j) regularly reviewing the progress of the Parties towards fulfilling the Qualification Criteria by the Qualification Deadline;
- (k) discussing and determining in good faith whether the Qualification Criteria are met by the Qualification Deadline;
- (l) discussing and agreeing on a termination of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with the terms of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement; and
- (m) such other functions as assigned to it under this Agreement or as agreed by the Parties.

10.4 **Decisions.** The dispute resolution mechanism set forth in section 7.4 of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement shall apply accordingly with respect to any matters within the competence of the PPA Sub-Committee or the JSC; provided that if the Executive Officers cannot agree, then:

- (a) subject to Section 10.5, GSK shall have the right (unilaterally) to instruct the Consortium Leader on behalf of all Parties, and Consortium Leader shall have the right (unilaterally) to exercise on behalf of all Parties, the right of the Consortium to terminate the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with section 11.6.1(k) of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, if at that point in time both, the 2020 Collaboration Agreement and the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement have been terminated. For the avoidance of doubt, in all other cases, termination of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement by the Consortium requires mutual agreement between all Consortium Members;
- (b) if it becomes apparent from the PPA Sub-Committee's discussion that the Parties disagree on the final decision as to whether all the Qualification Criteria have been or will be met ("**Qualification Dispute**"), either Party may refer such Qualification Dispute for final determination to a panel of experts in accordance with this Section 10.4. The Parties shall agree on the appointment of the panel of experts, comprising three (3) members experienced in vaccine manufacturing, and shall agree with the experts the terms of their appointment within five (5) Business Days following the referral (or such other deadline as the Parties may agree). If the Parties are unable to agree on the identity of the experts within the aforementioned deadline, or if any of the persons proposed is unable or unwilling to act, then each Party shall nominate one (1) expert within five (5) Business Days (or such other deadline as the Parties may agree), which two (2) experts shall together select the third and final expert, who shall preside the expert panel. The experts shall act on the following basis: (i) on their appointment, the experts shall confirm their neutrality, independence and the absence of conflicts in determining the satisfaction of the Qualification Conditions; (ii) the experts shall act as experts and not arbitrators; (iii) the experts' determination shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding on the Parties and not subject to appeal; (iv) the expert panel shall decide the procedure to be followed in the determination in accordance with this Agreement; (v) the expert panel shall make its decision in an expedited procedure, and in any case within the Qualification Deadline; (vi) the costs of the determination, including the fees and expenses of the experts (but excluding the parties' own costs which shall be borne by the Party incurring those costs), shall be borne (x) by the Party that has disputed the satisfaction of the Qualification Criteria in case the expert panel determines that the Qualification Criteria are satisfied, or (y) by the Party that has insisted that the Qualification Criteria are satisfied in case the expert panel determines that the Qualification Criteria are not satisfied; and (vii) the expert determination and all matters connected with it shall be held in complete confidence by each of the Parties and shall not be disclosed to any other person except as permitted under Section 13. If neither Party submits the Qualification Dispute to an expert panel, or if it becomes apparent that the expert panel is unable to make a decision before the end of the Qualification Deadline, the Parties shall determine in good faith whether the Qualification Criteria are met by the Qualification Deadline;
- (c) GSK shall have the final decision-making authority with respect to the matters listed under Section 10.3(g);
- (d) CureVac shall have the final decision-making authority with respect to the matters listed under Section 10.3(h); and

- (e) with respect to any other decision to be taken by the PPA Sub-Committee or the JSC on which the PPA Sub-Committee or the JSC, as applicable, cannot agree, neither Party shall have a final decision-making authority, but any such decision requires mutual agreement between the Parties.

10.5 **CureVac PPA Continue Option.** In case GSK would like to terminate the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with section 11.6.1(k) of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement at a time when both the 2020 Collaboration Agreement and the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement have been terminated, it shall promptly notify the PPA Sub-Committee. The Parties, through the PPA Sub-Committee will discuss this matter, and in case, the Consortium Members do not agree on the termination of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement within three months before the Qualification Deadline, CureVac shall have the right to discuss this matter with the Federal Republic of Germany and seek the Federal Republic of Germany's approval to either release GSK from the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or replace GSK with a Third Party partner. In case the Federal Republic of Germany is willing to grant its approval to the release or replacement of GSK, the Parties will fully collaborate and discuss and agree on an amendment to this Agreement and the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with the principles of good faith and fair dealing, and GSK will take all acts that are reasonably required for an orderly transition. If the Federal Republic of Germany is not willing to grant its approval to the release or replacement of GSK, GSK may instruct the Consortium Leader to terminate the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with Section 10.4(a). For clarity, in case GSK is released from or replaced under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, CureVac may continue the use of the tender specific raw materials procured under this Agreement without any reimbursement to GSK.

10.6 **Audit and Inspection.** Without prejudice to any rights of either Party under the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, each Party shall have the right to enter each other Party's manufacturing facilities, or the manufacturing facilities of each other Party's CMO(s) (and each Party shall use Commercially Reasonable Efforts to include a right of the other Parties to enter such CMO manufacturing facilities into its relevant CMO agreements which are entered into on or after the Effective Date), in each case as relevant to performance of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to carry out an audit to verify and monitor the other Party's compliance with its Scope of Work and utilization of the respective manufacturing facility, once per Calendar Year. The scope of the audit may include, but need not be limited to, a tour of the facility, the opportunity to view relevant standard operating procedures (SOPs), staffing plans, training records, building management records, and any other documents reasonably necessary to assess compliance by the other Party. Audits conducted under this Section 10.6 shall require reasonable prior notice of at least ten (10) Business Days. Audits conducted under this Section 10.6 shall be scheduled in such a manner so as not to impact the production schedule and normal business activities and shall be conducted during regular business hours. Persons conducting the on-site audits shall be required to comply with reasonable rules applicable to the site and the Party conducting the inspection shall ensure that any person involved in any audit (including a document-only inspection) shall be bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

11. Term

- 11.1 Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 11, 13 and 15 of this Agreement shall become effective on the last date of signature of this Agreement by all the Parties. The remaining provisions of this Agreement shall become effective upon a Pandemic Preparedness Agreement being awarded to the Consortium (“**Effective Date**”).
- 11.2 If no final bid is submitted by the Parties in accordance with Section 3 by February 21, 2022, or the Federal Republic of Germany does not grant an award of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to the Consortium and the Parties have mutually agreed not to challenge such decision within the standstill-period stipulated in Section 134(2) of the German Law against Restraints of Competition (*Gesetz gegen Wettbewerbsbeschränkungen*), this Agreement shall automatically terminate with immediate effect on that date. Following the Effective Date, this Agreement shall remain in force until the later of (i) the expiry of the Contract Term of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, (ii) the expiry of the contractual warranty period under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and (iii) the time at which the last payment under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement is received and distributed among the Consortium Members.
- 11.3 Expiry or termination of this Agreement shall not relieve the Parties of any obligation accruing prior to such expiry or termination. Any expiry or termination of this Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of the other Parties accrued or accruing under this Agreement prior to expiry or termination. The provisions of Sections 1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 15 and all other provisions contained in this Agreement that by their explicit terms or from which it is clear from the context survive expiry or termination of this Agreement shall survive the expiry or termination of this Agreement.

12. Reorganization of the Consortium

- 12.1 Following the acceptance of the bid and subject to the Federal Republic of Germany having granted its consent thereto, the Parties may agree to reorganize the Consortium as a German limited liability company (*Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung* – “**GmbH**”) which shall enter into the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement as a Contract Partner assuming all rights and obligations of the Consortium and, accordingly, the Consortium shall cease to be a Contract Partner under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 12.2 If the Parties agree to the reorganization in accordance with Section 12.1, the Parties shall as soon as reasonably possible:
- (a) set up a GmbH either by way of incorporation of a new GmbH or by way of acquisition of a shelf company in which, in each case, each of GSK (on the one hand) and CureVac (on the other hand, either with a single CureVac Party as shareholder or with both CureVac Parties as shareholders, in aggregate) shall hold 50% of the share capital. The governance and shareholder rights in the GmbH shall reflect such 50:50 shareholding ratio;
 - (b) shall in good faith agree on a shareholders’ agreement (“**SHA**”) in relation to their joint shareholding in the GmbH taking into account the terms and conditions and spirit of this Agreement (including CureVac’s role as Consortium Leader) and the Pandemic

Preparedness Agreement (including sections 11.1.3 and 11.3.3 of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) which shall be transformed – to the greatest possible extent – *mutatis mutandis* into the SHA. Where – due to the different corporate structure of the GmbH or statutory law – a provision of this Agreement cannot be implemented in the SHA in accordance with the preceding sentence, the relevant shareholding Parties shall agree in good faith on a provision that commercially and legally comes closest to the affected provision; and

- (c) after completion of the actions mentioned in subparagraphs (a) and (b), the relevant shareholding Parties shall procure that the GmbH and the Consortium enter into a contract transfer and assumption agreement so as to affect the transfer of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement to the GmbH and the corresponding assumption of the contractual rights and obligations of the Consortium by the GmbH (*schuldbefreiende Vertragsübernahme*).

12.3 This Agreement shall terminate on the date on which all requirements listed in Section 12.2.(c) above been fulfilled.

13. Confidentiality

The terms of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement regarding confidentiality, in particular section 11 thereof, shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any and all Confidential Information disclosed, revealed or otherwise made available to a Party or its Affiliates by or on behalf of another Party under, or as a result of, this Agreement.

14. Compliance, Quality, Integrity

Section 12 of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement (compliance, quality and integrity) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to this Agreement.

15. Miscellaneous

15.1 **Representations, Warranties of the Parties to Each Other.** CureVac and GSK each represents and warrants and covenants with respect to itself only as at the Effective Date that:

- (a) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of such Party, its officers and directors, and does not conflict with, violate, or breach any agreement to which such Party is a party, or such Party's corporate charter, bylaws or similar organizational documents;
- (b) this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party that is enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by general principles of equity or to applicable competition, bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, liquidation and other similar laws relating to, or affecting generally, the enforcement of applicable creditors' rights and remedies;
- (c) it is a company or corporation duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated.

- 15.2 **Disclaimer.** Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, each Party expressly disclaims, waives, releases, and renounces any representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied either in fact or by operation of law, by statute or otherwise, whether written or oral, or arising from course of performance, course of dealing or usage of trade, including any representation or warranty with respect to non-infringement, value, adequacy, freedom from fault, quality, efficiency, suitability, characteristics or usefulness, or merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
- 15.3 **Assignment.** Without limiting any right of a Party to subcontract or assign its rights and obligations under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, this Agreement may not be assigned or otherwise transferred by any Party without the prior written consent of the other Parties, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. The Parties agree that no Party shall be required to consent to an assignment or transfer which would constitute a violation of the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement. Any purported assignment in violation of this Section 15.3 will be void. Any permitted assignee will assume all obligations of its assignor under this Agreement in writing concurrent with the assignment. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their successors and permitted assignors under this Section 15.3.
- 15.4 **Force Majeure.** If the performance of any part of this Agreement by any Party, or any obligation under this Agreement, is prevented, restricted, interfered with or delayed by reason of any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party liable to perform, unless conclusive evidence to the contrary is provided, the Party so affected shall, upon giving written notice to the other Parties, be excused from such performance to the extent of such prevention, restriction, interference or delay, provided that the affected Party shall use Commercially Reasonable Efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and shall continue performance with the utmost dispatch whenever such causes are removed. When such circumstances arise and persist for a period of at least sixty (60) calendar days, the Parties shall discuss what, if any, modification of the terms of this Agreement may be required in order to arrive at an equitable solution.
- 15.5 **Notices.** All notices which are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by e-mail, sent by internationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:
- (a) if to CureVac, addressed to: CureVac AG and CureVac Real Estate GmbH
 - Attention: [*****]
 - Address: [*****]
 - Email: [*****]
 - (b) if to GSK, addressed to: GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.
 - Attention: [*****]

Address: [*****]

Email: [*****]

- 15.6 **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is determined by any court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a replacement provision that is commercially equivalent, to the maximum extent permitted by Applicable Law, to such invalid or unenforceable provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement. Nor shall the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in one country or jurisdiction affect the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other country or jurisdiction in which such provision would otherwise be valid or enforceable.
- 15.7 **Entire Agreement and Amendments.** This Agreement, together with all Exhibits attached hereto, the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement and the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications between the Parties, with respect to the subject matter hereof. No modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties unless in writing and executed by the duly authorized representative of each of the Parties; this shall also apply to any change of this Section 15.7.
- 15.8 **Waivers.** The failure by any Party hereto to assert any of its rights hereunder, including the right to terminate this Agreement due to a breach or default by any other Party hereto, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver by that Party of its right thereafter to enforce each and every provision of this Agreement in accordance with its terms.
- 15.9 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, by original or electronic (including “pdf”) signature, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 15.10 **Third Parties.** Except as set out in this Agreement, none of the provisions of this Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any Third Party which shall be a Third Party beneficiary to this Agreement.
- 15.11 **Costs.** Except as is otherwise expressly set forth herein, each Party shall bear its own expenses in connection with the activities contemplated and performed hereunder.
- 15.12 **Governing Law.** This Agreement and all disputes arising hereunder, shall be exclusively governed by, and interpreted and enforced in accordance with German law. The United Nations Convention of International Contracts on the Sale of Goods (the Vienna Convention) does not apply to this Agreement.
- 15.13 **Dispute Resolution.**
- (a) Unless otherwise set forth in this Agreement, in the event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any alleged breach under this Agreement or any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this

Agreement, the Parties shall refer such dispute to the CEO (or its C-level delegate) of CureVac and the President of Vaccines (or another member of the global corporate executive team) of GSK. If the dispute has not been settled pursuant to the said rules within thirty (30) days following the reference of the dispute to the senior management representatives of the Parties, either Party may submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration.

- (b) Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any issue relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement, which cannot be resolved amicably between the Parties after following the procedure set forth in Section 15.13, shall be submitted to and settled by arbitration in accordance with the arbitration rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization (the “**WIPO**”) in effect on the date of the commencement of the arbitration proceedings. The existence, nature and details of any such dispute(s), and all communications between the Parties related thereto, shall be considered Confidential Information of the Parties and shall be treated in accordance with the terms of Section 12 above. Any Confidential Information may be disclosed by either Party to counsel, experts or other advisors on the arbitration under obligations of confidentiality. The decision of the arbitrators shall be final and binding upon the Parties. The location of arbitration will be Zurich, Switzerland. The arbitration will be heard and determined by three (3) arbitrators, with one arbitrator being appointed by each Party and the third arbitrator being appointed by the WIPO. The language of the arbitration proceeding will be English. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 15.13, each Party shall have the right to seek interim injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction as such Party deems necessary to preserve its rights and to protect its interests.

EXHIBIT 1

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

	Scope of work under the PPA	Role & Responsibility of CureVac	Role & Responsibility of GSK
1	Qualification Phase (<i>Qualifizierungsphase</i>), Section 7 PPA		
1.1	Providing manufacturing capacities at the Facilities in Germany for the manufacture of 160 million doses of mRNA vaccine annually; with Full Functionality at the latest by the Qualification Deadline (7.1.1 and 7.3.2 PPA)	[*****]	[*****]
1.2	Achieving “Pandemic Preparedness” as defined in the PPA and all other requirements to fully comply with the PPA in the Stand-by Phase and in the Manufacturing and Supply Phase (in particular being capable of meeting the First Delivery Date upon the first exercise of the Preferred Purchase Right) (7.1.2 PPA)	[*****]	[*****]
1.3	Obligations regarding status updates and notifications during the Qualification Phase (7.3.4 - 7.3.7 PPA)		[*****]
2	During Stand-by Phase (<i>Bereitschaftsphase</i>), Section 9 PPA		
2.1	Ensuring sufficient Reserved Capacities for Secured Quantity of 80 million doses annually (potentially, 100 million	[*****]	[*****]

	Scope of work under the PPA	Role & Responsibility of CureVac	Role & Responsibility of GSK
	doses, in case Germany demands it) (9.1.1, 9.1.2. PPA)		
2.2	Preserving state of Pandemic Preparedness pursuant to Pandemic Preparedness Plan (9.3.3 PPA)	[*****]	[*****]
2.3	Obligations regarding Pandemic Preparedness Plan pursuant to Section 9.4 PPA, such as regular updates.	[*****]	
2.4	Obligations with regard to Supplier Products, in particular obligation to reserve / stock-pile particularly critical supplier products/critical supplier products, and safekeeping of those Supplier Products, as is required for the manufacture of 50% of the Secured Quantity (9.5 PPA)	[*****]	[*****]
2.5	Corrective actions/remedies in case of pandemic preparedness deficiency/failure (9.9, 9.10)	[*****]	[*****]
3	Manufacturing and Supply phase (<i>Herstellungs- und Lieferphase</i>), Section 10 PPA		
3.1	General obligations (10.12)		
3.1.1	Performance of all Essential Manufacturing Steps in the Facilities (Section 10.12.1.)	[*****]	[*****]

	Scope of work under the PPA	Role & Responsibility of CureVac	Role & Responsibility of GSK
3.1.2	Obligation to suspend third-party supply (if necessary) (10.12.2.)	[*****]	[*****]
3.2	Switch to Updated Vaccine (10.13, 10.14)		
3.2.1	Supply or manufacturing switch to updated vaccines after formal notification by FRG (10.13, 10.14)	[*****]	[*****]
3.3	Specific Obligations upon exercise of Preferred Purchase Right (10.15)		
3.3.1	Obligation to (i) treat FRG as most preferred customer in connection with Specified Quantity (i.e., quantity specified by FRG when exercising purchase right), (ii) ensuring that delivery to FRG is fulfilled with priority before all other deliveries, including to affiliates (iii) documentation of preferential manufacture (10.15.1)	[*****]	[*****]
3.3.2	Manufacturing of vaccine exclusively in the Facilities using Reserved Capacities (10.15.2 (a))	[*****]	[*****]
3.3.3	Contract Partners' full responsibility for end-to-end manufacture (10.15.2 (b))	[*****]	[*****]
3.3.4	Reasonable best-efforts commitment to obtain Marketing Authorization including certain	[*****]	[*****]

	Scope of work under the PPA	Role & Responsibility of CureVac	Role & Responsibility of GSK
	notification obligations (10.15.3)		
3.3.5	Manufacturing ramp-up within three months after Supply Call (i.e., shutdown of current production, handling of customers, re-tooling of production, tech-transfer) (10.15.6)	[*****]	[*****]
3.3.6	Delivery obligations, in particular within the binding timelines set forth in the Delivery Plan (10.15.7)	[*****]	[*****]
3.4	Obligations related to Purchase Price Determination (10.15.10)		
3.4.1	Provision of FRG with all available information and documents required for the determination of the Purchase Price, further documentation and disclosure obligations (10.15.10 (b), (e), (f))		[*****]
3.5	Specific obligations upon exercise of Preferred Manufacturing Right (10.16)		
3.5.1	Obligation to (i) treat the obligations under PPA including obligation to manufacture Specified Quantity, with priority; (ii) treat the Selected Third Party as the most preferred customer and ensure that its orders are fulfilled with priority before all supply orders of other external customers or internal customers, (iii)	[*****]	[*****]

	Scope of work under the PPA	Role & Responsibility of CureVac	Role & Responsibility of GSK
	documentation of preferential manufacture (10.16.1)		
3.5.2	Manufacturing ramp up following a first Manufacturing Call for a Selected Third Party's Vaccine, including the technology transfers required for this purpose (10.16.2)	[*****]	[*****]
3.5.3	Timeline and Volume of Manufacturing Obligation (10.16.3)	[*****]	[*****]
3.5.4	Conclusion of Third Party Contract Manufacturing Agreement (10.16.4)		[*****]
3.5.5	Manufacturing of vaccine exclusively in the Facilities, full responsibility for end-to-end manufacture; information obligation in case GMP was not complied with (10.16.5)	[*****]	[*****]

For the avoidance of doubt, this Exhibit 1 (excluding its sections 1.1 to 1.3, in connection with Section 9.2 of this Agreement) shall not be interpreted in a way as to impose obligations on a Party that are stricter than under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (e.g., in case an obligation under the Pandemic Preparedness Agreement is limited to using Reasonable Best Efforts, no stricter standard shall apply under this Exhibit 1).

EXHIBIT 2

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT SHOWING ESTIMATED COSTS AND EXPENSES

[*****]

The Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as follows:

CureVac AG

by:
Name: Franz-Werner Haas
Capacity: Chief Operating Officer
Date: 20 February 2022
Signature: /s/ Franz-Werner Haas

by:
Name: Antony Blanc
Capacity: Chief Business Officer and Chief Commercial Officer
Date: 20 February 2022
Signature: /s/ Antony Blanc

CureVac Real Estate GmbH

by:
Name: Malte Greune
Capacity: Chief Operating Officer
Date: 20 February 2022
Signature: /s/ Malte Greune

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

by:
Name: Roger Connor
Capacity: President, Global Vaccines
Date: 20 February 2022
Signature: /s/ Roger Connor

by:
Name: Gabriel Millan
Capacity: GSK Vaccines Senior Vice
President, Finance
Date: 20 February 2022
Signature: /s/ Gabriel Millan

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [*****], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.

**2020 CLA FOURTH AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT
AGREEMENT**

dated

4 MARCH 2022

by and between

CUREVAC AG

and

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA

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AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT AGREEMENT

This **Amendment and Restatement Agreement ("Agreement")** is entered into on 4 March 2022
("Effective Date")

BY AND BETWEEN

CUREVAC AG, a German cooperation with offices at [*****] ("**CureVac**");

AND

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA, [*****] ("**GSK**").

INTRODUCTION

- A. This Agreement is supplemental to and amends and restates a Collaboration and License Agreement dated July 15, 2020, as first amended and restated on April 2, 2021 and as further amended and restated on September 29, 2021 and February 20, 2022, on collaborating in the research, development and commercialization of prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA based vaccines and antibodies targeting certain infectious disease pathogens, such pathogens among others not including SARS-CoV-2 (the "**2020 CLA**").
- B. The Parties have consented to the amendments to the 2020 CLA set out in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the following mutual covenants and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 In this Agreement, unless the contrary intention appears, a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule is a reference to a section, exhibit or schedule to this Agreement. Schedule 1 forms part of this Agreement.
- 1.2 Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, the words and expressions defined in the Amended and Restated 2020 CLA (as defined below) shall have the same meanings when used in this Agreement and the rules and principles of interpretation set out in Section 1 of the Amended and Restated 2020 CLA shall apply to this Agreement.
- 1.3 In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the terms of the Amended and Restated 2020 CLA and this Agreement, this Agreement shall prevail.

2. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Agreement shall commence on and from the Effective Date.

3. **AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT**

3.1 Subject to Section 3.2, the Parties agree that the 2020 CLA will be amended and restated in the form set out in Schedule 1 (the "**Amended and Restated 2020 CLA**") on and from the Effective Date so that the rights and obligations of the Parties to the 2020 CLA shall, on and from the Effective Date, be governed by and construed in accordance with the provisions of the Amended and Restated 2020 CLA.

3.2 The 2020 CLA will remain in full force and effect, except to the extent amended and restated by this Agreement, and each Party's rights, responsibilities and liabilities relating to any act or omission prior to Effective Date shall continue to be determined by:

- (a) the 2020 CLA for any act and omission on or after September 29, 2021;
- (b) the Collaboration and License Agreement between the Parties dated July 15, 2020, as first amended and restated on April 2, 2021, for any act and omission between April 2, 2021 and September 28, 2021 (inclusive); or
- (c) the original, unamended version of the Collaboration and License Agreement between the Parties dated July 15, 2020 for any act or omission prior to April 2, 2021.

4. **REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES**

CureVac and GSK each represents and warrants and covenants with respect to itself only as at the Effective Date that:

- (a) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of such Party, its officers and directors, and does not conflict with, violate, or breach any agreement to which such Party is a party, or such Party's corporate charter, bylaws or similar organizational documents;
- (b) this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party that is enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by general principles of equity or to applicable competition, bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, liquidation and other similar laws relating to, or affecting generally, the enforcement of applicable creditors' rights and remedies;
- (c) it is a company or corporation duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated.

5. **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

5.1 This Agreement and all disputes arising hereunder, shall be exclusively governed by, and interpreted and enforced in accordance with Belgian law. The United Nations Convention of International Contracts on the Sale of Goods (the Vienna Convention) does not apply to this Agreement.

5.2 If any provision of this Agreement is determined by any court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a replacement provision that is commercially equivalent, to the maximum extent permitted by

Applicable Law, to such invalid or unenforceable provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement. Nor shall the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in one country or jurisdiction affect the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other country or jurisdiction in which such provision would otherwise be valid or enforceable.

- 5.3 This Agreement, together with Schedule 1 attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications between the Parties, with respect to the subject matter hereof, including the Confidentiality Agreements. The foregoing may not be interpreted as a waiver of any remedies available to either Party as a result of any breach prior to the Effective Date, by the other Party of its obligations under the Confidentiality Agreements. No modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties unless in writing and executed by the duly authorized representative of each of the Parties; this shall also apply to any change of this Section 5.3.
- 5.4 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, by original or electronic (including "pdf") signature, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 5.5 The Parties are independent contractors and this Agreement shall not constitute or give rise to an employer-employee, agency, partnership or joint venture relationship among the Parties and each Party's performance hereunder is that of a separate, independent entity.
- 5.6 None of the provisions of this Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any Third Party which shall be a Third Party beneficiary to this Agreement.

Signature page follows.

In Witness Whereof, the Parties have executed this Agreement to be effective as at the Effective Date.

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

SCHEDULE 1

AMENDED AND RESTATED 2020 CLA

COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

dated

15 JULY, 2020

(AS AMENDED AND RESTATED A FOURTH TIME ON 4 MARCH 2022)

by and between

CUREVAC AG

and

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA

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COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

This **Collaboration and License Agreement** ("**Agreement**") is entered into on 15 July, 2020 ("**Effective Date**") and amended and restated a fourth time on 4 March, 2022

BY AND BETWEEN

CUREVAC AG, a German cooperation with offices at [*****] ("**CureVac**");

AND

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA, a Belgium corporation with offices at [*****] ("**GSK**").

INTRODUCTION

- A. WHEREAS, CureVac is a biotechnology company that is a pioneer and technology leader in mRNA-based prophylactic and therapeutic approaches and discovers, designs and develops first-in-class mRNA therapies for the prevention and treatment of diseases with unmet medical need.
 - B. WHEREAS, GSK is a world leading global healthcare company developing, manufacturing and commercializing innovative pharmaceuticals, vaccines and consumer healthcare products worldwide.
 - C. WHEREAS, GSK made an equity investment into CureVac pursuant to the terms of the investment and shareholders agreement on or around the date of this Agreement (the "**Equity Investment**").
 - D. WHEREAS, the Parties wish to collaborate in the research, development and commercialization of prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA-based vaccines and antibodies targeting infectious disease pathogens.
 - E. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement, to amend the list of Excluded Pathogens, to vary the exclusive option granted by CureVac to GSK and to make certain other amendments to align it with the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.
 - F. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a second time by the Second Amendment dated September 29, 2021 to improve the competitiveness of the Products, to accelerate the execution of the R&D Plans, including, *inter alia*, that GSK will be enabled to Manufacture on its own clinical trial materials and will contribute significantly more resources to
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progress the Development and Manufacture of the Products, as set forth, *inter alia*, in the amended R&D Plans.

- G. WHEREAS, the Parties are currently participating (as a bidding consortium) in a tender procedure conducted by the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by [*****], by way of contract notice dated July 13, 2021 (2021/S 133-354125) (the "[*****] **Tender Procedure**") concerning the conclusion of a framework agreement on the pandemic preparedness, manufacture and supply of mRNA-based vaccines (the "[*****] **Pandemic Preparedness Agreement**"), and have agreed to enter into a consortium agreement (the "[*****] **PPA Consortium Agreement**") to specify with respect to the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement the relationship between the Parties, in particular concerning the allocation of the responsibilities between the Parties.
- H. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a third time to address the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.
- I. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a fourth time, in connection with GSK entering into a direct agreement with [*****] relating to use of the [*****] manufacturing facility in [*****].

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the following mutual covenants and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Agreement, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings, whether used in the singular or plural:

- 1.1 **"2021 Preliminary Agreement"** means the preliminary agreement between the Parties regarding CureVac mRNA-based coronavirus vaccines dated 3 February, 2021.
 - 1.2 **"2021 Collaboration Agreement"** means the collaboration and license agreement between the Parties regarding CureVac mRNA-based SARS-Cov-2 vaccines (and certain other vaccines targeting coronaviruses, in the event of effective Option Exercise under this Agreement, if CureVac elects the profit share option under Section 3.7.3(a)(i) dated 2 April, 2021 (as amended).
 - 1.3 **"Affiliate"** shall mean any Person that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another Person. A Person will be regarded as under the control of another Person if the latter Person owns, or directly or indirectly controls, fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting stock or other ownership interest of the former Person, or if the latter Person possesses, directly or indirectly, the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the former Person or the power to elect or appoint fifty percent (50%) or more of the members of the governing body of the former Person, *provided, however*, that regarding CureVac, Affiliate shall not include Mr. Dietmar Hopp, dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co.KG and/or any other companies controlled by Mr. Dietmar Hopp and/or dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co.KG that are not subsidiaries of CureVac.
 - 1.4 **"Agreement"** shall have the meaning set forth in the Preamble.
 - 1.5 **"Alliance Manager"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
 - 1.6 **"Ancillary Agreement"** shall mean any of the following agreements between the Parties (or their respective Affiliates) relating to this Agreement: any Clinical Supply Agreement; any Commercial Supply Agreement; any Distribution Agreement; any Quality Agreement and any pharmacovigilance agreement.
 - 1.7 **"Antibody"** shall mean a molecule, defined by its amino acid sequence, including an engineered molecule that comprises [*****].
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- 1.8 **"Antibody Combination"** shall mean a combination of [*****] Antibodies and so binding to a maximum of [*****] distinct Antigens.
- 1.9 **"Antigen"** shall mean any antigen, defined by its amino acid sequence, associated with a Pathogen, together with all Antigen Variants thereof.
- 1.10 **"Antigen Variant"** shall mean any variant of an Antigen, including the wild type, naturally occurring variants, engineered variants wherein modifications to the native amino acid sequence have been introduced (for example, mutated versions, derivatives or fragments), provided, however, that any such variant possesses substantially similar biological activity to the naturally occurring antigen.
- 1.11 **"Antigen/Antibody List Rep"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.4.
- 1.12 **"Applicable Laws"** shall mean all applicable provisions of all national, supranational, regional, state and local, laws, treaties, statutes, rules, regulations, directives, administrative codes, ordinances, decrees, orders, decisions, guidance documents, injunctions, awards, judgments, and permits of or from any court, arbitrator, stock exchange, regulatory authority or governmental authority having jurisdiction over or related to the subject item.
- 1.13 **"Assigned Invention"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.5.
- 1.14 **"Background Technology"** shall mean the CureVac Background Technology and/or GSK Background Technology, as applicable.
- 1.15 **"Brand IP"** shall mean any and all rights and privileges in trade names, domain names, brand names, product names, logos and trade dress (and the goodwill of any business symbolized thereby), including trademarks, service marks, copyrights and design rights for any of the above, and any similar intellectual property right recognized from time to time in any jurisdiction, as well as any and all registrations, applications, recordings and other legal protections to the foregoing.
- 1.16 **"Breaching Party"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.4.
- 1.17 **"Business Day"** shall mean any day other than Saturday, Sunday, or any day that banks are authorized or required to be closed in Tübingen, Germany or Rixensart, Belgium.
- 1.18 **"Calendar Quarter"** shall mean each successive period of three (3) months ending on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each Calendar Year; provided, that the first Calendar Quarter under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Closing Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Quarter in which the Closing Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Quarter of the Term will be the period beginning on January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1, as
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applicable, and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement, and "**Calendar Quarterly**" shall be construed accordingly.

- 1.19** "**Calendar Year**" shall mean each successive period of twelve (12) months commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31; *provided, however*, that the first Calendar Year under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Closing Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Year in which the Closing Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Year of the Term will be the period beginning on January 1 and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement.
- 1.20** "**Clearance Template**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.4.
- 1.21** "**Change of Control**" shall mean a transaction in which a Party (or any direct or indirect shareholder(s), unitholder(s) or partner(s) together holding (directly or indirectly) over fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the shares, units or partnership interests in a Party): (i) sells, conveys or otherwise disposes of all or substantially all of the Party's (or their indirect interest(s) in the Party's) property, assets or business; or (ii) merges or consolidates with any other entity; or (iii) effects any other transaction or series of transactions; in each case of clause (ii) or (iii), such that the ultimate direct or indirect shareholder(s), unitholder(s) or partner(s) of such Party immediately prior thereto, in aggregate, no longer own, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting securities or capital stock of the surviving entity following the closing of such merger, consolidation, other transaction or series of transactions. For the avoidance of doubt, "Change of Control" shall not mean a transaction which, in the case of paragraph (ii) or (iii), results in a person owning, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting securities or capital stock of the surviving entity and where there is an agreement or arrangement between that person (or any of its direct or indirect shareholders, unitholders or partners) and the relevant Party (or any of its direct or indirect shareholders, unitholders or partners) to reverse the effects of this transaction or to implement a further transaction so that the ultimate shareholders, unitholders or partners of the relevant Party immediately prior thereto will again own, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting shares, units or partnership interests of the relevant Party or surviving entity.
- 1.22** "**Clinical Phase I Study**" shall mean a study in humans which provides for the first administration to humans of a product, conducted in healthy volunteers or patients to obtain information on product safety, tolerability, pharmacological activity or pharmacokinetics, as more fully defined in 21 C.F.R. § 312.21(a) or the non-United States equivalent thereof. For the avoidance of doubt, a Clinical Phase I Study may generate sufficient data (if successful) to commence pivotal studies/Clinical Phase III Studies, but it shall not constitute a Clinical Phase II Study.
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- 1.23 "**Clinical Phase II Study**" shall mean a clinical study (other than a Clinical Phase I Study) in humans of the safety, dose ranging and efficacy of a product, which is prospectively designed to generate sufficient data (if successful) to commence pivotal studies/Clinical Phase III Studies, as further defined in 21 CFR §312.21(b) or the non-United States equivalent thereof.
- 1.24 "**Clinical Phase III Study**" shall mean a controlled, and usually multicenter, clinical study in humans of the efficacy and safety of a product, which is prospectively designed to demonstrate statistically whether such product is effective and safe for use in humans in the indication being investigated in a manner sufficient to submit an application to obtain Regulatory Approval to market such product, as further defined in 21 CFR §312.21(c) or the non-United States equivalent thereof.
- 1.25 "**Closing Date**" means 15 July, 2020.
- 1.26 "**Clinical Studies**" shall mean all Clinical Phase I Studies, Clinical Phase II Studies and Clinical Phase III Studies, including pivotal studies.
- 1.27 "**CMC Development**" shall mean all research and development activities conducted in respect of the Manufacture of Products, including chemistry, manufacturing and control (CMC), creation of master and working cell banks, test method development and stability testing, process development, manufacturing scale-up, qualification and validation, quality assurance and quality control processes and techniques.
- 1.28 "**CMO**" shall mean a contract manufacturing organization.
- 1.29 "**Collaboration Pathogen**" shall mean a Pathogen other than an Excluded Pathogen in relation to which the Parties have agreed to seek to Develop a Product under this Agreement (including any Replacement Product or Optioned Product) for as long as such Product is being Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement. As at the Effective Date of this Agreement, Collaboration Pathogen shall mean the Pathogens set out in **Exhibit 1.29**. For clarity, if GSK replaces a Product pursuant to Section 3.6 or terminates a Program pursuant to Section 14.2, the Pathogen targeted by such Replaced Product or targeted under such terminated Program shall no longer be a Collaboration Pathogen, but shall be an Excluded Pathogen.
- 1.30 "**Combination Product**" shall mean a product that is:
- (i) a single pharmaceutical formulation containing Drug Substances associated with a Product and one or more other therapeutically or prophylactically active pharmaceutical ingredients [*****];
 - (ii) any combination therapy comprised of a Finished Product and one or more other therapeutically or prophylactically active products, that is (x) priced and sold in a single package containing such multiple products; or (y) packaged separately but sold together for a single price; or
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(iii) comprised of a Finished Product and a companion or complementary diagnostic, priced and sold in a single package containing such multiple products or packaged separately but sold together for a single price,

in each case, including all dosage forms, formulations, presentations, line extensions, and package configurations. For clarity, a Pathogen Combination Product shall not be a Combination Product, unless it is (A) combined with another therapeutically or prophylactically active ingredient/product or (B) comprised of a Finished Product and a companion or complementary diagnostic product, as set forth in (i), (ii) or (iii) above.

1.31 "Commercial Supply Agreement" shall have the meaning given in Section 5.4.

1.32 "Commercialization" shall mean any and all activities directed to the preparation for sale of, offering for sale of, or sale of a Product, including activities related to marketing, promoting, distributing, importing and exporting of Products, interacting with Regulatory Authorities regarding any of the foregoing and medical affairs functions. For the avoidance of doubt, "Commercialization" shall not include the Manufacture of Products. When used as a verb, to "**Commercialize**" and "**Commercializing**" shall mean to engage in Commercialization, and "**Commercialized**" has a correlative meaning.

1.33 "Confidential Information" shall mean all Know-How, Development Data or other information of a Party whether or not marked confidential or proprietary, including:

(i) all communications between the Parties or information of whatever kind whether recorded or not and, if recorded, in whatever medium, relating to or arising out of this Agreement, whether disclosed prior to or after entering into this Agreement; and

(ii) all copies and excerpts of the communications, information, notes, reports and documents in whatever form referred to in paragraph (i) of this definition.

For purposes of the confidentiality obligations set forth herein, (a) GSK Know-How, GSK Materials and GSK Inventions shall be deemed Confidential Information of GSK; and CureVac Know-How, CureVac Materials and CureVac Inventions shall be deemed Confidential Information of CureVac; (b) Confidential Information jointly owned by the Parties as well as Inventions and Know-How jointly owned by the Parties shall be deemed Confidential Information of both Parties; and (c) the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be deemed Confidential Information of both Parties (and both Parties shall be deemed the Receiving Party with respect thereto). "Confidential Information" also includes all information exchanged between the Parties pursuant to the Confidentiality Agreement.

1.34 "Confidentiality Agreement" shall mean that certain Confidential Disclosure Agreement entered into between the Parties as at January 9, 2020.

- 1.35 "**Control**" shall mean, with respect to any material, information or intellectual property right, that a Party (i) owns such material, information or intellectual property right; or (ii) has a license to or right to use or grant access to such material, information or intellectual property right, in each case of (i) or (ii), without violating the terms of any agreement or other arrangement with a Third Party, provided that any intellectual property right in-licensed by a Party from the other Party under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement shall not be Controlled by such Party for the purpose of this Section 1.35.
- 1.36 "**Cover**" shall mean, (i) with respect to a claim of a Patent Right, that such claim would be infringed, absent a license, by the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of a Product, or (ii) with regard to Know-How, that the use or disclosure of such Know-How without a license would be actionable.
- 1.37 "**COVID Product**" shall have the meaning given to it in the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.38 "**CRO**" shall mean a contract research organization or a contract development and manufacturing organization.
- 1.39 "**CureVac Alliance Manager**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
- 1.40 "**CureVac Background Technology**" shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Controlled by CureVac at the Effective Date or generated or acquired by or on behalf of CureVac during the Term outside the scope of this Agreement.
- 1.41 "**CureVac Elements**" shall mean mRNA, LNP, CVCM and other technology or information, each as described in the CureVac Know-How or within the scope of the specifications of the CureVac Patent Rights (excluding any Invention or Know-How jointly owned by the Parties), excluding Modified MRNA.
- 1.42 "**CureVac Indemnified Parties**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.1.
- 1.43 "**CureVac Invention**" shall mean both (i) any Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the Second Amendment Effective Date, and which qualifies as a "CureVac Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date; and (ii) any later Invention that falls under the definition of "CureVac Invention" as set forth in Section 9.3.1(i).
- 1.44 "**CureVac Know-How**" shall mean (i) all Know-How within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or during the Term that is necessary or useful for the Parties to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize Products under this Agreement, provided that (x) with respect to Know-How within the CureVac Background Technology owned by a Third Party that is not necessary to ensure freedom to operate for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of
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Products in the Field in the Territory and that comes under CureVac's Control, this shall only include Know-How which is deemed CureVac Know-How pursuant to Section 2.8.1; and (y) this shall not include the Know-How of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac after the Effective Date solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac; and (ii) all Know-How Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates arising or generated during the Research Period in connection with the performance of activities under this Agreement; *provided, however*, that CureVac Know-How does not include Know-How related to (A) LNP technology Controlled by a Third Party; and (B) the [*****]. CureVac Know-How shall include (i) Know-How comprised in the CureVac Background Technology; (ii) Know-How related to CureVac Inventions, (iii) CureVac's share in Know-How related to Joint Inventions, Joint Product Inventions and Joint Other Inventions, (iv) other Know-How generated by or on behalf of CureVac under a Program, (v) Know-How related to LNP technology owned or Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates (other than the Licensed LNPs), and (vi) Know-How related to CVCMS. Without limiting Section 9.1, the CureVac Know-How existing at the Effective Date is further described in **Exhibit 1.44**.

- 1.45** "**CureVac Manufacturing Technology**" shall mean CureVac Patent Rights and CureVac Know-How that are required for the Manufacture of Products.
- 1.46** "**CureVac Materials**" shall mean [*****] that are supplied or otherwise made available by or on behalf of CureVac and/or its Affiliate(s) to GSK hereunder for the purposes of this Agreement (excluding, for clarity, any Confidential Information, any Product and the Transferring Materials).
- 1.47** "**CureVac mRNA**" shall mean the non-replicating mRNA Covered by the CureVac Technology on the Effective Date or during the Term.
- 1.48** "**CureVac mRNA-Based**" shall mean, with respect to a vaccine or Antibody, that such vaccine or Antibody is encoded by one or more CureVac mRNAs.
- 1.49** "**CureVac/ [*****] Agreement**" means the master services and commercial manufacturing agreement between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and [*****] dated February 22, 2021.
- 1.50** "**CureVac Patent Right(s)**" shall mean (i) all Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or during the Term that are necessary or useful for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of Products under this Agreement, provided that (x) with respect to Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology owned by a Third Party that are not necessary to ensure freedom to operate for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of Products in the Field in the Territory and that come under CureVac's Control after the Effective Date, this shall only include Patent Rights which are deemed CureVac Patent Rights pursuant to Section 2.8.1; and (y) this shall not include the Patent Rights of any Third Party (or such Third
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Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac, and (ii) all CureVac Program Patent Rights and CureVac's interest in Joint Patent Rights; *provided, however*, that CureVac Patent Rights do not include Patent Rights Covering (A) LNP technology Controlled by a Third Party; and (B) [*****]. CureVac Patent Rights shall include (i) Patent Rights comprised in the CureVac Background Technology; and (ii) CureVac's share in Joint Patent Rights, and (iii) CureVac Program Patent Rights, and (iv) Patent Rights Covering the LNP technology owned or Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates (other than the Licensed LNPs) and Patent Rights Covering CVCMS. The CureVac Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date are listed in **Exhibit 1.50**.

- 1.51 "**CureVac Program Patent Right**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7.1.
 - 1.52 "**CureVac Project Leader**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
 - 1.53 "**CureVac Technology**" shall mean CureVac Patent Rights and CureVac Know-How.
 - 1.54 "**CureVac Territory**" shall mean Austria, Germany and Switzerland.
 - 1.55 "**CVCM**" shall mean CureVac's next generation mRNA delivery vehicle, also referred to as CureVac Carrier Molecule™, which is disclosed in CureVac's patent families [*****], that is appropriate for the formulation of Drug Substance.
 - 1.56 "[*****] **PPA Consortium Agreement**" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
 - 1.57 "[*****] **PPA End Date**" has the meaning set forth in Section 15.3.
 - 1.58 "[*****] **Pandemic Preparedness Agreement**" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
 - 1.59 "[*****] **Pandemic Preparedness Plan**" has the meaning set forth in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
 - 1.60 "[*****] **PPA Stand-by Fee**" shall mean the "Stand-by Fee" as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
 - 1.61 "[*****] **Tender Procedure**" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
 - 1.62 "**Development**" shall mean all research, non-clinical, and clinical testing and drug development activities conducted in respect of the Products, including those necessary or reasonably useful or otherwise requested or required by a Regulatory Authority as a condition or in support of obtaining or maintaining Regulatory Approvals and to successfully Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize the Products for use in the Field. "**Development**" shall include CMC Development, delivery system development, mRNA sequence optimization, protein design, non-clinical testing, mechanism of action studies, toxicology, pharmacokinetics, clinical studies,
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regulatory affairs activities, statistical analysis and report writing, submission of documents, market research, pharmaco-economic studies, and epidemiological/real world data studies. Development shall mean both (a) non-clinical and clinical Development; and (b) CMC Development. "**Develop**" and "**Developed**" have a correlative meaning.

- 1.63** "**Development Costs**" shall mean: (i) demonstrable costs and expenses invoiced by Third Parties for the activities specified in the applicable R&D Plan; and (ii) the costs and expenses of scientific, medical, technical personnel directly engaged in such efforts, which costs shall be determined based on the FTE Rate based on time actually spent performing the applicable activities, in each case as further detailed in the Development budget set out in the applicable R&D Plan.
- 1.64** "**Development Data**" shall mean: (i) CMC Development data (including records of Manufactured batches); (ii) any non-clinical or clinical findings, results and other research data relating to the Products, in any format; and (iii) the formal reports of preclinical toxicology studies and Clinical Studies, such data in each case of (i), (ii) and (iii) required for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the Products, including but not limited to, INDs and other regulatory filings and registration dossiers.
- 1.65** "**Development & Regulatory Milestone Event**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.3.
- 1.66** "**Development & Regulatory Milestone Payment**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.3.
- 1.67** "**Development Transfer Materials**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.7.
- 1.68** "**Diligent Efforts**" shall mean, with respect to a Party, those efforts, expertise and resources commensurate with efforts, expertise and resources commonly used in the biopharmaceutical industry by a company of comparable size in connection with the development, manufacture and/or commercialization of a comparable pharmaceutical product which is of similar market potential at a similar stage of development or commercialization in light of issues of safety and efficacy, product profile, public health, the competitiveness of the marketplace, the proprietary position of the compound or product, the regulatory structure involved, the profitability of the applicable products, product reimbursement, and other relevant factors such as technical, legal, scientific, or medical factors. Diligent Efforts shall be determined on a market-by-market and indication-by-indication basis for each Product, and it may change over time.
- 1.69** "**Disclosing Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.1
- 1.70** "**Disclosure Letter**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.4.
- 1.71** "**Distribution Agreement**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 6.2.
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- 1.72 "**Drug Product**" shall mean, for a given Product, the drug product form thereof, i.e. comprising of one or more Drug Substance(s) of that Product and formulated with a Licensed LNP, an LNP Controlled by CureVac or a CVCN, and any excipients.
- 1.73 "**Drug Substance**" shall mean the active ingredient(s) of a Product, being one or more mRNA molecules which contains the genetic information for the relevant Antigen(s) or Antibody(ies).
- 1.74 "**Effective Date**" shall have the meaning set forth in the Preamble.
- 1.75 "**EMA**" shall mean the European Medicines Agency.
- 1.76 "**Excluded Pathogen**" shall mean (i) any of the Pathogens listed in **Exhibit 1.76**, (ii) in case GSK exercises its Replacement Right pursuant to Section 3.6, any Pathogen targeted by a Replaced Product (unless that Pathogen is targeted by another Product, including any Replacement Product), and (iii) in case GSK terminates a Program for a Product pursuant to Section 14.2, the Pathogen targeted under such terminated Program (unless that Pathogen is targeted under another Program).
- 1.77 "**Exclusive Option**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.1.
- 1.78 "**Executive Officers**" the Chief Executive Officer of CureVac (or a senior executive officer of CureVac designated by CureVac's Chief Executive Officer) and the President of GSK Vaccines (or a senior executive officer of GSK designated by the President of GSK Vaccines).
- 1.79 "**FDA**" shall mean the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- 1.80 "**Field**" shall mean any and all prophylactic and/or therapeutic uses for the prevention, delay of onset or treatment of infectious disease pathogens, conditions or disorders.
- 1.81 "**[*****] Product**" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.29.
- 1.82 "**Filled Containers**" shall mean, for a given COVID Product, Drug Product, diluted and filled in vials, without labelling or packaging.
- 1.83 "**Financial Partner**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.4.1 below.
- 1.84 "**Finished Product**" shall mean, for a given Product, the final presentation of such Product, following labelling and packaging of Filled Containers, as registered in the applicable Regulatory Approval.
- 1.85 "**First Commercial Sale**" shall mean, on a Product-by- Product and country-by-country basis, the first sale of a Product by or on behalf of GSK or its Affiliates or Sublicensees, such as but not limited to, sales to a Third Party wholesaler, pharmacy, outpatient clinic, inpatient clinic, hospital, dispensing physician or government agency in a given country after necessary Regulatory Approval has been granted with respect to such Product in such country, *provided, however, that*
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in the event of a sale of a Product prior to Regulatory Approval which is substantially comparable to a commercial sale effected only after Regulatory Approval is obtained, then the first sale in any such arrangement shall also constitute a First Commercial Sale. For the avoidance of doubt, "treatment IND sales", "named patient sales" and "compassionate use sales" shall not be construed as a First Commercial Sale if the aggregate, annual Net Sales for all such programs are less than [*****]. For avoidance of doubt, any sale of a Product by GSK to an Affiliate or Sublicensee or subcontractor is not a First Commercial Sale.

- 1.86 "First Product" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.29.
- 1.87 "First Product R&D Plan" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.1.
- 1.88 "First Regulatory Approval" shall mean, in relation to each Product, unless expressly stated otherwise in this Agreement, the earlier of (i) final marketing authorization for a Product in any jurisdiction of the Territory and (ii) the grant of any conditional authorization for a COVID Product in any jurisdiction of the Territory.
- 1.89 "Force Majeure" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2.
- 1.90 "[*****] Amendment Effective Date" shall mean March 4, 2022.
- 1.91 "Fourth Product" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.29.
- 1.92 "FTE" shall mean, with respect to a person, the equivalent of the work of one (1) employee full time for one (1) year (consisting of at least [*****] working hours per year (with no further reductions for vacations and holidays)). Overtime, and work on weekends, holidays and the like will not be counted with any multiplier (e.g., time-and-a-half or double time) toward the number of hours that are used to calculate the FTE contribution. The portion of a FTE billable by CureVac for one (1) individual during a given accounting period shall be determined by dividing the number of hours worked by said individual on the work to be conducted under the Agreement during such accounting period by the number of FTE hours applicable for such accounting period based on [*****] working hours per year. FTE shall include the employee required to execute the R&D Plans provided however that employees falling under the COGS definition of the Clinical Supply Agreement or the Commercial Supply Agreement shall not be included. FTE shall not include personnel undertaking general corporate activities including, by way of example only, investor relations, business development, legal affairs, and any other activities not supporting activities conducted under this Agreement.
- 1.93 "FTE Rate" shall mean, for the period commencing on the Effective Date until such time as the Parties mutually agree otherwise, an annual rate of [*****]. The FTE Rate shall include all fully loaded costs, including costs of salaries (including overtime), benefits, other employee costs, overhead and supporting general and administration allocations. CureVac may increase the FTE Rate for inflation on an annual basis based upon the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Germany.
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- 1.94 **"Force Majeure"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2.
- 1.95 **"GMP Manufacturing Facilities"** shall mean a production facility for the manufacture of drug products, including the manufacturing space, the storage warehouse for raw and finished product, and support lab areas, which conforms to GMP.
- 1.96 **"GMP-III Manufacturing Facility"** shall mean CureVac's GMP manufacturing facility at [*****].
- 1.97 **"GMP-IV Manufacturing Facility"** shall mean CureVac's new GMP manufacturing facility currently under construction at [*****].
- 1.98 **"GMP-IV Reservation Fee"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.
- 1.99 **"Good Clinical Practices"** or **"GCP"** shall mean, in connection with a Clinical Study, current practices set forth in or required by (1) the World Medical Association's Declaration of Helsinki entitled 'Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects' (2) the principles of International Conference on Harmonization Harmonized Tripartite Guideline for Good Clinical Practice (CPMP/ICH/135/95) E6 and E11; (3) the Directive 2001/20/EC of the European Union and in guidance published by the European Commission in relation to such Directive and any local laws, rules and regulations that implement such Directive and guidance; (4) provisions of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (including Parts 11, 50, 54, 56, 312, 314, 320, 601 and 610) and all rules, regulations, order and guidance's published thereunder; and (5) any other country in which the Clinical Study is conducted;
- 1.100 **"Good Distribution Practices"** or **"GDP"** shall mean the current (at a given time) standards, practices and procedures regarding the distribution of pharmaceutical products promulgated or endorsed by a Regulatory Authority and all Applicable Laws with respect thereto, as defined further or otherwise in the Distribution Agreement or a quality agreement ancillary thereto.
- 1.101 **"Good Laboratory Practices"** or **"GLP"** shall mean, at a given time, the current good laboratory practice standards promulgated or endorsed by the US Food and Drug Administration as defined in Part 58 of the Code of Federal Regulations Title 21, or comparable regulatory standards promulgated by the EMA or other applicable Regulatory Authority, as may be updated from time to time, including applicable quality guidelines promulgated under the ICH.
- 1.102 **"Good Data Management Practices"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.2.
- 1.103 **"Good Manufacturing Practices"** or **"GMP"** shall mean the current (at a given time) standards, practices and procedures regarding the Manufacturing of human vaccines promulgated or endorsed by a Regulatory Authority and all Applicable Laws with respect thereto, including:
- (i) the standards, rules, principles and guidelines set out in Chapter II of EC Commission Directive 2003/94/EC together with the guidance for the interpretation of the principles and
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guidelines of good manufacturing practices for medicinal products for human use laid down in Commission Directives 91/356/EEC, as amended by Directive 2003/94/EC and 91/412/EEC, contained in Volume 4 of "The Rules Governing Medicinal Products in the European Union".

- (ii) Parts 210 and 211 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations and all related guidance published by the FDA;
- (iii) The International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use ("ICH") Quality Guidelines relating to good manufacturing practice;
- (iv) the "Good Manufacturing Practices for Pharmaceutical Products" promulgated by the World Health Organization ("WHO"),

provided that term may be defined further or otherwise in the Quality Agreements regarding the supply of Drug Products for clinical or commercial purposes entered pursuant to this Agreement.

- 1.104 "Government Official"** (where 'government' means all levels and subdivisions of governments, i.e. local, regional, national, administrative, legislative, executive, or judicial, and royal or ruling families) shall mean: (a) any officer or employee of a government or any department, agency or instrumentality of a government (which includes public enterprises, and entities owned or controlled by the state); (b) any officer or employee of a public international organization such as the World Bank or United Nations; (c) any officer or employee of a political party, or any candidate for public office; (d) any person defined as a government or public official under Applicable Law (including anti-bribery and corruption laws) and not already covered by any of the above; and/or; (e) any person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of any of the above. "Government Official" shall include any person with close family members who are Government Officials (as defined above) with the capacity, actual or perceived, to influence or take official decisions affecting either Party's business.
- 1.105 "GSK Alliance Manager"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
- 1.106 "GSK Background Technology"** shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Controlled by GSK at the Effective Date or generated or acquired by or on behalf of GSK during the Term outside the scope of this Agreement.
- 1.107 "GSK Continue Option"** shall have the meaning given to it in the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.108 "GSK COVID Continue Option"** shall have the meaning given to it in the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.109 "GSK Indemnified Parties"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.2.
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- 1.110 "GSK Invention"** shall mean both (i) any Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the Second Amendment Effective Date, and which qualifies as a "GSK Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date; and (ii) any later Invention that falls under the definition of "GSK Invention" as set forth in Section 9.3.1 (ii) of this Second Amendment.
- 1.111 "GSK Know-How"** shall mean all Know-How Controlled by GSK or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or thereafter during the Term that (a) is necessary for CureVac to perform the obligations and other activities pursuant to this Agreement, or (b) is used by or on behalf of GSK its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize Products under this Agreement. GSK Know-How shall include (i) Know-How comprised in the GSK Background Technology; (ii) Know-How related to GSK Inventions, (iii) GSK's share in Know-How related to other Inventions, and (iii) other Know-How generated by or on behalf of GSK under a Program.
- 1.112 "GSK Materials"** shall mean any [*****] that are supplied or otherwise made available by or on behalf of GSK and/or its Affiliate(s) to CureVac for the purposes of this Agreement (excluding, for clarity, any Confidential Information, or any Product).
- 1.113 "GSK Patent Right(s)"** shall mean all Patent Rights Controlled by GSK or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or thereafter during the Term that (a) are necessary for CureVac to perform the obligations and other activities pursuant to this Agreement, or (b) are used by or on behalf of GSK its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize Products under this Agreement. GSK Patent Rights shall include Patent Rights comprised in the GSK Background Technology, GSK Program Patent Rights and GSK's interest in Joint Patent Rights.
- 1.114 "GSK Program Patent Right"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7.2.
- 1.115 "GSK Project Leader"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
- 1.116 "GSK Technology"** shall mean any and all GSK Patent Rights and GSK Know-How.
- 1.117 "GSK Territory"** shall mean all countries of the world other than the countries included in the CureVac Territory.
- 1.118 "GxP"** shall mean the good practice regulations in the pharmaceutical industry, including Good Manufacturing Practices, Good Laboratory Practices, Good Clinical Practices and Good Distribution Practices (GMP, GLP, GCP and GDP).
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- 1.119 "Human Biological Samples"** shall mean human biological material (including any derivative or progeny thereof), including any portion of an organ, any tissue, skin, bone, muscle, connective tissue, blood, cerebrospinal fluid, cells, gametes, or sub-cellular structures such as DNA, or any derivative of such biological material such as stem cells or cell lines; and any human biological product, including, but not limited to, hair, nail clippings, teeth, urine, faeces, breast milk, and sweat.
- 1.120 "IND"** shall mean an investigational new drug application filed with, and accepted by, the FDA prior to beginning clinical trials in humans in the United States, or any comparable application to and acceptance by the Regulatory Authority of a country or group of countries other than the USA thereto, including EMA, prior to beginning clinical trials in humans in that country or in that group of countries.
- 1.121 "In-Licensed IP"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.8.1.
- 1.122 "In-Licensing Agreement"** shall mean each of the LNP Agreements, the agreements listed in **Exhibit 1.122**, and any other agreement with a Third Party pursuant to which CureVac Controls CureVac Technology or LNP Technology.
- 1.123 "Initial Products"** shall mean the [*****].
- 1.124 "Initial Other Products"** shall mean each of the following Products: [*****].
- 1.125 "Initiation"** shall mean, with respect to a Clinical Study, the first administration of the first subject in such Clinical Study.
- 1.126 "Invention"** shall mean an invention or discovery, whether or not patentable, discovered, made, conceived and/or first reduced to practice during the Term by or on behalf of CureVac or GSK or Affiliates of CureVac or GSK, alone or jointly with each other and/or any Third Party, which arise from the performance of activities under this Agreement, including performance of activities under the R&D Plans.
- 1.127 "IP Sub-Committee"** shall mean the sub-committee to be established pursuant to Section 7.4.
- "Joint Invention"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.3.1(iii)
- 1.128 "Joint Product Invention"** shall mean an Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the Second Amendment Effective Date and which qualifies as a "Joint Product Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date.
- 1.129 "Joint Other Invention"** shall mean an Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by
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the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the Second Amendment Effective Date and which qualifies as a "Joint Other Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date.

- 1.130 "Joint Patent Rights"** shall mean Patent Rights Covering Joint Inventions, Joint Product Inventions or Joint Other Inventions.
- 1.131 "Joint Steering Committee", and "JSC"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.2.
- 1.132 "Know-How"** shall mean all technical, scientific and other information, inventions, discoveries, trade secrets, knowledge, technology, means, methods, processes, practices, formulae, instructions, skills, techniques, procedures, expressed ideas, technical assistance, designs, drawings, assembly procedures, computer programs, apparatuses, specifications, Development Data, results, non-clinical, clinical, safety, process and Manufacturing and quality control data and information (including trial designs and protocols), registration dossiers, in each case, solely to the extent confidential and proprietary and in written, electronic or any other form now known or hereafter Developed.
- 1.133 "[*****] Facility"** shall mean the [*****] facility located at [*****] and operated by [*****].
- 1.134 "Licensed LNP"** shall mean an LNP that is Controlled by CureVac as at the Effective Date or during the Term pursuant to (i) one or more non-exclusive license agreement(s) between CureVac and [*****], as amended from time to time (including by the Amendment Two to the Development and Option Agreement dated July 10, 2020); or (ii) in case GSK exercises its option under the Option LNP Technology pursuant to Section 2.1.4 and upon the execution of the Option LNP Agreement, a non-exclusive license agreement between CureVac and [*****], as amended from time to time (all such agreement(s), as applicable, "**LNP Agreement(s)**", and such counterparty, "**LNP Provider**"). Subject to Section 2.7.1, any amendment to either LNP Agreement made after the Effective Date shall not adversely affect the rights or increase the obligations of GSK or CureVac under this Agreement.
- 1.135 "LNP"** shall mean a lipid nanoparticle system comprised of individual lipid components at specific ratios, which are manufactured in such a manner to encapsulate and deliver mRNA into a target cell.
- 1.136 "LNP Agreement"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.134. For clarity, the use of any LNP Technology under this Agreement in relation to a COVID Product under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement shall not count towards the limit on the number of LNP Licenses under this Agreement.
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- 1.137 "**LNP COVID Agreement**" shall mean the Non-Exclusive License Agreement between CureVac and [*****]. For clarity, the use of any LNP Technology under this Agreement in relation to a COVID Product shall not count towards the limit on the number of LNP Licenses under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.138 "**LNP License**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.1.2.
- 1.139 "**LNP Provider**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.134.
- 1.140 "**LNP Technology**" shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Covering the Licensed LNPs that CureVac Controls pursuant to the LNP Agreements.
- 1.141 "**Major Markets**" shall mean the [*****].
- 1.142 "**Manufacture**" shall mean all manufacturing operations (including for Drug Substance, Drug Product, fill and finish, packaging and labelling) for Products, including all activities related to the preparation and use of master and working cell banks, making, production, processing, purifying, formulating, filling, and finishing, of the Finished Product, or any intermediate thereof, pre-clinical, clinical and commercial production, product, stability testing, quality assurance, and quality control. "**Manufacturing**" has a correlative meaning.
- 1.143 "**Manufacturing Sub-Committee**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.5.
- 1.144 "**Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.2.3.
- 1.145 "**Materials**" shall mean CureVac Materials and GSK Materials.
- 1.146 "**Modified MRNA**" shall mean [*****].
- 1.147 "**mRNA**" shall mean a replicating or non-replicating polynucleotide [*****] that is capable of directing the cellular machinery of a cell to produce polypeptide and [*****] and contains cytosine, guanine, uracil and adenine nucleosides or chemically modified analogues thereof such as Modified MRNA.
- 1.148 "**mRNA-Based**" shall mean, with respect to a vaccine or Antibody, that the vaccine Antigen or Antibody is encoded by one or more mRNAs.
- 1.149 "**Net Sales**" shall mean the gross invoice price of Product sold by GSK or its Affiliates or Sublicensees directly to a Third Party, less the following deductions if and to the extent such deductions to unaffiliated entities are actually allowed and granted:
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- (i) trade, quantity, and/or cash discounts, charge-back payments, allowances or rebates, including promotional or similar discounts or rebates, and discounts or rebates to governmental or managed care organizations;
- (ii) discounts provided in connection with coupon, voucher or similar patient programs;
- (iii) credits or allowances given or made with respect to Product by reason of rejection, defects, recalls, returns, rebates, or retroactive price reductions;
- (iv) any tax, tariff, duty or government charge (including any sales, value added, excise or similar tax or government charge, but excluding any income tax) levied on the sale, transportation or delivery of Product and borne by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees without reimbursement from any Third Party;
- (v) any charges for freight, postage, shipping or transportation, or for insurance, in each case to the extent borne by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees without reimbursement from any Third Party; and
- (vi) any administrative fees paid to group purchasing organizations or managed care entities for the sale of Product (provided, however, that such deduction may not exceed two percent (2%) of the gross sales in the corresponding accounting period).

All such discounts, allowances, credits, rebates and other deductions shall be fairly and equitably allocated to the sale of the relevant Product by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, such that the Product does not bear a disproportionate portion of such deductions as compared to other products sold separately from but with a certain link or other connection to the Product. For the avoidance of doubt, the Net Sales shall be calculated only once for the first bona fide arm's length sale of the Product by either GSK, its Affiliate or its Sublicensee, to a Third Party which is neither an Affiliate nor a Sublicensee of GSK. Net Sales shall be determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) applied in a consistent manner.

In the event a Product is sold as part of a Combination Product, (either as a separate Finished Product sold together with other products or because the Drug Substances associated with that Product formulated with additional other active pharmaceutical ingredients, [*****], or as a companion or complementary diagnostic), Net Sales of the Combination Product will be calculated, on a country-by-country basis, as follows:

- (i) If (x) the Product and (y) the other product(s) or active pharmaceutical ingredient are also sold separately in the applicable country, Net Sales of the Product portion of the Combination Product will be calculated by multiplying the total Net Sales of the Combination Product by the fraction $A/(A+B)$, where A is the average gross selling price in the applicable country of the Product sold separately in the same formulation and dosage, and B is the sum of the average gross selling prices in the applicable country of all other
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products or active ingredients in the Combination Product sold separately during the applicable Calendar Quarter.

- (ii) If the Product is sold separately, but the average gross selling price of the other product(s) or active ingredients cannot be determined, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to the Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by the fraction A/C wherein A is the average gross selling price of the Product and C is the average gross selling price of the Combination Product.
 - (iii) If the other product(s) or other active ingredients is/are sold separately, but the average gross selling price of the Product cannot be determined, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to the Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by the following formula: one (1) minus B/C wherein B is the average gross selling price of the other product(s) or active ingredients and C is the average gross selling price of the Combination Product.
 - (iv) If the average gross selling price of neither the Product, nor the other product(s) or active ingredients, can be determined, e.g., because neither the Product, nor the other product in a Combination Product, are being sold separately, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by A/B wherein A is the number of Products comprised in the Combination Product and B is the sum of "one" for each Product and the relative value of the other product(s) and/or other active pharmaceutical ingredients comprised in the Combination Product, such value to be determined by the patent protection status of the respective products, the development costs of the respective products, and the pricing of comparable products in the Major Markets. For illustration purposes, if there are two additional active ingredients in a Combination Product, one valued at 30 percent of the average price of the Products, and one valued at 50 percent of the average price of the Products, A/B equals $2/2.8$, and Net Sales are multiplied by 0.71. The Parties will agree on the respective values in the JSC. If the JSC are unable to agree on the respective values within [*****] of the matter being referred by either Part to the JSC, either Party may refer the matter for resolution in accordance with Section 15.5h, provided that the reference to "fair market value" shall be replaced with the value of the respective Product and the relative value of the other product(s) and/or other active pharmaceutical ingredients. Each Party will bear equally the cost of the experts appointed in accordance with Section 15.4h.
 - (v) The average gross selling price for such other product(s) or active ingredients contained in the Combination Product shall be calculated for each [*****] period by dividing the sales amount by the units of such other product(s), as published by IMS or another mutually agreed independent source. In the initial [*****] period during which a Combination Product is sold, forecasted average gross selling prices shall be used for royalty calculation purposes. Any over or under payment due to a difference between forecasted and actual average gross selling prices shall be paid or credited in the second royalty payment of
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the following [*****] period. In the following Calendar Year the average gross selling price of the previous year shall apply from the second royalty payment on.

To the extent an In-Licensing Agreement existing before the Effective Date disqualifies [*****], the Parties, acting good faith, shall adjust the above mechanism for determining Net Sales of Combination Products to account for the loss suffered by CureVac as a result of the difference in qualification of [*****] between this Agreement and the In-Licensing Agreement in question. CureVac shall, in light of the available data and information regarding [*****], use commercially reasonable efforts to renegotiate such In-Licensing Agreement so that [*****] becomes part of a [*****] under such In-Licensing Agreement, provided that if CureVac cannot agree with the counterparty of such In-licensing Agreement on the same mechanism for determining Net Sales of Combination Products as provided for in this Agreement, the Parties will adjust the mechanism for determining Net Sales of Combination Products under this Agreement accordingly to account for the loss suffered by CureVac as a result of the different calculation mechanisms. For the avoidance of doubt, the obligation of CureVac to use commercially reasonable efforts to renegotiate an In-licensing Agreement does not require CureVac to make any financial concessions towards the counterparty of such In-licensing Agreement which are unrelated to the definition of [*****] or the calculation of Net Sales.

For the avoidance of doubt, the [*****] PPA Stand-By Fee(s) will not be considered for calculating Net Sales. The allocation between the Parties of any [*****] PPA Stand-by Fee(s) and the related costs for maintaining a state of Pandemic Preparedness (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) during the Stand-by Phase (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) shall be governed by the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.

1.150 "Non-Breaching Party" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.4.

[*****].

1.152 "Optioned Product" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.1.

1.153 "Option Exercise Fee" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.5.

1.154 "Option Exercise Notice" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.4.

1.155 "Option LNP" shall mean an LNP in respect of which CureVac has Control under the Option LNP Agreement.

1.156 "Option LNP Agreement" shall mean [*****], as amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time (such counterparty, the "Option LNP Provider").

- 1.157 "**Option LNP Provider**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.156.
- 1.158 "**Option LNP Technology**" shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Covering the Option LNPs.
- 1.159 "**Option Period**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.1.
- 1.160 "**Option Request**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.7.4.
- 1.161 "**Other Product**" shall mean (i) each of the [*****] Initial Other Products, (ii) any Product Adjustment, Replacement Product and Optioned Product, (iii) any COVID Product that is the subject of the GSK COVID Continue Option, or the GSK Continue Option, under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, if applicable; *provided, however,* that if GSK replaces an Initial Other Product pursuant to Section 3.6 or terminates a Program for an Other Product pursuant to Section 14.2, such Replaced Product or Product developed under the terminated Program, as applicable, shall no longer qualify as an Other Product.
- 1.162 "**Other Product R&D Plan**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.3.1.
- 1.163 "**Pandemic Pathogen**" shall mean all Coronaviruses and any virus denoted by either, or both, of Part 1 and Part 2 of Exhibit 1.163.
- 1.164 "**Party**" shall mean CureVac or GSK (together, "**Parties**").
- 1.165 "**Patent Rights**" shall mean any and all patents and patent applications, including provisional and non-provisional applications, reissues, extensions, substitutions, confirmations, re-registrations, re-examinations, re-validations, patents of addition, supplementary protection certificates or the equivalents thereof, continuations, continuations-in-part and divisionals thereof and all foreign counterparts, and the like of any of the foregoing.
- 1.166 "**Pathogen**" shall mean any infectious disease causing agent such as a virus, bacterium, fungus, protozoan or other type of microorganism.
- 1.167 "**Pathogen Combination Product**" shall mean CureVac mRNA-Based vaccines or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibodies targeting two or more different Collaboration Pathogens other than Excluded Pathogens. For the avoidance of doubt, the [*****] Product shall be considered a Pathogen Combination Product. The Parties may decide to work on further Pathogen Combination Products, subject to the availability of licenses under the LNP Technology (if required). For clarity, unless GSK exercises the GSK COVID Continue Option under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, any Pathogen Combination Product which targets SARS-Cov-2 shall be subject to the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.168 "**Person**" shall mean an individual, firm, company, corporation, association, trust, estate, state or agency of a state, government or government department or agency, municipal or local authority
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and any other entity, whether or not incorporated and whether or not having a separate legal personality.

- 1.169 "Product"** shall mean each CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody targeting one or more Pathogen(s), other than an Excluded Pathogen, which the Parties have agreed to Develop and Commercialize under this Agreement during the Term, which may be in Drug Product or Finished Product form (or precursors thereto), as the case may be, comprising: (i) the First Product, (ii) the Second Product, and (iii) any Other Product (comprising the [*****] Initial Other Products, any Replacement Product and any Optioned Product, if applicable), in each case including any Product Adjustment as adjusted in accordance with Section 3.3.
- 1.170 "Product Adjustment"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.
- 1.171 "Product Adjustment Notice"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.2.
- 1.172 "Program"** shall mean, on a Product-by-Product basis, any and all Development activities for such Product, including under an R&D Plan, and all Manufacturing and Commercialization activities conducted in respect of a Product.
- 1.173 "Program Patent Rights"** shall mean both the CureVac Program Patent Rights and the GSK Program Patent Rights.
- 1.174 "Project Leaders"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
- 1.175 "Proof of Concept Data"** shall mean [*****].
- 1.176 "Quality Agreement"** shall mean a quality agreement between CureVac and GSK setting out further administrative, technical and quality provisions regarding the Manufacture and supply of a Product (or intermediary version thereof) for Development or Commercialization purposes, as applicable.
- 1.177 "R&D Plan(s)"** shall mean the research and development plans attached hereto, or to be prepared under this Agreement and shall include the First Product R&D Plan, the Second Product R&D Plan and each Other Product R&D Plan.
- 1.178 "Receiving Party"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.1.
- 1.179 "Recognized Stock Exchange"** means any regulated market in the European Union within the meaning of Article 4, paragraph 1, point 14 of Directive 2004/39/EC, the London Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ or Hong Kong Stock Exchange.
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- 1.180 "Regulatory Approval"** shall mean any and all approvals (including supplements, amendments, pre- and post-approvals, pricing and reimbursement approvals), licenses, registrations or authorizations (including marketing and labeling authorizations) of any national, supra-national, regional, state or local Regulatory Authority, department, bureau, commission, council or other governmental entity, that are necessary for the Development, registration, Manufacture (including formulation), distribution, use, sale, import or export of a Product in a given jurisdiction.
- 1.181 "Regulatory Authority"** shall mean any competent regulatory or governmental authority which regulates any aspect of the Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization of a Product, including those specifically referred to in this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement.
- 1.182 "Regulatory Exclusivity"** shall mean, on a country-by-country and Product-by-Product basis, an additional protection, other than patent protection, granted by a Regulatory Authority that confers an exclusive period during which a Party or its Affiliates or Sublicensees have the exclusive right to market or sell a Product in such country through a regulatory exclusivity right (*e.g.*, new use or indication exclusivity, new formulation exclusivity, orphan drug exclusivity, pediatric exclusivity, or any applicable data exclusivity), provided that regulatory exclusivity shall only be deemed to exist in a country if (i) Applicable Laws, and the guidance, policies and practice of the competent Regulatory Authority allow other mRNA-Based products to qualify as generic or biosimilar versions of a Product; and (ii) as a result, absent or after the expiry of the regulatory exclusivity right, such mRNA-Based products can enter the market of the country in question with substantially lower development investment.
- 1.183 "Replaced Product"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.2.
- 1.184 "Replacement Product"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.1.
- 1.185 "Replacement Exercise Fee"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.3.
- 1.186 "Replacement Notice"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.2.
- 1.187 "Replacement Request"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.2.
- 1.188 "Replacement Right"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.1. **1.189 "Reservation Period"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.5.2.
- 1.190 "Reserved Antigen"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.5.2.
- 1.191 "Research Period"** shall mean, the period commencing on the Closing Date and ending, on a Program-by-Program basis, at the later of [*****].
- 1.192 "RNA Printer"** shall mean the automation solution for CureVac's processes of mRNA manufacturing developed by CureVac and Tesla Grohmann Automation Solution GmbH under
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the Development and Intellectual Property Agreement dated December 22, 2017, including the Know-How licensed from Tesla Grohmann Automation Solution GmbH thereunder.

- 1.193 **"Royalty Term"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.7.2.
 - 1.194 **"RSV"** shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.76.
 - 1.195 **"Sales Milestone Payment"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.4.
 - 1.196 **"Sanctions & Trade Controls"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.8.
 - 1.197 **"Second Amendment"** shall mean the amendment and restatement of this Agreement dated 29 September 2021.
 - 1.198 **"Second Amendment Effective Date"** shall mean 29 September 2021.
 - 1.199 **"Second Product"** shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.29.
 - 1.200 **"Second Product R&D Plan"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.2.
 - 1.201 **"Sublicensee"** shall mean any Third Party licensee (aside from GSK's Affiliates and any Third Party contractors used by GSK in the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the Products on GSK's behalf), which obtains rights to the CureVac Technology or LNP Technology under a license granted by GSK, its Affiliates or another Sublicensee, in each case in accordance with Section 2.2.
 - 1.202 **"Term"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.1.
 - 1.203 **"Territory"** shall mean the entire world.
 - 1.204 **"Third Party"** shall mean any Person, other than CureVac or GSK and their respective Affiliates.
 - 1.205 **"Third Party Infringement"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.2.
 - 1.206 **"[*****] Product"** shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit 1.29.
 - 1.207 **"[*****] Product R&D Plan"** shall have the meaning given in Section 4.3.1.
 - 1.208 **"Valid Claim"** shall mean either (a) a claim of an issued and unexpired patent within the CureVac Patent Rights or (ii) the LNP Technology which has not been revoked or held permanently unenforceable, unpatentable or invalid by a decision of a court or other governmental agency of competent jurisdiction, unappealable or unappealed within the time allowed for appeal, and which has not been found or admitted to be abandoned, disclaimed, denied, invalid or unenforceable through re-examination, reissue or disclaimer or otherwise, or (b) a claim of a pending patent application within (i) the CureVac Patent Rights or (ii) the LNP
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Technology which application has not been pending for more than [*****] from the date of its priority filing date and which claim has not been irretrievably revoked, irretrievably cancelled, irretrievably withdrawn, held invalid or abandoned by a patent office, court or other governmental agency of competent jurisdiction in a final and non-appealable judgment (or judgment from which no appeal was taken within the allowable time period), or finally determined to be unallowable in a decision from which an appeal cannot or can no longer be taken. For clarity, a claim of an issued patent that ceased to be a Valid Claim before it issued because it had been pending too long, but subsequently issues and is otherwise described by clause (a), shall again be considered to be a Valid Claim once it issues. The same principle shall apply in similar circumstances such as if, for example (but without limitation), a final rejection of a claim is overcome.

1.209 "VAT and Indirect Taxes" shall mean any value added, sales, purchase, turnover or consumption tax as may be applicable in any relevant jurisdiction, including but not limited to value added tax chargeable under legislation implementing Council Directive 2006/112/EC.

1.210 "WIPO" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.5.2.

1.211 Interpretation

In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to:

- (i) a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule is a reference to a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule to this Agreement;
- (ii) any document includes a reference to that document (and, where applicable, any of its provisions) as amended, novated, supplemented or replaced from time to time;
- (iii) a statute or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them;
- (iv) the singular includes the plural and vice versa, except as it regards the definitions of Party and Parties;
- (v) "written" and "in writing" include any means of reproducing words, figures or symbols in a tangible and visible form, including acknowledged email or facsimile;
- (vi) "include", "includes" and "including" means including without limitation, or like expression unless otherwise specified, and "for example", "e.g.", "such as" and similar words or phrases are descriptive, not limiting; and
- (vii) any reference to "demonstrable" costs and expenses means those costs and expenses can be evidenced in writing.

1.212 2021 Preliminary Agreement

It is agreed by the Parties that all amendments made to this Agreement by the 2021 Preliminary Agreement are null and void.

2. LICENSES; EXCLUSIVITY.

2.1 License Grants to GSK.

2.1.1 License under CureVac Technology. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and subject to the disclosures as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, on a Product-by-Product basis, CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts: (i) a royalty-free, exclusive license to use the CureVac Technology for the Development and Manufacture of Products for use in the Field in the Territory; and (ii) a royalty-bearing, exclusive license to use the CureVac Technology for the Commercialization of Products for use in the Field in the Territory, subject to CureVac's rights with respect to the CureVac Territory under Section 6 and the Distribution Agreement. Subject to the disclosures as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, the license granted hereunder shall be exclusive as to Third Parties and to CureVac, provided that CureVac retains the right to perform the Development and Manufacturing activities allocated to CureVac under this Agreement.

2.1.2 License under LNP Technology. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 2.1.2 Part A**, and subject to the disclosures as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, on a Product-by-Product basis, CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts: (i) a royalty-free, non-exclusive sublicense under the LNP Agreements to use the LNP Technology for the Development and Manufacture of the Initial Products and the Initial Other Products for use in the Field in the Territory; and (ii) a corresponding royalty-bearing, non-exclusive license to use the LNP Technology for the Commercialization of the Initial Products and the Initial Other Products for use in the Field in the Territory, subject to CureVac's rights with respect to the CureVac Territory under Section 6 and the Distribution Agreement ("**LNP License**"). CureVac shall not (i) grant a sublicense to any Third Party under the LNP Technology for the Development and Manufacture of Products for use in the Field in the Territory, subject to the disclosures as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, and (ii) itself carry out any activities under the LNP Technology for the Development and Manufacture of Products for use in the Field in the Territory other than under this Agreement; in each case of (i) and (ii) on a Product-by-Product basis for as long as the respective Product is Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement. The LNP License shall:

- (i) as at the Closing Date be limited to Licensed LNP from [*****]. for the primary vaccine Antigen and the additional vaccine Antigen for the [*****] listed in **Exhibit 2.1.2 Part B** for use as part of the [*****] Product in the Field;
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- (ii) within [*****] following the Closing Date, include Licensed LNPs from [*****] for the primary vaccine Antigens and the associated additional vaccine Antigens for the [*****] as listed in Exhibit 2.1.2 Part B for use as part of the corresponding Product in the Field;
- (iii) as at the Second Amendment Effective Date include a Licensed LNP from [*****]. for a primary Antibody and associated additional Antibody for the [*****] as listed in Exhibit 2.1.2 Part B for use as part of the [*****] in the Field; and
- (iv) with respect to a Product Adjustment, include Licensed LNP under a then existing LNP Agreement with [*****]. for an additional vaccine Antigen or an additional Antibody, subject to clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1; it being understood that CureVac shall secure the Licensed LNP for such additional vaccine Antigen or an additional Antibody, as applicable, from [*****]. in accordance with Section 3.3.2;
- (v) in case GSK exercises the GSK Continue Option or the GSK COVID Continue Option, include Licensed LNP under the LNP COVID Agreement for the COVID Products.

Within [*****] following the Closing Date, the Parties will agree on a redacted copy of this Agreement (excluding any commercially confidential information) that CureVac can provide to the LNP Provider(s) in accordance with its obligations under the LNP Agreements.

2.1.3 Exchange of Licensed LNPs. For a period commencing on the Closing Date and ending on [*****], GSK shall have a total of [*****] cost-free options to exchange for the original LNP Licenses granted under Section 2.1.2 the primary vaccine Antigen or primary Antibody of those LNP Licenses (together with any additional vaccine Antigen(s) or additional Antibody(ies) of those LNP Licenses, if any) for an alternate primary vaccine Antigen or an alternate primary Antibody, with or without one or more additional vaccine Antigen(s) or additional Antibody(ies), as applicable, subject to clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1, and subject the terms and conditions set forth in Exhibit 2.1.2 Part A. GSK can exercise the exchange options granted hereunder, at GSK's discretion, for Replacement Products or Optioned Products, and can exercise this right either for different original LNP Licenses or multiple times for the same LNP License (or a combination of both), provided that GSK may exercise this exchange option right a maximum of [*****] times. On an option-by-option basis, CureVac shall secure the LNP License for an alternate primary vaccine Antigen or alternate primary Antibody and the additional vaccine Antigen(s) or additional Antibody(ies) in accordance with Section 3.6.2 or 3.7.4, as applicable.

2.1.4 Option under Option LNP Technology. For a period commencing on the Closing Date and ending on [*****], GSK shall have the cost-free, one-time option to obtain a non-exclusive sublicense under an Option LNP Agreement to use the Option LNP Technology to Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize a Product for use in the Field in the Territory, subject to CureVac's rights with respect to the CureVac Territory under Section 6 and the Distribution Agreement, and subject to clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1, and the terms and conditions set forth in Exhibit 2.1.4, the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the disclosures set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter. GSK can exercise the option granted hereunder, at GSK's discretion, for an Initial Product, an Initial Other Product, a Replacement Product or an Optioned Product, provided that GSK may exercise this option [*****]. CureVac shall secure the Option LNP for the respective Product from the Option LNP Provider within [*****] upon receipt of the confirmation from the Option LNP Provider that the Antigen(s) are available for licensing.

2.2 Sublicenses.

2.2.1 Right to Sublicense. GSK shall have the right to sublicense its rights under Section 2 to any of its Affiliates. GSK's right to sublicense any of its Development rights or any of its Manufacturing rights for Development purposes (subject to Section 5) under Section 2.1.1, or any of its rights to the LNP Technology under Section 2.1.2 to any other Third Party shall be subject to CureVac's prior written consent which CureVac may grant or withhold in its sole discretion. GSK's right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) any of its Manufacturing rights for commercial purposes (subject to Section 5) and/or Commercialization rights under Section 2.1.1 to a Third Party shall be subject to CureVac's prior written consent which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. For the avoidance of doubt, this Section 2.2.1 shall not restrict GSK or any of its Affiliates to subcontract any of its Development or Manufacturing activities to a CRO, CMO or other service provider to GSK or its Affiliate, subject to Section 5.5.

2.2.2 Sublicensing Requirements. The right to sublicense to a Third Party is subject to a written sublicense agreement containing terms and conditions that are consistent with those contained in this Agreement, and shall include, *inter alia*, provisions regarding confidentiality, non-compete, indemnification, audit, record-keeping, termination and consequences of termination that are consistent with the corresponding terms and conditions provided herein. GSK shall remain liable to CureVac for all obligations under this Agreement, including all payment obligations, and shall send to CureVac a copy of the signed sublicensing agreement within [*****] after its execution, subject to the reasonable redaction of confidential information. CureVac acknowledges that all information provided to CureVac by GSK under this Section 2.2.2 shall be deemed Confidential Information of GSK and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of Section 11.

2.3 Pathogen Exclusivity.

2.3.1 GSK. GSK shall work exclusively with CureVac on the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Products targeting a Collaboration Pathogen, and GSK shall not, and shall

procure that its Affiliates and Sublicensees holding rights to the CureVac Technology in the Field and in the Territory will not, develop, manufacture or commercialize, solely or with a Third Party, any prophylactic and/or therapeutic mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibody targeting a Collaboration Pathogen other than a Product Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement. This Section 2.3.1 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to activities of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of GSK solely as a result of a Change of Control in GSK, provided that such activities are performed without using the mRNA technology described in the Know-How, or within the scope of the specification of the Patents Rights, Controlled by GSK (excluding, for clarity any CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights). Notwithstanding the foregoing, GSK shall be permitted to continue development activities targeting the same Collaboration Pathogen immediately prior to the Effective Date, and which accordingly fall within the scope of the exclusivity commitment set out in this Section 2.3.1, for up to [*****] from the Effective Date, whilst GSK carries out an orderly wind-down of those activities.

- 2.3.2 CureVac.** Subject to CureVac's obligations as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, CureVac shall work exclusively with GSK on the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Products targeting a Collaboration Pathogens, and CureVac shall not, and shall procure that its Affiliates will not, develop, manufacture or commercialize, solely or with a Third Party, any prophylactic and/or therapeutic mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibody targeting a Collaboration Pathogen other than a Product Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement. This Section 2.3.2 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to activities of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac, provided that such activities are performed without using the CureVac mRNA technology described in the CureVac Know-How or within the scope of specification of the CureVac Patent Rights.
- 2.3.3 Exclusivity Term.** The covenants laid down in this Section 2.3 shall apply for a period commencing on the Effective Date, or in case of a Collaboration Pathogen targeted by a Replacement Product or an Optioned Product, the date of receipt of the Replacement Notice or Option Notice, as applicable, by CureVac until the expiry or termination of this Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, in case GSK has replaced an Initial Other Product pursuant to Section 3.6 or has terminated a Program pursuant to Section 14.2, the Pathogen targeted by such Replaced Product or under such terminated Program, as applicable, shall no longer qualify as Collaboration Pathogen if that Pathogen is no longer targeted by another Product, and consequently, the exclusivity obligations laid down in this Section 2.3 shall terminate with respect to such Pathogen, unless the respective Pathogen is targeted under another ongoing Program. In relation to the Initial Products only, if the Program for one of the Initial Products is terminated or replaced by a Replacement Product, the covenants laid down in this Section 2.3.3 shall continue to apply with respect to any other Initial Product targeting the same Pathogen, but no longer in relation to the terminated or replaced Initial Product (even though it targets the same Pathogen). For the avoidance of doubt, upon termination or replacement of such Initial Product, all rights and
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licenses with respect to such Initial Product will return to CureVac subject to and in accordance with Section 15, and GSK will not be allowed to use the CureVac Technology, including the CureVac Know-How, or any Invention other than a GSK Invention to continue to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize the terminated or replaced Initial Product, unless expressly set forth in Section 15 or unless CureVac has granted a license to GSK under terms to be negotiated.

2.4 Trademarks.

2.4.1 Registration. As between the Parties and their Affiliates, GSK shall be solely authorized to determine the brand, trade name, logo and trade dress under which the Finished Products shall be Commercialized in the Territory. GSK shall have the first right, but not the obligation, to prepare, file, prosecute and maintain, at its own expense, any Brand IP for the Finished Products in the Territory; *provided, however*, that nothing herein shall grant GSK any right to use any trademark Controlled by CureVac and/or CureVac's Affiliates. GSK will own all right, title and interest in and to any such trademark it selects in its own name during and after the Term, subject to the licenses granted to CureVac with respect to the CureVac Territory under Section 6.

2.4.2 Restrictions. Subject to any separate agreement(s) amongst the Parties (or their Affiliates), CureVac shall not, and shall cause their respective Affiliates not to, during the Term: (i) use or attempt to use any marks, brands or trade dress identical or similar to those covered by the Brand IP of GSK or its Affiliates, except as permitted by this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement; (ii) register or attempt to register or procure the registration anywhere in the world of any mark as a trademark for any goods or services or as a domain name that is same as or confusingly similar to the Brand IP for the Finished Products; (iii) use any Brand IP for any of the Finished Products in any way which could tend to allow it to become generic, to lose its distinctiveness, to become liable to mislead the public or which would otherwise be detrimental or inconsistent with the good name, goodwill, reputation or image of the Parties; (iv) challenge the ownership of the Brand IP belonging to GSK or its Affiliates except if Brand IP is prosecuted in breach of this Agreement; or (v) register or attempt to register or procure the registration of or use any mark or domain name that incorporates the letters “[*****]” either as a prefix or a suffix for use in connection with a pharmaceutical product. This Section 2.4.2 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to a Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliate) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac.

2.5 Documents and Declarations. CureVac shall execute all documents, give all declarations regarding the licenses granted hereunder and reasonably cooperate with GSK to the extent such documents, declarations and/or cooperation are required for the recording or registration of the licenses granted hereunder at the various patent offices in the GSK Territory for the benefit of GSK. GSK shall reimburse CureVac for its reasonable and demonstrable external out of pocket costs associated therewith up to a total amount of EUR 20,000.

2.6 No Implied License. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute the grant of any license or other right to either Party in respect of any technology of the other Party, except as

expressly set forth herein, and no license rights shall be created hereunder by implication, estoppel or otherwise. Neither Party shall represent to any Third Party that it enjoys, possesses, or exercises any proprietary or property right or otherwise has any other right, title or interest in the technology of the other Party except for such rights as are expressly set forth herein. Any rights of a Party not expressly granted to the other Party under the provisions of this Agreement shall be retained by such Party.

2.7 [***] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.** If the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement is replaced, in accordance with its terms, by an Equivalent Agreement (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) with [*****], references in this Agreement to the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall include that (or those) replacement agreement(s) with [*****] (and with [*****], to the extent entered into pursuant to the agreement with [*****]) and references in this Agreement to the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement shall include that (or those) replacement agreement(s) between the Parties relating to the aforesaid replacement.

2.8 In-Licensing Agreements.

2.8.1 Future In-Licensed IP. If during the Term, CureVac obtains or intends to obtain, other than by way of a Change of Control, a sublicensable license to any Patent Rights or Know-How Controlled by a Third Party that is useful for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Products under this Agreement, but which is not necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of the CureVac Elements ("**In-Licensed IP**"), which may include Third Party Patent Rights or Third Party Know-How regarding Modified MRNA, CureVac shall (i) notify GSK of the rights that CureVac has obtained or intends to obtain with respect to such In-Licensed IP, (ii) use commercially reasonable endeavors to obtain the right to sub-license those Patent Rights or Know How, and (iii) notify GSK of the applicable financial terms, which shall be non-discriminatory (as between GSK and any other sublicensee of CureVac). GSK shall notify CureVac within [*****] after receipt of such notice whether GSK desires to include such In-Licensed IP under the license granted to GSK by CureVac pursuant to Section 2.1. If GSK notifies CureVac that it desires to include such In-Licensed IP under the license granted to GSK by CureVac pursuant to Section 2.1, then (i) such In-Licensed IP is and shall be automatically included in the definition of CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights, as applicable, and be licensed to GSK under Section 2.1, and (ii) as a sublicensee of CureVac, GSK will meet all obligations of CureVac that are applicable to GSK's activities as a sublicensee (to the extent notified by CureVac to GSK in advance in writing); and (iii) GSK shall reimburse CureVac for additional amounts payable by CureVac under such license to such Third Party to the extent directly arising as a result of (x) the grant of such sublicense to GSK or (y) the use of the In-Licensed IP by the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of Products by GSK, its Affiliates, and Sublicensees.

2.8.2 Enforcement, Maintenance and Amendment of In-Licensing Agreements. CureVac will reasonably enforce (including in connection with any counterparty's breach of any representations

or warranties under the applicable In-Licensing Agreements), or otherwise take the actions necessary to enable GSK to enforce, CureVac's rights, benefits and the obligations of the respective counterparties under the In-Licensing Agreements that may impact the rights, benefits and obligations of GSK hereunder, and will inform GSK of any action it may take under the In-Licensing Agreements to the extent such action may impact GSK's interest under the respective In-Licensing Agreement. CureVac shall: (i) fulfil all of its obligations, including its payment obligations, under the In-Licensing Agreements; and (ii) not take any action or omit to take any action that would materially adversely affect, or would reasonably be expected to materially adversely affect, GSK's rights, benefits and obligations under this Agreement. CureVac shall reasonably notify GSK of any default, termination or amendment of, the In-Licensing Agreements, to the extent such default, termination or amendment may have an impact of GSK.

3. PRODUCT ADJUSTMENTS; REPLACEMENT RIGHT; EXCLUSIVE OPTION.

3.1 Product Composition. As between the Parties, subject to Sections 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 with respect to the LNP Technology and subject to the replacement mechanism under Section 3.6, the clearance mechanism under Section 3.4 and Section 3.5, the composition restrictions under Section 3.2, the adjustment mechanism under Section 3.3, and the limitations to GSK's decision-making rights set forth in Section 7.5.2b(i), GSK shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to determine the composition of a Product, including [*****].

3.2 Composition Restrictions.

3.2.1 Intentionally omitted.

3.2.2 Vaccine Restrictions. Initial Products and Other Products (including any Product Adjustments) that are vaccines shall be subject to the following restrictions: each shall consist of a maximum number of [*****]. For each such vaccine Product, GSK shall designate the primary vaccine Antigen and the additional vaccine Antigens as of the Effective Date or upon selection of the Replacement Product.

3.2.3 Antibody Restrictions. For the purposes of this Agreement, (i) the maximum number of Antigens that a single Antibody can bind to is [*****] Antigens and (ii) unless otherwise set forth herein, Antibody shall include an Antibody Combination, as applicable. For each such Antibody Product, GSK shall designate the primary Antibody and the additional Antibodies as of the Effective Date or upon selection of the Replacement Product.

3.3 Product Adjustments.

3.3.1 Product Adjustments. If, further to Section 3.1 and subject to the restrictions laid down in Section 3.1, GSK wishes to only change the additional vaccine Antigen(s) or additional Antibody(ies), but not the primary vaccine Antigen or the primary Antibody of a Product, such

change shall constitute a "**Product Adjustment**" and be handled in accordance with this Section 3.3. Where GSK wishes to change the primary Antigen or the primary Antibody of a Product, with or without changing the Pathogen or combination of Pathogens targeted by such Product, such change shall constitute a Product Replacement and be handled in accordance with Section 3.6.

3.3.2 Product Adjustment Notice. If GSK intends to make a Product Adjustment, GSK shall send a written request to CureVac identifying the details of such Product Adjustment, including, if a change to an LNP License is needed for such Product Adjustment, all details necessary for CureVac to perform the clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1. Within [*****] following receipt of the adjustment request, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep will perform the Antigen/Antibody clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1. Within [*****] upon receipt of the confirmation from the LNP Provider that the additional Antigen or additional Antibody is available for licensing, CureVac shall secure the LNP License for such additional vaccine Antigen or additional Antibody, as applicable, from the LNP Provider, and the Parties will work on an amendment to the R&D Plan for the respective Product.

3.4 Clearance in relation to LNP.

If GSK intends to make a Product Adjustment, exercise its Replacement Right or exercise its Exclusive Option, GSK may request CureVac in writing to perform an Antigen clearance under the LNP Agreement or an Antigen or Antibody clearance under the Option LNP Agreement, such clearance to be conducted in accordance with the following process: First, GSK shall notify a specific representative designated by CureVac in writing that GSK wishes to conduct an Antigen or Antibody clearance ("**Antigen/Antibody List Rep**") and shall provide all information required to perform such clearance by using the clearance template attached hereto as **Exhibit 3.4 ("Clearance Template")**. Second, within [*****] from receipt of such information from GSK, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep shall contact the antigen or antibody list representative of the LNP Provider or the Option LNP Provider, as applicable, to confirm whether the Antigen or Antibody is available for licensing.

3.5 Further Clearance and Reservation.

3.5.1 Clearance. If applicable, GSK may request CureVac in writing to perform an Antigen clearance under CureVac's pre-existing agreement as listed in paragraph 4 of item (iii) in the Disclosure Letter, such clearance to be conducted in accordance with the following process:

- (i) GSK shall notify the Antigen/Antibody List Rep in writing that GSK wishes to conduct such Antigen clearance, and shall provide all information required to perform such clearance by using the Clearance Template.
 - (ii) Within [*****] from receipt of such information from GSK, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep shall verify that the requested Antigen is not associated with an
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Excluded Pathogen and shall confirm whether the Antigen is available, meaning it has not been reserved previously by the counterparty to a pre-existing agreement as listed in paragraph 4 of item (iii) in the Disclosure Schedule in accordance with its terms.

(iii) Upon confirmation, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep shall notify GSK thereof, and the Antigen shall become a Reserved Antigen, provided that the maximum number of reserved Antigens may not be exceeded.

3.5.2 Reservation of Antigens. For a term of [*****] after the Closing Date ("**Reservation Period**"), and, subject to the clearance mechanism under Section 3.5.1, GSK shall have the right to reserve a maximum number of [*****] under the CureVac Technology for use in the Field (each, a "**Reserved Antigen**"). Subject to the clearance mechanism under Section 3.5.1, GSK may change the Antigens that constitute Reserved Antigens during the Reservation Period. The Antigens listed in **Exhibit 3.5.2** shall be deemed Reserved Antigens as at the Closing Date. Without limiting any other obligation of CureVac under this Agreement (including under Section 2.3 and 3.7.6), during the Reservation Period, CureVac, itself or through its Affiliates, may not grant any rights to a Third Party for a Reserved Antigen under the CureVac Technology for use in the Field.

3.6 Replacement of Products.

3.6.1 Replacement Right. Until [*****], subject to the composition restrictions under Section 3.2, the clearance mechanism under Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1, and subject to Sections 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 with respect to the LNP Technology, GSK has the right to replace any of the then-current Products with a CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody that consists of a different primary Antigen or primary Antibody respectively, and which may target a different Pathogen or combination of Pathogens, other than an Excluded Pathogen ("**Replacement Right**"), provided that GSK may exercise its Replacement Right a maximum of [*****] times. GSK may replace a Product with (i) a new CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody (including for the same Pathogen or combination of Pathogens, but with a different primary Antigen or primary Antibody), or (ii) a CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody which is, at the time when GSK exercises its Replacement Right, under development by CureVac outside the scope of this Agreement (each, a "**Replacement Product**"). For the purposes of this Section 3.6, "under development by CureVac" shall mean that CureVac has generated Proof of Concept Data with respect to the Replacement Product.

3.6.2 Replacement Notice. If GSK intends to exercise its Replacement Right, GSK shall send a written replacement request to CureVac (at any time before the expiry of the period specified in Section 3.6.1) identifying: (i) the Product to be replaced ("**Replaced Product**"); (ii) the Replacement Product that GSK seeks to Develop; (iii) the LNP or CVCM that GSK desires to use for the Replacement Product; and (iv) if applicable, the Antibody and/or Antigens that GSK wishes to clear in accordance with Section 3.4 and Section 3.5 ("**Replacement Request**"). Within [*****]

following the Replacement Request, the Parties will hold a JSC meeting for discussing the details with respect to the Replacement Product and the desired LNP or CVCN for such Replacement Product, and CureVac will provide to GSK all data, documents and information reasonably required by GSK to assess whether it wishes to exercise its Replacement Right with respect to the respective Replacement Product, including the amount of the Replacement Exercise Fee, if any. Within [****] following this JSC and unless directed otherwise by GSK in writing, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep will perform the requisite Antigen/Antibody clearance in accordance with Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1, GSK shall exercise its Replacement Right by sending written notice to CureVac within [****] following the confirmation by the Antigen/Antibody List Rep that the Antibodies and/or Antigens are available to GSK ("**Replacement Notice**"). Following receipt of the Replacement Notice by CureVac, the Parties shall as soon as reasonable practicable work on an initial R&D Plan for the Replacement Product in accordance with Section 4.3.2, and CureVac shall, if an LNP is selected by GSK and cleared, secure the LNP License from the respective LNP Provider.

- 3.6.3 Replacement Exercise Fee.** If GSK exercises its Replacement Right for an existing Replacement Product, i.e., a CureVac mRNA-Based Vaccine or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody already under development by CureVac, GSK shall make the following payments to CureVac: (i) GSK shall compensate CureVac for all reasonable, duly documented and demonstrable development costs and expenses exclusively relating to such Replacement Product incurred by CureVac or its Affiliates since (and in respect of the period after) the Closing Date (including in case of a Replacement Product acquired by CureVac from a Third Party that portion of the fee paid to that Third Party that relates to the Replacement Product), *provided, however*, that with respect to any Replacement Product targeting [****], such compensation shall also include costs and expenses incurred by CureVac or any of its Affiliates before the Closing Date in the amount specified in Section 3.7.5; and (ii) GSK shall pay to CureVac any milestone payments which would have been due since the Closing Date, if such Replacement Product had been an Other Product as at the Closing Date, if any (the payments under (i) and (ii) together, the "**Replacement Exercise Fee**"). The Replacement Exercise Fee is to be paid by GSK to CureVac within [****] after receipt of an invoice from CureVac, with supportive documentation reasonably detailing the costs and expenses incurred by CureVac. By way of example: If GSK exercises its Replacement Right for a Replacement Product under development by CureVac outside the scope of this Agreement for which CureVac has [****] at the time GSK exercises its Replacement Right, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for any reasonable, duly document Development costs and expenses incurred by CureVac since (and in respect of the period after) the Closing Date and exclusively relating to such Replacement Product and, in addition, shall pay to CureVac accrued, non-refundable and non-creditable Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments in the amounts of [****].
- 3.6.4 Replacement.** Upon (i) receipt of a Replacement Notice by CureVac, (ii) full payment of the Replacement Exercise Fee from GSK to CureVac, if applicable, and (iii) the Parties having
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agreed on an initial R&D Plan for the Replacement Product, the relevant Replacement Product shall become an Other Product. The Parties shall Develop such Replacement Product pursuant to Section 4.3.2, and, unless set forth otherwise, all terms and conditions relevant for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Other Products shall apply to such Replacement Product (including licenses, milestone payments and royalties). All rights of GSK with respect to the Replaced Product shall terminate, the Pathogen targeted by the Replaced Product shall become an Excluded Pathogen (unless such Pathogen is targeted by another Product), and Section 14.6 and Section 15.1 shall apply with respect to the replaced Program and the Replacement Product. For the avoidance of doubt, a Product Adjustment shall not constitute a replacement for the purposes of this Section 3.6.

3.7 Exclusive Option.

3.7.1 Option Grant. Until [*****] ("**Option Period**"), and subject to Sections 3.7.2 and the composition restrictions under Section 3.2, the clearance mechanism under Section 3.4 and, if applicable, Section 3.5.1, and subject to Sections 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 with respect to the LNP Technology, CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts, the exclusive option to obtain exclusive licenses under the CureVac Technology to Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize further CureVac mRNA-Based vaccines (other than the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product, as defined in the 2021 CLA) or CureVac mRNA-Based Antibodies, in addition to the then-current Products, targeting a different Pathogen or combination of Pathogens other than an Excluded Pathogen in the Field ("**Exclusive Option**"). GSK may exercise its Exclusive Option only with respect to a CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine or a CureVac mRNA-Based Antibody which is, at the time when GSK exercises its Exclusive Option, under development by CureVac outside the scope of this Agreement (each, an "**Optioned Product**"). For the purposes of this Section 3.7, "under development by CureVac" shall mean that CureVac has generated Proof of Concept Data with respect to the Optioned Product.

3.7.2 Timing for exercise of Exclusive Option in a pandemic setting. As long as an outbreak of a Pathogen or combination of Pathogens targeted by a Product covered by the Exclusive Option is declared by the WHO of a "public health emergency of international concern" (or equivalent, to the extent the WHO adjusts its system of classifications from time to time), the Option Period for such Product shall expire within [*****] from the later of (i) such declaration or (ii) the date of receipt by GSK of the Proof of Concept Data with respect to the Optioned Product.

3.7.3 Exclusive Option for Pandemic Pathogens. If the Pathogen or combination of Pathogens targeted by a Product covered by the Exclusive Option is or includes a Pandemic Pathogen (other than SARS-CoV-2):

- a. CureVac may elect, within [*****] after receipt of an Option Request, that the Optioned Product shall be subject to either the terms of (i) the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, in which case the Optioned Product shall upon effective Option Exercise be treated as a COVID Product under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement and this Agreement



shall no longer apply to that Optioned Product, or (ii) this Agreement, in which case it shall upon effective Option Exercise be treated as an additional Other Product under this Agreement (and, for clarity, the 2021 Collaboration Agreement shall not apply to that Optioned Product);

- b. GSK will determine, in relation to each agreement entered into by CureVac with any government or other authority pursuant to the activities permitted pursuant to Section 3.7.8, on or before the effective date of Option Exercise, on whether (i) such agreement will be transferred to GSK, together with a transfer of associated regulatory responsibilities and a supply chain for the relevant Product(s) enabling GSK's fulfilment of the respective agreement, and subject to CureVac's rights to Commercialize in the CureVac Territory and consent of the respective Third Party to such assignment and transfer, or (ii) such agreement shall remain with CureVac, and, in that case, on the involvement of GSK in the manufacturing of the relevant Products and the provision by GSK of regulatory services, pharmacovigilance services, quality and supply chain management services required by CureVac to meet its binding obligations under those agreements; the Option Exercise being conditioned upon GSK making a decision as between either (i) or (ii). If GSK elects that any agreement with any government or other authority shall remain with CureVac, any supply of an Optioned Product by CureVac pursuant to that agreement shall, if carried out under this Agreement, be carried out on the terms of a Distribution Agreement in accordance with the terms set out in Exhibit 6.2 (with references to the CureVac Territory replaced, where applicable, with references to the relevant GSK Territory covered by the relevant agreement with such government or other authority). For clarity, this Section 3.7.3 b shall not apply in case CureVac elects that the Optioned Product shall be subject to the terms of the 2021 Collaboration Agreement.

3.7.4 Option Exercise Notice. If GSK intends to exercise its Exclusive Option, GSK shall send (at any time before the expiry of the Option Period) a written notice to CureVac identifying the Optioned Product that GSK seeks to Develop ("**Option Request**"). Within [*****] following receipt of the Option Request, the Antigen/Antibody List Rep will perform an LNP clearance in accordance with Section 3.4. Within [*****] following the request, the Parties will hold a JSC meeting for discussing the details of the envisaged collaboration, and CureVac will notify GSK of the amount of the Option Exercise Fee and will provide to GSK all data, documents and information reasonably required by GSK to assess whether it wishes to exercise its Exclusive Option with respect to the respective Optioned Product. GSK shall exercise its Exclusive Option by sending written notice to CureVac within [*****] following such JSC meeting ("**Option Exercise Notice**"). Following receipt of the Option Exercise Notice by CureVac, the Parties shall as soon as reasonably practicable work on an initial R&D Plan for the Optioned Product in accordance with Section 4.3.2, and CureVac shall secure the LNP License from the LNP Provider, or in case GSK exercises its option, from the Option LNP Provider.

- 3.7.5 Option Exercise Fee.** If GSK exercises its Exclusive Option, GSK shall make the following payments to CureVac: (i) GSK shall compensate CureVac for all reasonable and demonstrable Development costs and expenses exclusively relating to such Optioned Product incurred by CureVac or its Affiliates since (and in respect of the period after) the Closing Date (including in case of an Optioned Product acquired by CureVac from a Third Party that portion of the fee paid to that Third Party that relates to the Optioned Product), *provided, however*, that with respect to any Optioned Product targeting [*****], the compensation by GSK shall also include the costs and expenses incurred by CureVac or any of its Affiliates before the Closing Date in the amount of [*****]; and (ii) GSK shall pay to CureVac any milestone payments which would have been due since the Closing Date, if such Optioned Product had been an Other Product as at the Closing Date, if any (the payments under (i) and (ii) together, the "**Option Exercise Fee**"). The Option Exercise Fee is to be paid by GSK to CureVac within [*****] after receipt of an invoice from CureVac, with supportive documentation reasonably detailing the costs and expenses incurred by CureVac. By way of example: If GSK exercises its Exclusive Option for an Optioned Product under development by CureVac outside the scope of this Agreement for which CureVac has [*****] at the time GSK exercises its Exclusive Option, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for any reasonable, demonstrable and duly documented Development costs and expenses incurred by CureVac since (and in respect of the period after) the Closing Date and exclusively relating to such Optioned Product and, in addition, shall pay to CureVac accrued, non-refundable and non-creditable Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments in the amounts of [*****].
- 3.7.6 Option Exercise.** Upon (i) receipt of an Option Exercise Notice by CureVac, (ii) full payment of the Option Exercise Fee from GSK to CureVac, and (iii) the Parties having agreed on an initial R&D Plan for the Optioned Product, the relevant Optioned Product shall become an additional Other Product. The Parties shall Develop such additional Optioned Product pursuant to Section 4.3.2, and, unless set forth otherwise, all terms and conditions relevant for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Other Products shall apply to such Optioned Product (including licenses, milestone payments and royalties).
- 3.7.7 Exclusivity during Option Period.** Subject to Section 3.7.8, CureVac's obligations as set forth in items (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, during the Option Period, CureVac shall not commercialize, and shall not grant any rights to a Third Party for the development or commercialization of any prophylactic or therapeutic mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibody targeting a Pathogen other than an Excluded Pathogen in the Field without GSK's express, written waiver of its rights under the Exclusive Option, which GSK may grant or withhold in its sole discretion. For clarity, subject to Section 2.3.2, the Exclusive Option granted to GSK does not prevent CureVac from initiating or continuing internal Development programs for mRNA-Based vaccines or Antibodies.
- 3.7.8 Exception to Exclusivity for Pre-Pandemic Preparedness Activities.** Section 3.7.7 shall not prevent or restrict CureVac from entering into agreements or arrangements with any supranational
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institution, national government, or any regional state or equivalent authority, or non-governmental organization pursuant to which CureVac provides pre-pandemic preparedness services in relation to any prophylactic or therapeutic mRNA-Based vaccines targeting any Pandemic Pathogen (other than SARS-CoV-2), comprising designing, developing and implementing rapid response vaccine solutions for use in health emergencies, including establishing "ever-warm" manufacturing facilities, development activities for vaccines targeting Pandemic Pathogens that are deemed a potential public health threat by the requesting government, supranational institution or non-governmental organization and the implementation of stockpiling and/or advance purchasing arrangements in connection with such vaccines.

4. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION.

4.1 First Product.

The Parties shall collaborate on the further Development of the First Product. The initial Development plan for the First Product that the Parties will implement is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4.1**, and may be amended from time to time by the JSC in accordance with this Agreement ("**First Product R&D Plan**"). CureVac will complete preclinical validation and sponsor a Clinical Phase I Study of this First Product, unless the Parties agree on a different clinical Development approach within the JSC. Unless GSK replaces the Product in accordance with Section 3.6 or the Program is terminated, GSK will conduct all subsequent Development activities, including activities to obtain Regulatory Approval for such Product, which CureVac shall support, including, and subject to Section 5.3 below, by the clinical supply of Products. Each Party will perform the aforementioned activities in accordance with this Agreement and the First Product R&D Plan (as amended from time to time).

4.2 Second Product.

The Parties shall collaborate on the Development of the Second Product. The initial R&D Plan for the Second Product is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4.2**, and may be amended from time to time by the JSC in accordance with this Agreement ("**Second Product R&D Plan**"). Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and in accordance with the Second Product R&D Plan, the Parties will perform the following Development activities in respect of the Second Product:

- (i) the Parties will collaborate on the Antigen design and the identification of the precise target;
 - (ii) CureVac will perform the mRNA design and formulation and will conduct the pre-clinical validation;
 - (iii) CureVac will sponsor a first Clinical Phase I Study, unless the Parties agree on a different clinical development approach within the JSC; and
 - (iv) unless GSK replaces the Product in accordance with Section 3.6 or the Program is terminated, GSK will conduct all subsequent Development activities, including regulatory
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activities to obtain Regulatory Approval for such Product, which CureVac shall support, including, and subject to Section 5.3 below, by the clinical supply of Products.

4.3 Other Products.

4.3.1 Initial Other Product. The Parties shall collaborate on the Development of the Initial Other Products. An initial R&D Plan for each of these Products is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4.3.1(A)-(C)**, and may be amended from time to time by the JSC in accordance with this Agreement (each, an "**Other Product R&D Plan**"). Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and in accordance with the respective Other Product R&D Plan, the Parties will perform the following Development activities in respect of each of the Other Products:

- (i) the Parties will collaborate on the Antigen design and the identification of the precise target;
- (ii) CureVac will perform the mRNA design and formulation, and will conduct the pre-clinical validation; and
- (iii) CureVac will sponsor a first Clinical Phase I Study, unless in light of achieving the subsequent clinical development and Regulatory Approval of this Product expediently, the Parties agree on a different clinical development approach within the JSC; and
- (iv) unless GSK replaces the Product in accordance with Section 3.6 or the Program is terminated, GSK will conduct all subsequent Development activities, including regulatory activities to obtain Regulatory Approval for such Product, which CureVac shall support, including by the clinical supply of Products.

4.3.2 Subsequent Other Products. If GSK has exercised its (i) Replacement Right pursuant to Section 3.6, (ii) its Exclusive Option pursuant to Section 3.7, or (iii) the GSK COVID Continue Option or GSK Continue Option under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, the Parties shall collaborate on the Development of such Replacement Product, Optioned Product or COVID Product, as applicable. As soon as reasonably practicable following the exercise of the Replacement Right, Exclusive Option, GSK COVID Continue Option or GSK Continue Option by GSK, as applicable, the Parties shall jointly work on an R&D Plan for such Replacement Product, Optioned Product or COVID Product, as applicable, and shall submit such draft R&D Plan to the JSC for approval. Following approval of such R&D Plan by the JSC, each Party shall perform the activities allocated to such Party under the respective R&D Plan. The Parties shall jointly work on the Development of such Product up to and including the Clinical Phase I Study and, unless the Program is terminated, GSK will conduct all subsequent Development activities, including activities to obtain Regulatory Approval for such Product, which CureVac shall support, including by the clinical supply of Products, all in accordance with this Agreement and the applicable R&D Plan.

4.4 Development Data, results and records. On a Program-by-Program basis, at such intervals as set forth in the applicable R&D Plan for the respective Program, or in the absence of any such

provision in the applicable R&D Plan, at reasonable intervals, the Parties will make available to one another through formal reports for review and discussion within the JSC all Development Data and other results of the Development conducted pursuant to any Program, and will keep such records (paper and electronic) as described herein. The Parties will maintain records of the Development Data and other results in sufficient detail as required by Regulatory Authorities and in good scientific manner appropriate for patent purposes, and in a manner that properly reflects all work done and results achieved in the performance of such Programs.

- 4.5 Development Funding.** GSK shall, subject to the remainder of this Section 4.5, compensate CureVac for the Development Costs CureVac incurs performing the Development activities set forth in each R&D Plan (with FTE calculated at the FTE Rate) in accordance with the budget and assumptions as agreed under that R&D Plan. The Parties shall in good faith consider means of gaining efficiencies in the performance of the R&D Plans that have a positive impact on the associated budget, such as outsourcing of certain research activities to a subcontractor. The compensation is to be paid by GSK to CureVac on a Calendar Quarterly basis. GSK shall make payments to CureVac within [*****] after receipt of an invoice from CureVac, which CureVac shall provide on a Calendar Quarterly basis, with supportive documentation reasonably detailing the composition of the agreed budgeted cost (with FTE calculated at the FTE Rate) for the applicable Calendar Quarter period. CureVac shall notify GSK as soon as reasonably practicable in the event that it becomes aware that Development Costs are expected to deviate from the amounts approved in the Development budget, as a result of a change to the assumptions under the R&D Plan, whereupon the Parties shall discuss the causes of such deviation and evaluate potential mitigation measures relating thereto, and an appropriate adjustment (if any) to the Development budget. The Parties shall refer any Development budget increase amounting to greater than [*****] of the previously approved amount to the JSC for prior approval. Unless such budget increase is approved by the JSC, GSK shall not be liable to compensate any amounts to CureVac in excess of [*****] of the amount set out in the agreed Development budget from time to time. GSK shall not unreasonably withhold its approval to any budget increase which is reasonably required as a result of the change to a budgeting assumption set out in a R&D Plan.
- 4.6 Materials.** CureVac will provide GSK with any CureVac Materials required for Development use in the Programs, including those which comprise, embody or incorporate CureVac Background Technology. Without limiting the foregoing, this shall be carried out in accordance with the respective R&D Plan. GSK will provide CureVac with any GSK Materials required for research and Development use in the Programs, including those which comprise, embody or incorporate GSK Background Technology. Without limiting the foregoing, this shall be carried out in accordance with the respective R&D Plan. GSK will use the CureVac Materials and CureVac will use the GSK Materials, as applicable (i) only in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; (ii) not in human subjects, in clinical trials, or for diagnostic purposes involving human subjects, or for any animal studies, except as expressly provided for in R&D Plans; and (iii) not reverse engineer or chemically analyze the same except as expressly provided for (if at all) in R&D Plans. The Materials will remain the sole property of the Party supplying them and
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will be used by the recipient Party in compliance with all Applicable Laws and only to perform activities set forth in R&D Plans. The receiving Party shall not sell, transfer, disclose or otherwise provide access to the other Party's Materials without the written consent of the providing Party, except that the receiving Party may allow access to the other Party's Materials to its and its Affiliates' employees, officers, consultants, subcontractors and Sublicensees who require such access to perform its activities under this Agreement and solely for purposes consistent with this Agreement; provided that such employees, officers, consultants, subcontractors and Sublicensees are bound by agreement to retain and use the Materials in a manner that is consistent with the terms of this Agreement. The Materials are provided "as is". Except as expressly set out in this Agreement, no representations or warranties, express or implied, of any kind, are given by the providing Party with respect to any of the Materials including their condition, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The receiving Party acknowledges the experimental nature of the Materials and that accordingly, not all characteristics of the Materials are necessarily known. Upon termination or expiry of this Agreement if earlier, any and all remaining Materials will, within [*****] after such event, be returned to the Party supplying them (or destroyed, if the supplying Party shall so specify, with such destruction confirmed in writing). The provision of Materials hereunder will not constitute any grant, option or license to or under such Materials, or any Patent Rights or Know-how of the supplying Party, except as expressly set forth herein.

4.7 Know-How Transfer. As and when required in relation to an R&D Plan (and from time to time during the Term if new Know-How within the CureVac Know-How comes to be Controlled by CureVac) or as soon as reasonably practicable upon GSK's request, CureVac shall (at its cost and expense) disclose and/or deliver to GSK copies of all Development Data and information in CureVac's possession relating to the CureVac Know-How which is reasonably required for GSK's Development activities in accordance with the respective R&D Plan (including for regulatory purposes) ("**Development Transfer Materials**"), with the exception, however, of all Know-How comprised in the CureVac Manufacturing Technology which shall be made available to GSK or its designee as set forth in Section 5.3 and Section 5.5. The technology transfer to be undertaken under this Section 4.7 and under Section 5.3 and Section 5.5 shall be overseen by the Joint Steering Committee. Any transfer of Know-How pursuant to this Section 4.7 shall be carried out on the basis of a specific technology transfer plan determined in good faith by the Parties and reflected in a technology transfer addendum to this Agreement, detailing at least the following activities together with appropriate timelines: (i) the provision by CureVac of soft copies and, to the extent reasonably required by GSK, hard copies of all Development Transfer Materials; (ii) the procurement by CureVac of the services of such qualified and experienced scientists and technicians, production and quality assurance personnel, engineers, and quality checking personnel as may be reasonably necessary to support the transfer of the Development Transfer Materials. Until completion of the transfer of the Development Transfer Materials, CureVac shall build and maintain a secure, readable, accessible and complete repository of the Development Transfer Materials.

4.8 Regulatory Approvals of Product.

- 4.8.1 Filing and Transfer of INDs.** On a Product-by-Product basis, CureVac shall prepare and file INDs in accordance with the applicable R&D Plans. GSK shall have the right to review and comment on all such filings, and CureVac will take into good faith consideration any such comments provided by GSK within [*****] of GSK's receipt of such draft filings. As soon as is reasonably practicable after the completion of the [*****] for a Product, and in accordance with the instructions of GSK, CureVac shall (or shall cause its Affiliate to) assign and transfer to GSK the IND for such Product, and all of CureVac's and its Affiliates rights, interest and title therein, and GSK shall accept such assignment and transfer. GSK and CureVac each agree to use Diligent Efforts to take all actions required by a Regulatory Authority to effect the transfer of such IND and further agree to cooperate with each other in order to effectuate the foregoing transfer of such IND. At GSK's direction, an IND may also occur by GSK's filing of a new separate IND for the same Product, cross-referring to the first IND, followed by a later transfer and joining of the first IND, or by a close-out of the first IND. Following the transfer of the IND for a Product, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for all reasonable and demonstrable costs and expenses (including FTE costs at the FTE Rate) incurred by CureVac for the filing and transfer of that IND under the applicable R&D Plan. Until the transfer of an IND for a Product, CureVac shall be responsible for all regulatory interactions, including written communications and meetings with Regulatory Authorities, for any INDs filed by CureVac, provided that GSK shall have the right (i) to participate in meetings with Regulatory Authorities if permissible under Applicable Laws and/or (ii) to prepare and file INDs itself for any Product as set forth above. Furthermore, except in cases where this is not reasonably practicable, e.g. due to a deadline set by a Regulatory Authority, GSK shall have the right to review and comment on any written communications, and CureVac will take into good faith consideration any such comments provided by GSK.
- 4.8.2 Other Regulatory Filings.** GSK has the sole right to prepare and file all new drug applications (or equivalents) and shall own all Regulatory Approvals and be responsible for all decisions in connection with the Regulatory Approvals for Products in the Field and in the Territory, subject to GSK's diligence obligations under Section 4.10 and the rights granted to CureVac with respect to the Regulatory Approvals relevant for the CureVac Territory under Section 6 and the respective Distribution Agreement. With regard to CMC Development and Manufacturing, CureVac shall contribute the necessary sections for such filings, subject to review by GSK. On request by GSK, CureVac shall review and comment on all such filings and safety related documents, and GSK shall reimburse CureVac's reasonable FTE costs incurred on account of GSK's request at the FTE Rate. GSK will share with CureVac any regulatory filings before submission. CureVac shall cooperate in, and provide reasonable assistance to support, these efforts as reasonably requested by GSK. GSK shall provide CureVac with a final copy of each filing.
- 4.8.3 Communications.** Subject to Sections 4.8.1 and 4.8.6, and subject to the rights and obligations of CureVac under Section 6 and the respective Distribution Agreement with respect to the
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Regulatory Approvals relevant for the CureVac Territory, GSK shall be responsible for all regulatory interactions, including written communications and meetings with Regulatory Authorities, and safety management, including the reporting to the appropriate governmental authorities of all adverse events and any other information concerning the safety of Products. GSK will, as part of its regular updates through the JSC, inform CureVac in writing of any material feedback from Regulatory Authorities relating to any Product. Furthermore, at CureVac's request, GSK will provide copies of all Regulatory Approvals and material correspondence with Regulatory Authorities in the Major Markets relating to the Clinical Studies with respect to all Products to CureVac. CureVac shall have the right to participate as a silent observer in a meeting with Regulatory Authorities if and to the extent such meeting relates to the CureVac Technology. Furthermore, upon request of GSK, CureVac shall participate in a meeting with a Regulatory Authority, and GSK shall reimburse all of CureVac's FTE costs (at the FTE Rate) and expenses incurred on account of GSK's request.

- 4.8.4 Sharing of information.** CureVac will reasonably support GSK, at GSK's request at reasonable intervals (considering CureVac's limited personnel resources), on all regulatory matters with respect to the Development and Commercialization of the Products, at GSK's cost, including by providing data and documents as reasonably required for obtaining Regulatory Approvals and for interactions with Regulatory Authorities regarding the Products, provided that such documents and data will remain the property and Confidential Information of CureVac, and GSK will only use such documents and data in accordance with Section 11. CureVac, on receipt of a request of GSK shall provide to GSK a summary of the safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity data resulting from the [*****]. Subject to Section 11, any First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products Dossiers/Data (as defined in the 2021 Collaboration Agreement) received from CureVac under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement shall be deemed Confidential Information of CureVac under this Agreement, and GSK may, notwithstanding any restriction under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, use such data for the Development or Manufacture of Products under this Agreement.
- 4.8.5 Cross-referencing.** To the extent required by GSK, or an Affiliate or Sublicensee of GSK to the Products, CureVac hereby authorizes GSK, its Affiliates and Sublicensees to cross reference to the sections of the regulatory dossiers of the clinical trials related to any other mRNA-Based product in the Field in development by CureVac or its Affiliates to the extent under the Control of CureVac. GSK shall notify CureVac in writing prior to any such cross-referencing. GSK will consider in good faith any request of CureVac or any of its Affiliates to authorize cross-referencing to the sections of the regulatory dossiers of the clinical trials related to the Products.
- 4.8.6 Pharmacovigilance.** The Parties shall have in place and will maintain during the Term (or, as applicable, until the obligations intended to survive termination of this Agreement have been fulfilled) systems, procedures, training programs and documentation needed to perform and comply with their pharmacovigilance regulatory obligations, and each Party shall promptly notify
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the other Party of any safety issues that may arise and that need to be reported under Applicable Laws. Each Party will ensure that it complies with all Applicable Laws regarding the Products relating to risk management, drug safety and pharmacovigilance. The Parties shall negotiate in good faith and conclude a pharmacovigilance agreement within [*****] as of the Closing Date.

- 4.9 CureVac Development Diligence.** Subject to GSK complying with its obligations under this Agreement, CureVac will conduct all Development activities assigned to it the R&D Plans in a timely manner and in accordance with the R&D Plan, and obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources as are reasonable and adequate to complete the R&D Plans.
- 4.10 GSK Development and Regulatory Diligence.** Subject to CureVac complying with its obligations under this Agreement, GSK will:
- (i) conduct all Development activities assigned to it in the R&D Plans, progress the Products into the next appropriate Clinical Study, and obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources as reasonably required to complete the R&D Plans; and
 - (ii) use its Diligent Efforts to secure biologics licensure by the FDA and marketing authorization by EMA following completion of all appropriate Clinical Studies.
- 4.11 Use of GSK Technology.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, GSK hereby grants to CureVac, and CureVac accepts, a royalty-free, non-exclusive, license (with the right to sub-license in accordance with Section 4.12) to use the GSK Technology for performing the Development and Manufacturing activities allocated to CureVac under this Agreement (and, subject to the terms of each Ancillary Agreement, under the Ancillary Agreements).
- 4.12 Right to Sublicense.** CureVac shall have the right to sublicense its rights under Section 4.11 to any of its Affiliates, but not to any Third Party, subject only to the right to subcontract as set forth under Section 4.13 below.
- 4.13 Subcontracts.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Parties may subcontract to Affiliates and Third Parties, including CROs and CMOs, portions of the Programs to be performed. Any subcontractor shall be required to enter into appropriate agreements with respect to non-disclosure of Confidential Information and ownership of any intellectual property developed in the course of subcontracted activities, unless such subcontracting would not require the transfer of the other Party's Confidential Information to the Affiliate or Third Party subcontractor and there is no reasonable possibility of the creation of new intellectual property. Each Party shall remain liable to the other Party for any act or omission of its subcontractor.
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5. **MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCIALIZATION.**

- 5.1 **Manufacturing Facility.** CureVac shall plan and carry out the completion of the installation and Regulatory Approval of the GMP-IV Manufacturing Facility, with two Drug Substance production lines each with a targeted scale up of five times compared to the current production process established at the GMP-III Manufacturing Facility and targeting a Drug Substance batch size of [*****] and the production of [*****] per year, at its own cost, due for completion by the Initiation of the [*****]. Furthermore, CureVac shall use Diligent Efforts to complete by the same date: (i) in-sourcing and process development of the Drug Product formulation process, including the LNP Technology; (ii) in-sourcing of the capability to produce DNA plasmids using the pDNA technology; and (iii) development of the supply chain for sourcing critical raw materials (the "**Manufacturing Facility Enhancements**"); provided that if the Parties agree in good faith that a CMO would be better suited to perform any of the activities under (i) and (ii), GSK shall relieve CureVac from its obligations with respect to (i) and/or (ii), as applicable, and provided further that the only and exclusive remedy in case of a breach by CureVac of its obligations to use Diligent Efforts to complete the Manufacturing Facility Enhancements under this Section 5.1 shall be that CureVac covers the costs for a bridging study in humans, if required solely as a result of such breach by CureVac, in the maximum amount of [*****]. Subject to Section 5.2, up to once per quarter, GSK shall have the right to request and assess the plans proposed by CureVac regarding the foregoing and to monitor the progress, provided that, if and to the extent it is necessary for GSK to undertake an on-site visit for this purpose, GSK shall not be permitted to do so more than twice per Calendar Year. GSK may, where relevant and at its discretion, suggest appropriate improvements and provide additional support in connection with enhancement of the Manufacturing Process for Drug Product and the installation of the GMP-IV Manufacturing Facility, which CureVac may freely decide to implement or not. CureVac will reasonably consider to use the [*****] for the Manufacture of the Products; it being understood and agreed between the Parties that GSK may not request the disclosure of any Know-How or any technology transfer from CureVac with respect to the [*****] other than to the extent necessary for any Regulatory Filing for a Product.
- 5.2 **GSK Consultancy.** GSK's assessment and suggestions with respect to enhancements and capacity expansion of Manufacturing of Drug Product in the GMP Manufacturing Facility will be according to GSK's best understanding at that time of the applicable requirements, practice and quality standards. In no circumstances shall GSK be liable in case of a discrepancy between the plans assessed by GSK and applicable standards, or a competent Regulatory Authority's disagreement with the proposed plans or a recommendation provided by GSK, nor if CureVac fails to correctly implement the GSK recommendations. Any consultancy provided by GSK under Section 5.1 shall be limited to providing advice and guidance, but shall exclude any activities regarding the actual implementation of such advice or guidance, which shall be CureVac's sole responsibility.
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5.3 Clinical Supply. Within the JSC the Parties shall decide whether CureVac should ensure Manufacture and supply to GSK of doses of Products required for use by GSK in accordance with this Agreement for the Clinical Studies or whether GSK in lieu of CureVac should Manufacture clinical materials on its own following a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, or whether and how the Manufacturing capability of both Parties should be combined, such decision to be based on the respective Manufacturing capacities available as declared by the respective Party, the context of the respective clinical trial material portfolios and batches across all projects, and to be aligned with the Parties' intention to ensure the Manufacture of Drug Product conforming to the required quality standards, the agreed specifications and the estimated timelines for Development of Products defined in the R&D Plans, and that supports the competitiveness of the Products. Where the Product for use in Clinical Studies is Manufactured by CureVac, its Affiliates and/or any CMO appointed by CureVac, one or more clinical supply agreement(s) and associated clinical Quality Agreement(s) will be negotiated and agreed between GSK and either or both CureVac, the CureVac Affiliate and/or CMO supplying the Products to GSK, and in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 5.3(A) PART 2 ("Clinical Supply Agreement")**. To the extent CureVac or its Affiliates Manufacture clinical trial material, CureVac and its Affiliates will reserve the required capacity for the Manufacture of Products for clinical supply in its GMP Manufacturing Facilities in accordance with the forecasts given under the supply agreement(s). In the event of a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology for clinical supply under this Section 5.3 (excluding the transfer to [*****]), such transfer shall only be made to GSK, and only to one site at GSK designated by GSK and approved by CureVac (which approval is hereby already given if GSK designates its vaccines manufacturing site in Wavre / Rixensart, Belgium), and GSK shall have no right to subsequently transfer the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to another GSK site or a Third Party without the prior written consent of CureVac. Unless otherwise provided herein, Section 5.5 below shall apply mutatis mutandis. The Parties acknowledge and agree that GSK has designated and CureVac has approved [*****] as a CMO of GSK for Manufacture and supply of doses of Products for Clinical Studies at the [*****] Facility as at the Fourth Amendment Effective Date. With respect to the transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to the [*****] Facility, CureVac and GSK each undertake to comply with their obligations, including in particular completing the technical and analytical transfer, in accordance with the plans agreed by the respective technical teams of the Parties, and each Party shall use reasonable efforts to complete the list of key deliverables and activities set out in **Exhibit 5.3(B)** by the dates specified. For the avoidance of doubt, following the transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to the [*****] Facility, [*****] shall have no right to subsequently transfer the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to another [*****] site. Without limiting Sections 8.1.1 and 8.1.2, GSK will compensate CureVac for any costs or expenses incurred by or on behalf of CureVac with respect to the technology transfer support provided by CureVac or its Affiliates under this Section 5.3 (with any FTE costs of CureVac and its Affiliates to be calculated at the FTE Rate); provided that with respect to the technology transfer to the [*****] Facility, CureVac hereby acknowledges that no compensation will be payable by GSK to CureVac for any costs or expenses incurred by or on behalf of CureVac before the completion of the technology transfer to the [*****] Facility (which

will be deemed to occur on [*****].

- 5.4 **Commercial Supply.** On a Product-by-Product basis, if GSK wishes to appoint a CMO with the Manufacture of Products, such CMO must be approved by CureVac in accordance with Section 5.5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties acknowledge and agree that GSK has designated and CureVac has approved [*****] as a CMO of GSK for the Manufacture of doses of Products at the [*****] Facility for Commercialization as at the Fourth Amendment Effective Date. On a Product-by-Product basis, upon the request of GSK, but in any case no later than the [*****] for the respective Product, GSK and CureVac, or the CureVac Affiliate supplying Drug Product to GSK, will negotiate and agree in good faith on a commercial supply agreement (each a "**Commercial Supply Agreement**") with respect to such Product (including a Quality Agreement) according to which CureVac or its Affiliates will Manufacture or have Manufactured for GSK, GSK's demand for bulk of Drug Product in accordance the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 5.3(A) PART 1**. CureVac shall reserve, or shall procure that its Affiliates will reserve, [*****] of the annual batch capacity of the GMP-IV Manufacturing Facility for the Manufacture of bulk of Drug Product on behalf of GSK for supply in the Territory in accordance with the Commercial Supply Agreement(s).
- 5.5 **Manufacture by GSK.** Upon the request of GSK, CureVac shall transfer all Know-How comprised in the CureVac Manufacturing Technology ("**Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials**") to GSK, an Affiliate of GSK or the CMO designated by GSK and approved by CureVac (which approval CureVac will not unreasonably withhold, condition or delay, and will not withhold its approval when the transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology is required to enable the Commercialization of a Product in a market where localized manufacturing is necessary in light of the characteristics of such market, or is requested by a government in such market), as applicable, so that GSK itself, the Affiliate of GSK or the appointed CMO (approved by CureVac), as applicable, can Manufacture the Products. For the avoidance of doubt, following such transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, GSK, or the Affiliate or CMO of GSK to which the CureVac Manufacturing Technology has been transferred, shall have no right to subsequently transfer the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to another site of GSK, or another site of such Affiliate or CMO, as applicable, without the prior written consent of CureVac. In the event of a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, (a) the JSC shall establish a Manufacturing tech-transfer sub-committee ("**Manufacturing Sub-Committee**"), which shall oversee the Manufacturing technology transfer; and (b) GSK will compensate CureVac or, if applicable, its CMO, for any costs and expenses incurred by CureVac or its CMO in relation to the technology transfer support (with any FTE costs of CureVac and its Affiliates to be calculated at the FTE Rate). CureVac's obligation to reserve [*****] of CureVac's GMP-
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IV Manufacturing Facility shall reduce proportionately, on a country-by-country basis, as GSK (or the appointed Third Party CMO) obtains Regulatory Approval for the Manufacture of the Products (for Commercialization purposes, not Development purposes) following completion of the Manufacturing technology transfer, provided that GSK shall in such case use Diligent Efforts to obtain such Regulatory Approval as soon as reasonably practicable, prioritizing the countries with the highest demand for Product, and provided further that CureVac's obligation to reserve capacity shall terminate in any event [*****] after the completion of the technology transfer. However, the foregoing decrease in reserved capacity shall not be triggered by a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to a UK-based Affiliate of GSK or a CMO in the UK for commercial supply in the context of enabling pandemic preparedness solutions for Products on UK soil requested by the UK government. Any transfer of Know-How pursuant to this Section 5.5 shall be carried on the basis of a specific technology transfer plan determined in good faith by the Parties and reflected in a technology transfer addendum to this Agreement, detailing at least the following activities together with appropriate timelines: (i) the provision by CureVac of soft copies and, to the extent reasonably required by GSK, hard copies of all Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials; (ii) the procurement by CureVac of the services of such qualified and experienced scientists, production and quality assurance personnel, engineers, and quality checking personnel as may be reasonably necessary to support the transfer of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials; and (iii) the provision by CureVac to the personnel of GSK or its Affiliate with reasonable access to its facilities to observe the Manufacture at such times as the Parties may agree; provided such access shall be coordinated in a manner to minimize the disruption of CureVac's activities and CureVac may require any personnel of a Third Party with access to its facilities to sign a confidentiality agreement and to abide by the rules and guidelines applicable to the CureVac facility. Until the completion of the transfer of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials, CureVac shall build and maintain a secure, readable, accessible and complete repository of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials. For the avoidance of doubt, GSK may use the CureVac Manufacturing Technology and the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials solely for the Manufacture of Products under this Agreement and for the manufacture of products under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, or otherwise in accordance with and to the extent permitted by this Agreement or the 2021 Collaboration Agreement, as applicable.

5.6 Intellectual Property Matters and Operational Cooperation with CMOs appointed by GSK. Upon a technology transfer under this Article 5, including the transfer to [*****] at the [*****] Facility:

- (i) in the case of any transfer to a CMO of GSK (approved by CureVac), and without limiting Section 4.13 and Section 9.6, GSK shall enter into an agreement with that CMO, pursuant to which (A) the CMO is required to disclose to GSK (to enable GSK to disclose to CureVac in accordance with Section 9.2) any improvements, modifications or other changes of the Manufacturing process, and promptly to make available to GSK (to enable GSK to make available to CureVac) any other all Know-How, including data and documentation, required to apply such improvements, modifications or other changes, (B) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to assign to CureVac in
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accordance with Section 9.5) any CureVac Inventions, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.3.1, (C) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to assign to CureVac in accordance with Section 9.5) its interest in any Joint Technology, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.3.2, (D) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to license such rights to CureVac) any GSK Inventions with CureVac Contribution (and related Know-How), in any field, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.4;

- (ii) the Parties, through the Manufacturing Sub-Committee, will meet for technical reviews to exchange and discuss Manufacturing data obtained by each Party from its (or its CMOs') respective Manufacturing activities (including any equivalent activities under the 2021 Collaboration Agreement) no less than [*****] per Calendar Year, at times to be agreed between the Parties;
- (iii) the Parties will inform each other, on an ongoing basis, of any improvements, modifications or other changes of the Manufacturing process, and will promptly make available to each other all Know-How, including data and documentation required to apply such improvements, modifications or other changes in their (or their CMO's) respective Manufacturing sites. Furthermore, CureVac shall have the right, and in case GSK uses a CMO (approved by CureVac), GSK shall include such right into the respective agreement between GSK and such CMO, to: (A) receive copies of GMP documentation supporting change notifications with respect to the process, the materials, QC methods, Product specifications and equipment, validation and stability plans and reports, deviations, or out-of-specification investigation which could potentially trigger changes notifications outlined above, (B) receive summaries of reports (or parts thereof) from audits and inspections to the extent such reports (or parts thereof, as applicable) relate to the Manufacture of Products and to the extent such reports (or parts thereof, as applicable) are shared with GSK by the respective CMO, and (C) receive copies of regulatory documentation relating to the Manufacturing of Products. CureVac may (acting reasonably) request GSK, and GSK will not unreasonably reject such request, to (x) provide data, information and records specifically relating to the Manufacture of Products, and (y) to participate in technical visits of the CMO site performed by GSK to the extent permitted under the respective CMO agreement.
- (iv) GSK will not prevent CureVac from entering into a manufacturing agreement with [*****] for the manufacture of products at the [*****] Facility by entering into an exclusive manufacturing agreement with [*****] with respect to the [*****] Facility beyond [*****].

GSK shall ensure that the agreement between GSK and [*****] complies with this Section 5.6. CureVac acknowledges that, so far as it is aware (to the extent it is able to assess the same based on the redacted version shared by GSK with CureVac prior to the Fourth Amendment Effective Date) the agreement between GSK and [*****] complies with this Section 5.6.

5.7 Commercial Supply under [***] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.** The Products sold and supplied to [*****] under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall be Manufactured by CureVac and GSK under this Agreement in accordance with the [*****]

Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Plan and the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.

5.8 Commercialization of Products; Diligence. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, GSK shall have the rights and the responsibility, and shall bear all costs associated with the Commercialization of Products in the Field in the GSK Territory. Unless terminated or replaced in accordance with this Agreement, GSK will use Diligent Efforts to Commercialize: (i) the First Product, (ii) the Second Product, (iii) each of the Initial Other Products, and (iv) each Replacement Product and each Optioned Product, as applicable, in each case of (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the Field and in the Major Markets (other than Germany, unless waived by CureVac pursuant to Section 6.1) (subject to obtaining Regulatory Approval in the relevant Major Market). Without limiting the generality of the Diligent Efforts obligations under this Section 5.8, GSK shall:

- (i) on a Product-by-Product basis make the First Commercial Sale of a Product in a country as soon as reasonably practicable following the issuance of the Regulatory Approval for such Product in such country;
- (ii) in addition to the royalty reports provided by GSK to CureVac under Section 8.7, beginning with the First Commercial Sale of the first Product in the Territory and continuing until expiry of the Royalty Term, provide CureVac, at least once annually by March 31 of each Calendar Year, with a confidential, non-binding sales forecast for that Calendar Year for discussion in the JSC (or the commercialization sub-committee, as applicable) of the estimated aggregate (x) sales of Products in the GSK Territory and (y) sales of Products in each Major Market, provided that GSK shall not be required to provide supporting materials in relation to such forecast.

5.9 CureVac Resources. CureVac shall obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources necessary to meet its obligations under this Article 5, in accordance with the timelines specified in and in accordance with this Article 5.

5.10 Sale and purchase of raw materials and disposables. CureVac, through its Affiliate CureVac Real Estate GmbH, shall sell to GSK (or its nominee) the Transferring Materials with effect from the Fourth Amendment Effective Date. The physical transfer of the Transferring Materials shall take place at the [*****] Facility. Title and risk in the Transferring Materials shall transfer on the Fourth Amendment Effective Date. In this Agreement, "Transferring Materials" means those raw materials and disposables acquired by CureVac for use at the [*****] Facility and listed in **Exhibit 5.10**.

6. COMMERCIALIZATION OF PRODUCTS IN THE CUREVAC TERRITORY.

6.1 Commercialization in CureVac Territory. CureVac shall have the sole and exclusive right to Commercialize the Products in the Field in the CureVac Territory. On a Product-by-Product

basis, until the execution of a Distribution Agreement between the Parties under Section 6.2 for a Product, CureVac shall have the right to waive its right to Commercialize such Product in the CureVac Territory by giving written notice to GSK. Upon receipt of such waiver notice by GSK, with respect to the respective Product, the CureVac Territory shall become part of the GSK Territory, and GSK shall have the right to Commercialize the Product in such extended GSK Territory, and the obligation to use Diligent Efforts to Commercialize the Product in Germany, subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

6.2 Distribution Agreement. On a Product-by-Product basis, upon request of CureVac, but no later than [*****] prior to the estimated First Commercial Sale of the respective Product in the Field in the CureVac Territory, the Parties shall negotiate and agree in good faith on a distribution agreement under which CureVac has the exclusive rights to Commercialize such Product in the Field in the CureVac Territory in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the key distribution terms in **Exhibit 6.2 ("Distribution Agreement")**. CureVac shall comply with all policies, practices, standards, guidelines, codes and requirements generally inferred by the GlaxoSmithKline group on distributors of its products in the CureVac Territory, which shall be further detailed in the Distribution Agreement and compliance with which shall be subject to audit by GSK as specified in the Distribution Agreement.

7. GOVERNANCE.

7.1 Management.

7.1.1 Alliance Management. Management of the collaborative alliance reflected in this Agreement will be under the responsibility of the individual designated in writing within [*****] of the Closing Date for CureVac ("**CureVac Alliance Manager**") and of the individual designated in writing within [*****] of the Closing Date for GSK ("**GSK Alliance Manager**"), and together with the CureVac Alliance Manager, the "**Alliance Managers**"). Each Alliance Manager will be the primary point of contact for the other Party on all matters relating to the operation of this Agreement other than Program activities.

7.1.2 Program Management. On a R&D Plan-by-R&D Plan basis, the management of the activities under the Programs will be under the responsibility of the individual designated in writing within [*****] of the Closing Date for CureVac ("**CureVac Project Leader**") and of the individual designated in writing within [*****] of the Closing Date for GSK ("**GSK Project Leader**", and together with the CureVac Project Leader, the "**Project Leaders**"). Each Project Leader will be the primary point of contact for the other Party on all matters relating to the R&D Plan.

7.2 Joint Steering Committee.

7.2.1 Establishment. Within [*****] after the Closing Date the Parties will establish a joint steering committee ("**Joint Steering Committee**" or "**JSC**") to oversee the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the Products and to facilitate the exchange

of information between the Parties. The JSC shall be comprised of two (2) representatives of CureVac and two (2) representatives of GSK, one representative being the Alliance Manager of the respective Party, in each case with appropriate scientific and technical expertise and sufficient seniority within the applicable Party consistent with the scope of the JSC's responsibilities. Each Party may replace its JSC representatives at any time upon written notice to the other Party, *provided, however*, that each Party shall use reasonable efforts (*obligation de moyen*) to ensure continuity on the JSC.

- 7.2.2 JSC Meetings.** The JSC shall meet at least on a quarterly basis, or such other frequency as agreed by the Parties, by teleconference, videoconference or in person, provided that at least every [*****], or such other frequency as agreed by the Parties, the meeting shall be in person (which in-person meeting will be held at alternate facilities of each Party), unless agreed otherwise by the JSC representatives. The JSC will have a quorum if at least one (1) representative of each Party is present or participating. Each Party will be responsible for all of its own expenses of participating in the JSC meetings. The Parties will endeavor to schedule meetings of the JSC at least [*****] in advance. Each Party may call special meetings of the JSC with at least [*****] prior written notice, except in exigent circumstances, to resolve particular matters requested by such Party and within the decision-making responsibility of the JSC. Each Party may invite guest participants to certain items on the agenda of the meetings, with reasonable prior notice, in order to discuss special technical or commercial topics, provided that such guest participants shall be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations consistent with the terms of this Agreement and shall not have a voting right in such meeting. The chair of the JSC will alternate each Calendar Year, with CureVac to chair the first year. The Party chairing the JSC shall prepare the meeting agenda with input from the other Party.
- 7.2.3 JSC Minutes.** The Alliance Manager of the Party chairing the JSC shall record the minutes of each JSC meeting in writing. Such minutes shall be circulated to the other Party's Alliance Manager no later than [*****] following the meeting for review, comment and approval of the other Party. If no comments are received within [*****] of the receipt of the minutes by the other Party, unless otherwise agreed, they shall be deemed to be approved by the other Party. Furthermore, if the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the minutes within [*****] of the applicable meeting, the sections of the minutes that have been mutually agreed between the Parties by that date shall be deemed approved and, in addition, each Party shall record in the same document its own version of those sections of the minutes on which the Parties were not able to agree.
- 7.3 JSC Functions and Powers.** The JSC will be responsible generally for facilitating the Parties' interactions under this Agreement and specifically for overseeing the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the Products. The JSC has (i) no jurisdiction to make any amendments to this Agreement, which right is reserved to the Parties; and (ii) no jurisdiction over any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement. The principal functions of the JSC will include:
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- (i) overseeing the Development of Products in accordance with the R&D Plans, including deciding the strategy for the Manufacturing and supply of clinical materials, as referred to in Section 5.3;
 - (ii) reviewing and approving the R&D Plans in relation to a Product Adjustment, Replacement Product or an Optioned Product;
 - (iii) updating the initial R&D Plans to include the further Development work and discussing and approving the annual Development budgets under the R&D Plans;
 - (iv) the resolution and approval of any issue and recommendation from the Parties with respect to the modification of the R&D Plans, including but not limited to modifications of the budget and timelines;
 - (v) receiving written reports or presentations from GSK and CureVac of their respective progress with the further Development of each Product summarizing their Development activities and the results thereof with respect to the applicable Product and discuss at meetings the status, progress, and results of the Development of the respective Product;
 - (vi) exchanging Development Data and other technical information;
 - (vii) upon GSK's request, serving as a forum where CureVac shall inform GSK of new internal development programs covered by GSK's Exclusive Option;
 - (vii) upon GSK's request, serving as a forum where CureVac shall inform GSK of new internal development programs covered by GSK's Exclusive Option;
 - (viii) creating sub-committees, including the IP Sub-Committee pursuant to Section 7.4, a Commercialization sub-committee for the coordination of Commercialization activities for Products by GSK in the GSK Territory and by CureVac in the CureVac Territory and a Manufacturing sub-committee for discussing Product-related and/or Product-related Manufacturing and supply;
 - (ix) serving as a forum where each Party shall inform the other Party of any material feedback received from Regulatory Authorities in relation to any Product;
 - (x) informing on material regulatory filings and regulatory interactions related to the Products;
 - (xi) fostering the collaborative relationship between the Parties;
 - (xii) resolving disputes between the Parties; and
 - (xiii) such other functions as agreed by the Parties.
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If the JSC establishes a sub-committee in accordance with this Section 7.3, unless otherwise agreed, the governance provisions of this Section 7 shall apply accordingly to such sub-committee.

In line with the completion of the Programs, the Parties shall, within the JSC, in good faith evolve the composition and operation of the JSC to reflect the change in roles and responsibilities of the Parties in the further Development, Manufacturing and Commercialization of the Products.

7.4 IP Sub-Committee. Within [*****] of the Closing Date the JSC shall establish an IP Sub-Committee comprising up to two patent attorneys of each Party. The IP Sub-Committee shall be the forum for discussion and liaison between the Parties concerning filings to be made for Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights. For the avoidance of doubt, the IP Sub-Committee is not a decision-making forum, except (in the first instance) with respect to matters concerning the maintenance of the Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights, and, in relation to the Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights, the patent term extension strategy, patent litigation, patent defense and enforcement, but serves as a forum for discussion where the Parties may coordinate and consult with each other with respect to any such filings. The IP Sub-Committee shall in particular: (i) convene no less than once every [*****] to facilitate regular interaction regarding the intellectual property matters arising from this Agreement (or any Ancillary Agreement); (ii) exchange information necessary to keep the Parties reasonably informed of each other's prosecution of patents and trademarks that form part of the intellectual property rights licensed under this Agreement; (iii) review any Invention arising under a Program (including any Joint Product Invention and Joint Other Invention) and determine in good faith the ownership thereof, in accordance with this Agreement; (iv) coordinate intellectual property aspects of publications or presentation of Development Data, in accordance with Section 11.7; (v) cooperatively review and discuss potential material infringements by Third Parties as well as the potential infringement by either Party or its Affiliates of any intellectual property of a Third Party pursuant to Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization under this Agreement; and (vi) escalate any intellectual property-related issue on which the Parties are not in agreement to the JSC.

7.5 JSC Decisions.

7.5.1 Initial Dispute Resolution. Actions to be taken by the JSC and any subcommittee shall be taken only following a unanimous vote, with each Party's representatives collectively having one (1) vote. If any subcommittee fails to reach unanimous agreement on a matter before it for decision for a period in excess of [*****], the matter shall be referred to the JSC.

7.5.2 Final Decision-Making.

- a. If the JSC fails to reach unanimous agreement on a matter brought before it for decision for a period in excess of [*****] (which number shall be reduced to [*****] in case of a matter that is deemed urgent by either Party, acting reasonably), the matter may be referred by either Party to the Executive Officers, who shall meet in
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person or via teleconference within [*****] and attempt to resolve such matter in good faith.

- b. If the Executive Officers fail to reach agreement as to such matter for a period in excess of [*****] from their initial meeting (which number shall be reduced to [*****] in case of a matter that is deemed urgent by either Party, acting reasonably), the final decision on such undecided matter shall be made by GSK in good faith with the following exceptions:
- (i) GSK shall not unilaterally reduce its diligence obligations under this Agreement;
 - (ii) GSK shall not unilaterally make material amendments to an R&D Plan (including the budget and the number of FTEs agreed in the R&D Plan) which have an adverse impact on CureVac, adopt a decision that would cause significant delay of the Development timelines as set forth in an R&D Plan or would oblige CureVac to perform additional obligations under this Agreement or an R&D Plan, it being understood that if following an escalation to the JSC and Executive Officers, the Parties are not aligned on the Manufacturing of doses of Product for use in Clinical Studies, the decision by GSK to Manufacture such doses itself shall be deemed to comply with the aforementioned limitations as long as it does not cause a new delay to the Development timelines;
 - (iii) without limiting any right of GSK at law, GSK shall not unilaterally decide on any matter concerning Joint Patent Rights or any Inventions claimed therein, with the exception of decisions relating to (A) obtaining and maintaining supplementary protection certificates (B) enforcement against Third Parties in the Territory within the Field in accordance with Article 10;
 - (iv) subject to the Quality Agreements, GSK shall not unilaterally decide any matter with respect to the CMC Development or the Manufacture of Products that CureVac Manufactures for GSK (for either Development or Commercial purposes); and
 - (v) GSK shall not unilaterally alter or amend the terms and conditions of this Agreement and shall have no jurisdiction over any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement.

7.6 Information and results. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Parties will make available and disclose to one another Development Data and other results of work conducted pursuant to each Program prior to and in preparation for the JSC meetings, by the deadline and in the level of detail, form and format to be designated by the JSC; *provided, however*, that, in any event, each Party shall to the extent reasonably possible provide the other Party with quarterly updates regarding its work pursuant to the Programs preferably [*****] prior to each JSC meeting.

8. CONSIDERATION AND PAYMENTS.

8.1 Upfront Payment. In partial consideration for the exclusive licenses granted to GSK under the CureVac Technology, GSK shall pay to CureVac a non-refundable and non-creditable fee in the amount of one hundred and twenty million Euro (EUR 120,000,000) within [*****] after GSK's receipt of an invoice of the respective amount from CureVac.

8.1.1 Manufacturing Historic Reimbursable Expenses. GSK shall pay to CureVac a non-refundable and non-creditable fee in the amount of:

- (i) in consideration of set-up activities undertaken by CureVac and materials used for technical runs undertaken on behalf of CureVac, in each case at the [*****] Facility, [*****]; plus
- (ii) in consideration of certain Transferring Materials representing useable raw materials and disposables procured by CureVac prior to 13 December 2021 for use at the [*****] Facility, as set out in **Exhibit 5.10**, [*****],

in each case within [*****] after GSK's receipt of an invoice of the respective amount from CureVac.

8.1.2 Manufacturing Interim Period Reimbursable Expenses. GSK shall pay to CureVac a non-refundable and non-creditable fee in consideration of the maintenance of its contract with [*****] in the amount of [*****] after GSK's receipt of an invoice of the respective amount from CureVac.

8.2 GMP-IV Reservation Fee. In consideration for the reservation of Manufacturing capacity in the GMP-IV Manufacturing Facility pursuant to Section 5.5, GSK shall pay to CureVac a non-refundable fee in the amount of thirty million Euro (EUR 30,000,000) upon [*****] ("**GMP-IV Reservation Fee**"). Such payment shall be made within [*****] after GSK's receipt of an invoice of the respective amount from CureVac. GSK may credit:

- (i) ten million Euro (EUR 10 million) against [*****],
 - (ii) ten million Euro (EUR 10 million) against [*****]; and
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(iii) ten million Euro (EUR 10 million) against [*****].

8.3 Development and Regulatory Milestone Payments. In consideration for the exclusive licenses granted to GSK under the CureVac Technology, on a Product-by-Product basis, GSK shall pay to CureVac the one-time, non-refundable, non-creditable development milestone payments set forth in this Section 8.3 (each a "**Development & Regulatory Milestone Payment**") upon the first occurrence of the applicable milestone event with respect to any Product, provided that each such milestone payment shall be due only once for each Product (each a "**Development & Regulatory Milestone Event**"). On a Product-by-Product basis, if any one of the Development & Regulatory Milestone Events is not required for the Development of a Product, such Development & Regulatory Milestone Payment shall become payable upon achieving the Development & Regulatory Milestone Event following the Development & Regulatory Milestone Event which was not required, *i.e.*, upon the achievement of such following Development & Regulatory Milestone Event two Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments become payable hereunder.

8.3.1 First Product. The following Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments shall be made for the First Product:

Development & Regulatory Milestone Event	In EUR million
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.3.2 Second Product and Other Products. The following Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments shall be made for the Second Product and for each Other Product (including any Replacement Product and Optioned Product):

Development & Regulatory Milestone Event	In EUR million
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.4 Sales Milestone Payments. In consideration for the licenses granted to GSK under the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology, on a Product-by- Product basis, GSK shall pay to CureVac each of the non-refundable, non-creditable milestone payments set forth in this Section 8.4 (each a "**Sales Milestone Payment**") for the Calendar Year in which aggregated annual Net Sales in the GSK Territory of all Products developed from the respective Product meet or exceed for the first time the thresholds set forth below (each a "**Sales Milestone Payment**").

8.4.1 First Product. The following Sales Milestone Payments shall be made for the First Product:

Sales Milestone Event	In EUR million
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.4.2 Second Product and Other Products. The following Sales Milestone Payments shall be made for the Second Product and for each of the Other Products (including any Replacement Product and Optioned Product):

Sales Milestone Event	In EUR million
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.5 Obligation to Inform. GSK shall notify CureVac on the occurrence of a milestone event under Sections 8.3 and 8.4 (other than the milestone events under the control of CureVac) as soon as possible but in any event within [*****] after becoming aware of the occurrence of the relevant milestone.

8.6 Milestone Payment Terms. Each milestone payment shall be due and payable within [*****] after the receipt of the respective invoice by GSK. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Sales Milestone Payment shall be paid together with the royalty payments for the Calendar Quarter during which the respective milestone has been achieved.

8.7 Royalties.

8.7.1 Royalty Rates. As further consideration for the rights and licenses granted by CureVac to GSK to the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology under this Agreement, GSK shall pay royalties to CureVac in the amounts set forth below:

(i) First Product. GSK shall pay to CureVac the following royalties on Net Sales in each Calendar Quarter in the GSK Territory of all Products developed from the First Product in the amounts set forth below:

Annual Net Sales of First Product	Royalty Rate
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

First Product shall include any Product with the same Antigen composition as Developed under the same Program, even if such Product is sold under a different label. For illustration purposes, if the First Product is approved in certain countries for an indication or use associated only with the Second Product, the Net Sales for such Product will still be Net Sales of the First Product.

(ii) Second Product. GSK shall pay to CureVac the following royalties on Net Sales in each Calendar Quarter in the GSK Territory of all Products developed from the Second Product in the amounts set forth below:

Annual Net Sales of Second Product	Royalty Rate
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

(iii) Other Products. On a Product-by-Product basis, for each Other Product (including any Replacement Product and Optioned Product), GSK shall pay to CureVac the following royalties on Net Sales in each Calendar Quarter in the GSK Territory of all Products developed from the respective Other Product in the amounts set forth below:

Aggregate annual Net Sales of all Products developed from an Other Product	Royalty Rate
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.7.2 Royalty Term. On a country-by-country and Product-by-Product basis, GSK's royalty obligations as set forth in this Section 8.7 shall begin with the First Commercial Sale of such Product in such country, and shall expire upon the later to occur of:

- (i) the expiry of the last to expire Valid Claim of any Patent Rights Controlled by CureVac (whether alone or jointly with GSK or a Third Party) Covering such Product in such country;
- (i) the earlier of (A) expiry of Regulatory Exclusivity for such Product in such country and (B) twelve (12) years following the First Commercial Sale of such Product in such country; or
- (ii) ten (10) years following the First Commercial Sale of such Product in such country, provided that such Product incorporates CureVac Know-How or CureVac Know-How is required to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize the Product in such country,

and provided further that GSK's royalty obligations under this Section 8.7 with respect to a Product shall expire for all countries of the GSK Territory on the twentieth (20th) anniversary of the First Commercial Sale of such Product in the first country of the GSK Territory (the "**Royalty Term**").

8.7.3 Know-How Reduction. During the applicable Royalty Term and on a country-by-country and Product-by-Product basis, the royalty rate for a Product in a country shall be reduced by [*****] of the applicable rate determined pursuant to Section 8.7.1, if such Product is not or no longer Covered by a Valid Claim in such country.

8.7.4 Exhaustiveness. Except as set forth otherwise in this Agreement, the Royalty shall be the exhaustive consideration for the maintenance by CureVac of the CureVac Technology, and CureVac shall be responsible for the payment of any royalties, fees, costs or expenses under the In-Licensing Agreements.



8.7.5 Third Party Offset. Without limiting any other right or remedy of GSK under this Agreement, or any obligation of CureVac, on a country-by-country and Product-by-Product basis, if, during the Term, GSK or any of its Affiliates is required to obtain a license under certain Third Party Patent Rights to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of any CureVac Elements for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Products under this Agreement and to pay a royalty or other consideration under such license (including milestone payments or any payment in connection with the settlement of a patent infringement claim), then the Parties shall discuss obtaining an FTO license in accordance with Section 10.14. Royalties due to CureVac for the respective Product in the respective country(ies) Covered by the Third Party Patent Rights in-licensed by GSK to obtain at its discretion freedom to operate under this Section 8.7.5 shall, subject to Section 8.7.6, be reduced by: (i) [*****] of the reasonable amount payable by GSK to the Third Party for licenses required in respect of the Patent Right listed in **Exhibit 8.7.5** relevant to the Initial Products; and (ii) and [*****] of the amount payable by GSK to the Third Party for any other licenses. Where a Product is encoded by Modified MRNA, CureVac will not bear any payments to Third Parties with respect to such Modified MRNA (without prejudice to the procedure set forth in Section 2.8.1).

8.7.6 Cumulative Deductions. Notwithstanding the above, any royalty reduction made pursuant to Section 8.7.3 and/or Section 8.7.5 shall in no event reduce the applicable royalty rate for the respective Finished Product in the respective country to less than [*****] of the amounts determined pursuant to Section 8.7.1.

8.7.7 Blended Royalties.

With respect to a potential step down in royalty rates to account for the expiry of certain Patent Rights, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology licensed hereunder may justify royalty rates for sales of Products in the GSK Territory in different amounts, which rates could be applied separately to Products involving the exercise of CureVac Technology and the Licensed LNP (namely in a ratio of [*****]). Furthermore, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the CureVac Technology licensed under this Agreement may justify royalty rates and/or royalty terms of differing amounts for sales of Products in the GSK Territory, which rates could be applied separately to Products involving the exercise of CureVac Patent Rights in the GSK Territory and/or the incorporation of CureVac Know-How, and that if such royalties were calculated separately, royalties relating to the CureVac Patent Rights in the GSK Territory and royalties relating to the CureVac Know-How would last for different terms. For practicality reasons the Parties have agreed on a blended royalty rate. For clarity, this Section 8.7.7 solely explains the rationale behind the royalty rates agreed on by the Parties and does not modify any of the other provisions of this Agreement.

8.7.8 Royalty Payments. Within [*****] after the end of each Calendar Quarter in which any Net Sales occur, GSK shall calculate the royalty payments owed to CureVac and shall remit to CureVac the amount owed to CureVac. All royalty payments shall be computed by

converting the Net Sales in each country in the GSK Territory into the currency of Euro, using the monthly exchange rates as customarily used by GSK. All costs and expenses shall be computed by converting the relevant costs and expenses into the currency of Euro, using the monthly exchange rates as customarily used by GSK.

8.8 Reports. Each royalty payment shall be accompanied by a written report describing the Net Sales of each Product sold by or on behalf of GSK, its Affiliates and Sublicensees during the applicable Calendar Quarter for each country in which sales of any Product occurred, specifying: (i) the gross sales (if available) and Net Sales in each country's currency, including an accounting of deductions taken in the calculation of Net Sales; (ii) the applicable exchange rate to convert from each country's currency to Euro; and (iii) the royalties payable in Euro. All costs and expenses invoiced by CureVac shall be accompanied by a detailed breakdown of those costs and expenses, together with the applicable exchange rate to convert from the currency in which the costs and expenses were incurred to Euro.

8.9 Records and Audit. Each Party and its Affiliates and/or its Sublicensees shall keep and maintain records of: (i) in the case of GSK, sales of the Product(s) so that the royalties payable and the royalty reports may be verified; and (ii) in the case of CureVac, all costs and expenses incurred by it which are reimbursable under this Agreement, so that the costs and expenses reimbursable may be verified, and, where applicable, decisions and communications relating to the operation of the clearance process as set out in Section 3.5.1 to the extent carried out by CureVac or its external counsel. Such records shall upon reasonable written notice be open to inspection during business hours for a [*****] period after the Calendar Quarter to which such records relate, but in any event not more than once per Calendar Year, by a nationally recognized independent certified public accountant selected by the auditing Party and retained at the auditing Party's expense. Said accountant shall have the right to audit the records kept pursuant to this Agreement for a period covering not more than [*****]. If said examination of records reveals any underpayment(s) or over payment(s) of any amounts payable, then the audited Party shall promptly pay or credit the balance due to the auditing Party, and if the underpayment(s) or overpayment(s) is/are more than [*****], then the audited Party shall also bear the expenses of said accountant (and if no further payments are due, shall be refunded or paid by the audited at the request of the auditing Party).

8.10 Payment Terms.

8.10.1 All payments by GSK to CureVac shall be made by wire transfer payment in Euro and shall be remitted to the following bank account:

[*****]

[*****]

[*****]



[*****]

Invoices shall be issued to GSK on a Program-by-Program basis. Electronic invoicing is GSK's preferred method for receiving invoices. [*****] is GSK's e-invoicing partner for submitting electronic invoices. The Parties shall collaborate to sign CureVac up to such platform to allow for electronic invoicing.

All invoices should include the following information: Invoice Date, Number and Amount; Sender's Address, and Phone Number; Purchase Order Number; Tax Identification Number; Agreement Reference No (if applicable).

- 8.10.2** If any sum payable by GSK under this Agreement is subject to a good faith dispute between GSK and CureVac: (i) GSK shall, pay to CureVac, by the due date, all amounts not disputed in good faith by GSK; (ii) GSK shall notify CureVac, within [*****] after the due date, of any disputed amounts and shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after it has provided that notification, describe in reasonable detail its reasons for disputing each amount; and (iii) the Parties shall seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with Section 16.5. When any dispute regarding the amounts payable under this Agreement is resolved, GSK shall pay any sum which is agreed or determined (in accordance with Section 16.5) to be payable by GSK within [*****] after the date of resolution of that dispute (or such other period as is agreed between the Parties or determined by arbitration pursuant to Section 16.5), plus interest thereon at the interest rate set forth in Section 8.10.3 from the time such payment was due.
- 8.10.3** Any undisputed payments not paid within [*****] after the due date under this Agreement shall bear interest at an annual rate of [*****] above the three-month-EURIBOR rate of the respective currency for the time period in which such amount is outstanding, as disclosed from time to time by the European Central Bank which applied on the due date. Calculation of interest will be made for the exact number of days in the interest period based on a year of 360 days (actual/360).
- 8.11 Taxes.**
- 8.11.1** Each Party shall be responsible for its own income taxes assessed by a tax or other authority except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement. The Parties agree, in accordance with Section 16.10, that the relationship between the parties is one of independent contractors and does not constitute a partnership or joint venture, and agree not to take (or cause any person to take) any position on any tax return or in the course of any audit, examination or other proceeding inconsistent with such treatment, unless otherwise required by Applicable Laws and except upon a final determination of the applicable tax authority.
- 8.11.2** The Parties acknowledge and agree that it is their mutual objective and intent to optimize, to the extent feasible and in compliance with Applicable Laws, taxes payable with respect to their collaborative efforts under this Agreement and that they shall use reasonable efforts to cooperate and coordinate with each other to achieve such objective.
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8.11.3 If any taxes are required to be withheld under Applicable Laws, from any payment to be made by GSK to CureVac under this Agreement, GSK shall (a) deduct such taxes from the payment to be made to CureVac, (b) timely pay the taxes to the proper taxing authority, and (c) send proof of payment to CureVac with an explanation of payment of such taxes within [*****] following such payment. For purposes of this Section 8.11.3, each Party shall provide the other with reasonably requested assistance which assistance includes provision of any tax forms and other information that may be reasonably necessary for GSK or CureVac not to withhold tax.

8.11.4 All payments due to the terms of this Agreement are expressed to be exclusive of VAT and Indirect Taxes. VAT and Indirect Taxes shall be added to the payments due to the terms if legally applicable.

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.

9.1 Background Technology. As between the Parties, all right, title and interest in and to all CureVac Background Technology shall remain under the Control of CureVac; and all right, title and interest in and to all GSK Background Technology shall remain under the Control of GSK. As between the Parties, each Party shall have the sole right, in its sole discretion and at its sole expense, to prosecute, maintain and defend Patent Rights within its Background Technology; *provided, however,* that CureVac shall consider in good faith the interests of GSK in the prosecution, maintenance and defense of the CureVac Patent Rights within CureVac Background Technology.

9.2 Disclosure of Inventions. During the Research Period, on a Product-by-Product basis, each Party shall as soon as reasonably practical disclose to the other Party (including representatives of the IP Sub-Committee), the discovery, making, conception, or reduction to practice of any Inventions. After the Research Period, each Party shall as soon as reasonably practical disclose to the other Party (including representatives of the IP Sub-Committee) if it is continued after the Research Period, or otherwise through the Alliance Manager, the making, conception, or reduction to practice of any Invention that may be owned in part or in whole by the other Party pursuant to this Section 9.

9.3 Ownership and exploitation of Inventions.

9.3.1 Ownership of Inventions. The Parties agree that any CureVac Invention, GSK Invention, Joint Product Invention, and Joint Other Invention that have been discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date and notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the Effective Date of the Second Amendment Effective Date shall be governed by Sections 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4 and 9.3.5 of the version of this Agreement existing prior to the Second Amendment Effective Date.

With respect to any other Invention (i.e., Inventions governed by this Second Amendment), the following shall apply:

(i) **“CureVac Inventions”**, i.e.

- (a) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of GSK alone or jointly by or on behalf of both GSK and CureVac; (bb) do not Cover a Product; (cc) are Independent from the GSK Background Technology and earlier GSK Inventions; (dd) are not Independent from CureVac Background Technology, the LNP Technology or any earlier CureVac Invention; and (ee) are not Specific CureVac Inventions (**“CureVac Invention With GSK Contribution”**).

An Invention that is **“Independent”** from certain technology or other Invention shall, for purposes of this Section 9.3, mean that such Invention was discovered, conceived, made and reduced to practice, or that it could have been so, without access to the other technology or Invention referred to;

- (b) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice (as applicable) by or on behalf of CureVac alone; (bb) do not Cover a Product; (cc) are not Specific CureVac Inventions; and (dd) are not GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution; and/or
- (c) all Inventions that are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice (as applicable) by or on behalf of either Party, or jointly by the Parties, in one of the following areas:

[*****];

[*****]

[*****].

[*****].

("Specific CureVac Inventions")

shall be solely owned by CureVac;

(ii) **"GSK Inventions"**, i.e.

(a) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of CureVac alone or jointly by GSK and CureVac; (bb) do not Cover a Product; (cc) are Independent from the CureVac Background Technology, the LNP Technology and any earlier CureVac Invention; and (dd) are not Independent from any GSK Background Technology or any earlier GSK Invention ("**GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution**"), and

(b) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of GSK alone; (bb) do not Cover a Product; (cc) are not Specific CureVac Inventions; and (dd) are not CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution;

shall be solely owned by GSK; and

(iii) all other Inventions, i.e., Inventions which are neither governed by the Agreement existing prior to the Second Amendment, nor are CureVac Inventions or GSK Inventions, are governed by Section 9.3.2 below and are Inventions owned jointly by the Parties ("**Joint Inventions**").

9.3.2 Exploitation, Licensing and Assignment of Joint Technology. Subject to Sections 2.1.1 and 2.3, each Party may freely practice, exploit and license any Joint Inventions, and any resulting Joint Patent Rights and related Know-How ("**Joint Technology**"), in any field and in perpetuity, *provided, however*, that:

- a. such freedom does not imply the licensing of any GSK Background Technology or CureVac Background Technology;
 - b. subject to Section 16.1 below, neither Party shall assign to a Third Party (other than to an Affiliate) its interest in any Joint Technology without the prior written consent of the other Party, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned; and
 - c. if a Party assigns to a Third Party its interest in any Joint Patent Right or related Know-How, such assigning Party shall ensure that the assignee is legally bound to respect the rights of the other Party pursuant this Section 9.3.2.
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- 9.4 License-back under GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution and CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution.** GSK hereby grants to CureVac, and CureVac hereby accepts, a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive license, with the right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) under the GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution (and related Know-How) to freely practice, use and exploit such GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution and related Know-How, in any field. CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts, a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive license, with the right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) under the CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution (and related Know-How) to freely practice, use and exploit such CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution, in any field. For the avoidance of doubt, the foregoing does not imply the licensing of any GSK Background Technology or CureVac Background Technology. If CureVac (for CureVac Inventions with GSK Contribution) or GSK (for GSK Inventions with CureVac Contribution) assigns to a Third Party its title or interest in any of the aforementioned Inventions (or in the associated Patent Rights or Know-How rights), such assigning Party shall ensure that the assignee is legally bound to respect the rights of the other Party as licensee of such assigned rights pursuant to this Section 9.4.
- 9.5 Assignment and transfer of Inventions.** To give effect to the ownership principles described in Section 9.3 each Party shall assign and transfer, and hereby assigns and transfers, to such other Party or such other Party's designee all or a [*****] share, as the case may be, of its present and future rights, interest and title to any such Invention that is to vest in the other Party pursuant to the ownership principles described in Section 9.3, and the other Party shall accept and hereby accepts such assignment and transfer ("**Assigned Invention**"). At the written instruction of the other Party, the transferring Party agrees to make or procure all such assignments from its employees, consultants and subcontractors as are necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Section 9.5 and to assist the transfer in every way reasonably required by the transferee (i) to obtain Patent Rights to such Assigned Invention in any and all countries for which Patent Rights are being sought; and (ii) to maintain and defend Patent Rights in all Assigned Inventions which have been or may be assigned as provided above. The transferring Party shall execute and deliver, and cause its employees, consultants and subcontractors to execute and deliver, all such documents, instruments and other papers and take all such other action which the transferee may reasonably request in order to give effect to the provisions of this Section 9.5.
- 9.6 Cooperation.** Each Party represents and agrees that all its employee(s), contractor(s) and agent(s) will be obligated under a binding written agreement or otherwise to assign to such Party all Inventions discovered, created, conceived, developed or reduced to practice by such employee(s), contractor(s) or agent(s) in connection with this Agreement.
- 9.7 Filing, Prosecution, Maintenance and Defense.**
- 9.7.1 CureVac Program Patent Rights.** CureVac shall have the first right, but not the obligation, at its sole expense, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend the Patent Rights Covering a CureVac Invention (each, a "**CureVac Program Patent Right**") throughout the Territory. At the latest [*****] before filing, CureVac shall give GSK an opportunity to review and comment upon the text of any
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application with respect to any CureVac Program Patent Right, shall consult with GSK with respect thereto, shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of GSK's comments and supply GSK with a copy of the application as filed, together with notice of its filing date and serial number. CureVac shall keep GSK, through the IP Sub-Committee, reasonably informed of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, maintenance and defense, including but not limited to any substantive communications with the competent patent offices that may affect the scope of such filings, and CureVac shall to the extent reasonably possible give GSK a timely, prior opportunity to review and comment upon any such substantive communication and shall consult with GSK with respect thereto, and shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of GSK's comments. Notwithstanding the above, prior to filing any application for a CureVac Invention that may disclose, in part or in full, any other Invention, CureVac shall provide GSK with a copy of the draft application and provide GSK with at least [*****] to review and comment upon the text of such draft application. If GSK notifies CureVac within the above [*****] deadline that GSK has decided to file an application for another Invention, the Parties shall coordinate the filing of the application for a CureVac Invention with the filing of GSK's application for such other Invention, so that CureVac's application and GSK's application are filed on the same day or otherwise filed in a way that secures and protects each of the Parties' interest. For the avoidance of doubt, CureVac will not include any Invention other than a CureVac Invention in a separate patent claim of a patent application for a CureVac Program Patent Right without GSK's prior written consent. CureVac shall promptly give notice to GSK of the grant, lapse, revocation, surrender or invalidation of any CureVac Program Patent Rights. CureVac shall as soon as reasonably practicable give notice to GSK of any final decision to not file patent applications claiming CureVac Program Patent Rights or to cease prosecution and/or maintenance and/or defense of CureVac Program Patent Rights on a country by country basis and, in such cases, shall permit GSK, in GSK's sole discretion, to file such patent applications or to continue prosecution or maintenance or defense of such CureVac Program Patent Rights (in which case thereafter they will be assigned by CureVac to GSK and deemed a GSK Program Patent Right) at its own expense and in its own name.

9.7.2 GSK Program Patent Rights. GSK shall have the sole right, but not the obligation, at its sole expense, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend the Patent Rights Covering a GSK Invention (each, a "**GSK Program Patent Right**") throughout the Territory in good faith consistent with its customary patent policy and its reasonable business judgment and shall consider in good faith the reasonable interests of CureVac in so doing. GSK shall keep CureVac, through the IP Sub-Committee, reasonably informed of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, maintenance and defense, of all GSK Program Patent Rights. Notwithstanding the above, prior to filing any application for a GSK Invention that may disclose, in part or in full, another Invention, GSK shall provide CureVac with a copy of the draft application and provide CureVac with at least [*****] to review and comment upon the text of such draft application. If CureVac notifies GSK within the above [*****] deadline that CureVac decides to file an application for a CureVac Invention, the Parties shall coordinate the filing of the application for a GSK Invention with the filing of CureVac's application for such CureVac Invention so that CureVac's application and GSK's application are filed on the same day or otherwise filed in a way that secures and protects each of the Parties' interest. For the avoidance of doubt, GSK will not include any Invention other than a GSK Invention in a separate patent

claim of a patent application for a GSK Program Patent Right without CureVac's prior written consent. GSK shall as soon as reasonably practicable give notice to CureVac of any desire to cease prosecution and/or maintenance and/or defense of GSK Program Patent Rights on a country by country basis and, in such cases, shall permit CureVac, in CureVac's sole discretion, to continue prosecution or maintenance or defense of such GSK Program Patent Rights (in which case thereafter they will be assigned by GSK to CureVac and deemed a CureVac Program Patent Right) at its own expense and in its own name.

- 9.8 Joint Patent Rights.** GSK shall have the first right, but not the obligation, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend Joint Patent Rights throughout the Territory, at its sole expense, and GSK shall give timely notice to CureVac, and, if during the Research Period, with a copy to the IP Sub-Committee, of any final decision to not file patent applications claiming Joint Patent Rights or to cease prosecution and/or maintenance of Joint Patent Rights on a country-by-country basis and, in such cases, shall permit CureVac, in CureVac's sole discretion, to file such patent applications or to continue prosecution, maintenance or defense of such Joint Patent Rights at its own expense. At the latest [****] before filing, the prosecuting Party shall give the non-prosecuting Party an opportunity to review and comment upon the text of any application with respect to such Joint Patent Right, shall consult with the non-prosecuting Party with respect thereto, shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of the non-prosecuting Party's comments and supply the non-prosecuting Party with a copy of the application as filed, together with notice of its filing date and serial number. The prosecuting Party shall keep the non-prosecuting Party reasonably informed of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, and maintenance, including but not limited to any substantive communications with the competent patent offices that may affect the scope of such filings, and the prosecuting Party shall give the non-prosecuting Party a timely, prior opportunity to review and comment upon any such substantive communication and shall consult with such non-prosecuting Party with respect thereto, and shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of such non-prosecuting Party's comments.
- 9.9 Patent Term Extension and Supplementary Protection.** The IP Sub-Committee shall decide on any patent term extensions, including supplementary protection certificates and any other extensions, including pediatric extensions, for a Product that are now or become available in the future, wherever applicable, in order to secure the optimal protection for the Products available under Applicable Laws. The Party holding the marketing authorization for the Product Covered by any Patent Rights shall have the obligation for applying for any such extension or supplementary protection certificate, and such Party shall keep the other Party fully informed of its efforts to obtain such extension or supplementary protection certificate. The other Party shall provide prompt and reasonable assistance, as requested by the applying Party. GSK shall pay all expenses for obtaining and maintaining any extension or supplementary protection certificate in respect of a Product in the GSK Territory.
- 9.10 Development Data.** Except to the extent the Development Data enter the public domain pursuant to Section 11.7, the Development Data shall be treated as Confidential Information of the Parties. Each Party may use, and allow its Affiliates to use, the Development Data for the purpose of
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obtaining adequate protection and prosecution of their respective Know-How and Patent Rights, or as provided for otherwise in accordance with this Agreement, provided that in each case it provides the other Party with prior written notice of its intent to use the Development Data for such purpose. The other Party may, within a reasonable time following receipt of such notice, request the notifying Party to delay the use of the Development Data, in order to safeguard the protection and prosecution of other Know-How and Patent Rights. Following such request, the Parties shall cooperate in good faith to align the protection and prosecution of each Party's Know-How and Patent Rights. For the avoidance of doubt, the terms and conditions of this Article 9 shall govern the intellectual property rights of the Parties in the Development Data.

9.11 Challenges. If GSK or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of the CureVac Patent Rights or the Patent Rights included in the LNP Technology, or supports a Third Party in the challenge of a CureVac Patent Right or a Patent Right included in the LNP Technology in such legal proceeding, it shall promptly, and in no event later than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge (or such shorter period as required due to a court's, patent office's or other filing deadline associated with the relevant triggering event giving rise to the challenge, but in any event not less than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge), notify CureVac hereof. If CureVac or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of the GSK Patent Rights in a legal proceeding, or supports a Third Party in the challenge of a GSK Patent Right in such legal proceeding, it shall promptly, and in no event later than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge (or such shorter period as required due to the court or other filing deadline associated with the relevant triggering event giving rise to the challenge, but in any event not less than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge), notify GSK thereof. The Parties, through the IP Sub-Committee, shall promptly discuss any such issue in good faith, including the grant of a freedom to operate license at terms to be negotiated, and, if they cannot find an agreement, escalate the issue to the Executive Officers. If the Executive Officers despite good faith negotiations cannot find a solution, and a CureVac Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology is not granted or is declared invalid upon a successful challenge by GSK or any of its Affiliates (either alone or with a Third Party), such CureVac Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology shall be deemed to have been granted or shall be deemed valid until the expiry of regular patent protection for such CureVac Patent Right that would have applied if such CureVac Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology had been granted or had not been successfully declared invalid for the purposes of Section 1.208 (Valid Claim) and Section 8.7.2 (Royalty Term).

9.12 Challenges to Third Party Patent Rights. If either Party or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of any Third Party Patent Rights potentially Covering the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of a Product (including, but not limited to, any request for, or filing or declaration of, any invalidity proceedings, interference, deviation proceeding, opposition, inter partes review, post-grant review, third party observations or re-examination), it shall, prior to

initiating such challenge, notify the other Party through the IP Sub-Committee. The Parties, through the IP Sub-Committee shall discuss the strategy for such challenge. If the Parties agree to pursue a joint challenge, (i) the Parties shall collaborate with respect to such challenge, (ii) the Parties shall consult with each other regarding, and agree on, strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such challenge, and (iii) the Parties shall [*****] all costs and expenses of such challenge, provided that if the total costs and expenses exceed [*****], any additional costs require prior approval of the JSC. Either Party and its Affiliates shall also be entitled, if agreed by the Parties, or if the IP Sub-Committee does not agree on a joint challenge, without the other Party, to challenge the validity of any Third Party Patent Rights. In this case, the Party bringing the challenge (i) shall have no obligation to consult with the other Party regarding its strategy and (ii) shall bear all the costs and expenses of such challenge.

10. ENFORCEMENT AND DEFENSE.

10.1 Enforcement.

10.2 Notice. Each Party shall promptly provide the other Party with written notice reasonably detailing any known or alleged infringement by a Third Party of any CureVac Patent Rights, GSK Patent Rights or Joint Patent Rights which competes with the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of Products in the Territory (collectively "**Third Party Infringement**").

10.3 GSK Rights. Subject to Section 10.4, GSK shall have the primary right to determine and control a course of action designed to curtail a Third Party Infringement in the Field in the Territory at its own expense. GSK shall keep CureVac closely informed as to any legal courses of action it pursues pursuant to this Section 10.3, and the Parties shall consult with each other, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action.

10.4 CureVac Rights. On a Product-by-Product basis, for as long as CureVac holds the exclusive right to Commercialize a Product in the CureVac Territory pursuant to Section 6, CureVac shall have the primary right to determine and control a course of action designed to curtail a Third Party Infringement in the Field in the CureVac Territory at its own expense. CureVac shall keep GSK closely informed as to any legal courses of action it pursues pursuant to this Section 10.3, and the Parties shall consult with each other, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action.

10.5 Taking over. If the Party having the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement pursuant to Sections 10.3 or 10.4, respectively, elects not to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement or not to further pursue the enforcement of its rights, such Party shall notify the other Party of such decision as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within [*****] after receipt of the Third Party Infringement notice or after the decision not to further pursue the enforcement of its rights. If after the expiry of the [*****] period (or, if earlier, the date upon which the Party which has the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement provides written notice that it has decided

not to or to no longer enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement), the Party which has the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement has neither obtained a discontinuance of the Third Party Infringement, nor filed suit with regard to such Third Party Infringement, then the other Party shall have the right, but not the obligation, to take action or bring suit with respect to such Third Party Infringement at its own expense.

- 10.6 Collaboration.** If such course of action includes litigation, the enforcing Party shall notify the non-enforcing Party of the commencement of that litigation and shall have the right and standing to use and sue in the other Party's name. Notwithstanding the first sentence of this paragraph, irrespective of which Party brings an action with respect to a Third Party Infringement hereunder, (i) the Parties shall collaborate with respect to such action; (ii) the non-enforcing Party shall have the right, at its own expense, to be represented by independent counsel in any such litigation; and (iii) the Parties shall consult with each other regarding, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action. Except as set forth otherwise herein, the Party bringing the action shall bear all costs and expenses of such action.
- 10.7 Recoveries.** Any recoveries obtained by either Party as a result of any proceeding with regard to a Third Party Infringement under this Section 10.1 shall be allocated as follows:
- (i) such recovery shall first be used to reimburse each Party for all reasonable costs incurred in connection with such proceeding;
 - (ii) such recovery shall then be used to compensate each Party for the respective damages suffered from the Third Party Infringement (in the case of damage suffered by CureVac, as calculated at the Royalty Rate), provided that in the event the remaining portion of the recovery is not sufficient to compensate each Party's damages, such compensation shall be shared on a pro-rata basis depending on the amount of the respective damages suffered; and
 - (iii) the remaining portion of such recovery, if any, shall be [*****] between CureVac and GSK.
- 10.8 Settlements.** Neither Party shall settle any claim or demand in any such litigation that materially negatively impacts the other Party's rights or interests under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. In addition to the foregoing, to the extent any action initiated by GSK involves any infringement of CureVac Patent Rights and/or Joint Patent Rights, as the case may be, and is reasonably likely to relate to CureVac's products and/or technologies other than a Product, GSK will consult with CureVac regarding issues relating to such CureVac Patent Rights, Joint Patent Rights, and/or CureVac's products and technologies, and the Parties will mutually agree on strategic litigation decisions regarding such issues.
- 10.9 Assistance.** The non-enforcing Party shall provide such assistance as the enforcing Party reasonably requests in connection with any action or suit hereunder to prevent or enjoin a Third Party Infringement at the enforcing Party's cost. At the request of the enforcing Party, the non-
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enforcing Party shall provide reasonable assistance to the enforcing Party, at the enforcing Party's expense, in connection with such enforcement, including by executing reasonably appropriate documents, and joining as a party to the action. The Parties agree that, irrespective of which Party brings the action or suit pursuant to this Section 10.1, the Parties will update each other as to the status of such actions through the IP Sub-Committee and the enforcing Party will not unreasonably reject comments from the other Party relating to the management of such litigation.

10.10 Defense.

10.11 Notice. If the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of any Product in any country in accordance with this Agreement or other activity of either of the Parties pursuant to the Agreement is alleged by a Third Party to infringe a Third Party's Patent Right, the Party becoming aware of such allegation shall promptly notify the other Party.

10.12 Control. CureVac has the first right, but not the obligation, to control any defense of any such claim involving an alleged infringement of Third Party rights by (i) the exploitation or use of the CureVac Technology, where such alleged infringement is allegedly not caused solely by the Development, Manufacturing or the Commercialization of one or more Products or (ii) CureVac's activities under this Agreement (including Development, Manufacturing or the Commercialization of one or more Products, and the Commercialization of Products in the CureVac Territory), at its own expense and by counsel of its own choice, and GSK may, at its own expense, choose to be represented with respect to any such claim by counsel of its own choice. GSK has the first right, but not the obligation, to control any defense of any such claim other than where CureVac has the first right to control the defense of a claim, at its own expense and by counsel of its own choice, and CureVac may, at its own expense, choose to be represented with respect to any such claim by counsel of its own choice.

10.13 Assistance. Upon the defending Party's request and cost, the non-defending Party shall provide reasonable assistance to the defending Party with respect to a defense and/or shall join in any action if reasonably required by the defending Party in order to defend such claim or to assert all available defenses and claims, and shall reasonably cooperate with the defending Party. The defending Party shall not enter into a settlement that imposes a financial obligation upon the non-defending Party or which limits the scope or invalidates any Patent Right of the other Party without such Party's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, and in any settlement the defending Party shall always take into consideration the interest of the non-defending Party.

10.14 FTO Licenses. Without prejudice to other provisions of Section 13.4, and the rights and remedies of GSK thereunder, where a Party reasonably concludes that use or exploitation of: (i) in the case of GSK, any CureVac Elements; or (ii) in the case of CureVac, any mRNA technology or other technology used by or on behalf of GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize Products under this Agreement that is described in the Know-How, or within the scope of the specification of the Patents Rights, Controlled by GSK (excluding, for

clarity any CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights), in each case for the Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization of Products, infringes Third Party rights and will require a freedom-to-operate license from such Third Party, the Parties will discuss the issue and the strategy for obtaining a sublicensable license in the IP Sub-Committee, giving due consideration to the other Party's interest to develop its Background Technology outside the Field and a potential extension of such FTO license at the cost of the other Party, with final endorsement by the JSC. The Parties will inform each other of the status of discussions regarding an FTO license and shall allow the other Party to participate in the negotiations, e.g., by allowing a representative to be part of the negotiation team. Upon request of such Third Party or the other Party, the requested Party will consider in good faith whether and how it may support obtaining a freedom-to-operate license, e.g., by granting a cross-license under its Background Technology to such Third Party. If the Third Party rights are reasonably expected to affect the Products as well as other products, and if they are necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to any CureVac Elements, CureVac shall reasonably consider obtaining such freedom-to-operate license, and that license, if sublicensable, will become an additional In-Licensing Agreement as set forth in Section 2.8.1 at no additional cost to and with no further consideration payable by GSK. If such license is obtained by GSK and required to obtain freedom-to-operate under CureVac Elements, as between the Parties, any costs shall be borne in accordance with Section 8.7.5. If such license is required to obtain freedom-to-operate with respect to a Product (but not under any CureVac Elements), the costs will be borne by [*****]. If such license is required to obtain freedom-to-operate with respect to a Product and/or Modified MRNA (but not under any CureVac Elements), the costs for use under this Agreement will be borne by GSK, and GSK will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that such license extends to CureVac upon termination of this Agreement.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY.

11.1 Obligation of Confidentiality. As at and after the Effective Date, all Confidential Information disclosed, revealed or otherwise made available to one Party or its Affiliates ("**Receiving Party**") by or on behalf of the other Party ("**Disclosing Party**") under, or as a result of, this Agreement is made available to the Receiving Party solely to permit the Receiving Party to exercise its rights, and perform its obligations, under this Agreement and the 2021 Collaboration Agreement. The Receiving Party shall not use any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information for any other purpose, and shall not disclose, reveal or otherwise make any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information available to any other person, firm, corporation or other entity, without the prior written authorization of the Disclosing Party, except as explicitly stated in this Section 11. Without limiting the foregoing no Receiving Party shall be permitted under this Agreement to share any Confidential Information supplied by a Disclosing Party with (i) any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of that Receiving Party solely as a result of a Change of Control in that Receiving Party or (ii) in the case of CureVac, any Third Party sublicensee under the CureVac Technology (including those identified in item (iii) of the Disclosure Letter).

11.2 Additional Obligations.

11.2.1 Appropriate Safeguards. In furtherance of the Receiving Party's obligations under Section 11.1 hereof, the Receiving Party shall take all reasonable steps, and shall implement all appropriate and reasonable safeguards, to seek to prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information. The Parties will jointly agree a protocol with information security measures to be implemented to safeguard secured exchange of Confidential Information and personal information, within [*****] following the Closing Date.

11.2.2 Unauthorized Use or Disclosure. The Receiving Party shall furnish the Disclosing Party with written notice immediately of it becoming aware and indicating details of any unauthorized use or disclosure of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information by any employee, officer, director, consultant, CRO, CMO, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), and Sublicensees, or Financial Partner of/the Receiving Party, and shall take all actions reasonably required in order to prevent any further unauthorized use or disclosure of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Receiving Party remains responsible and liable for any unauthorized use by any employee, officer, director, consultant, CRO, CMO, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), and Sublicensees, or Financial Partner of the Receiving Party.

11.3 Limitations. The Receiving Party's obligations under Sections 11.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Receiving Party can demonstrate by competent written evidence that any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information:

- (i) is known by the Receiving Party at the time of its receipt, and not through a prior disclosure by or on behalf of the Disclosing Party under this Agreement;
- (ii) is in the public domain by use and/or publication before its receipt from the Disclosing Party, or thereafter enters the public domain through no fault of the Receiving Party;
- (iii) is subsequently disclosed to the Receiving Party by a Third Party who may lawfully do so and is not under an obligation of confidentiality regarding the Confidential Information; or
- (iv) is developed by the Receiving Party independently of Confidential Information or material received from the Disclosing Party.

11.4 Authorized Disclosures.

11.4.1 Necessary Disclosures. Each Party may disclose the other Party's Confidential Information as expressly permitted by this Agreement or if and to the extent such disclosure is reasonably necessary in the following instances:

- (i) disclosure to judicial, governmental or other regulatory agencies or authorities in connection with the filing, prosecution, maintenance and defense of Patent Rights as permitted by this Agreement;
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- (ii) disclosure to judicial, governmental or other regulatory agencies or authorities to gain or maintain approval, authorizations or the like to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize a given Product that such Party has a license or right to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize hereunder in a given country or jurisdiction;
- (iii) prosecuting or defending litigation as permitted by this Agreement;
- (iv) disclosure to its and its Affiliates' employees, officers, directors, consultants, CROs, CMOs, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), to Sublicensees (in the case of GSK) or permitted sublicensees (in the case of CureVac) or the LNP Provider, in each case on a need-to-know basis for the purposes as expressly authorized and contemplated by this Agreement, including for the Development, Manufacturing and/or Commercialization of the Products (or for such entities to determine their interest in performing such activities) in accordance with this Agreement, on the condition that such Affiliates or Third Parties agree to be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations that substantially are no less stringent than those confidentiality and non-use provisions contained in this Agreement;
- (v) disclosure to such Party's attorneys, independent accountants or financial advisors for the sole purpose of enabling such attorneys, independent accountants or financial advisors to provide advice to the Receiving Party, on the condition that such attorneys, independent accountants and financial advisors agree to be bound by the confidentiality and non-use obligations contained in this Agreement; or
- (vi) disclosure to any bona fide potential or actual investor, insurer, acquirer, merger partner, Sublicensee (in the case of GSK), or permitted sublicensees (in the case of CureVac) or other bona fide potential or actual financial partner or funding source ("**Financial Partner**") solely for the purpose of evaluating or carrying out an actual or potential investment, acquisition, license or collaboration, and to any related persons directly connected with such activity being contemplated with the Financial Partner, such as an advisory firm or investment bank; provided that in connection with such disclosure, the Disclosing Party shall notify each disclosee of the confidential nature of such Confidential Information and disclosure shall be subject to the agreement of each disclosee to be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations that substantially are no less stringent than those confidentiality and non-use provisions contained in this Agreement.

11.4.2 Required Disclosures. If a Party is required by judicial, governmental or administrative process, including to comply with Applicable Laws (including stock exchange rules) or pursuant to Section 11.4.1 to disclose Confidential Information that is subject to the non-disclosure provisions of Section 11.1, such Party shall to the extent reasonably possible provide the other Party with reasonable advance notice of the disclosure that is being sought in order to provide the other Party an opportunity to challenge or limit the disclosure obligations. Confidential Information that is disclosed by judicial, governmental or administrative process shall remain otherwise subject to the confidentiality and non-use provisions of this Section 11, and the Party

disclosing Confidential Information pursuant to judicial, governmental or administrative process shall take all steps reasonably necessary, including to seek an order of confidentiality, to ensure the continued confidential treatment of such Confidential Information.

- 11.5 Survival.** All of the Receiving Party's obligations under this Section 11 hereof, with respect to the protection of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, shall for a period of [*****] survive the expiry or termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever.
- 11.6 Public Announcements, Press Releases.** The Parties shall issue a press release in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 11.6** at an agreed time promptly after the Closing Date. Thereafter, except as otherwise expressly permitted in this Agreement, and except as may be required by Applicable Law, including the listing standards or agreements of any national or international securities exchange, neither Party shall issue any press release or public statement disclosing information relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby or the terms hereof without the prior written consent of the other Party, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Each Party may repeat any information relating to this Agreement that has already been publicly disclosed in accordance with this Section 11.6, provided such information continues as of such time to be accurate.
- 11.7 Publication of Development Data.** The Parties acknowledge the merit of publishing Development Data regarding the Products (other than CMC Development data) in searchable, peer-reviewed scientific literature in accordance with international scientific publishing practices and standards (including regarding the recognition of contribution and authorship). Either Party may request the other Party to discuss and determine in good faith a joint publication strategy for the Development Data regarding the Products, which shall be effective upon endorsement by the IP Sub-Committee and the respective Alliance Managers. As between the Parties, the Party by whom or on whose behalf the experiment or study generating such Development Data has been conducted, shall be responsible for the publication of such Development Data, unless defined otherwise in a joint publication strategy. Any intended publication of Development Data regarding a Product (including presentations to Third Parties or publication in intellectual property filings) shall be notified to the IP Sub-Committee by the relevant Party as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event at least [*****] before the final decision to publish, to allow the other Party to review and comment on the publication. The other Party may demand that the publication of the proposed presentation or publication is delayed for a period of [*****] in order to assess whether the Development Data intended to be published is patentable. If the other Party decides to pursue patent protection, it may request the publishing Party to further delay the publication of the proposed presentation or publication for a time not exceeding [*****] from the date of the publishing Party's notification, to enable adequate protection and prosecution of Patent Rights by either Party or their Affiliates.

With respect to any agreements between a Party and Third Parties (including clinical investigators) that a Party enters into after the Closing Date relating to the Development of any Product or otherwise relating to Development activities under this Agreement, such Party shall

use reasonable efforts to include publication provisions regarding results of the experiments and studies for such Products that allow such Party to receive and provide a copy of any proposed publications or public presentations to the other Party, which such Party shall submit to the other Party with a reasonable amount of time for review as described in this Section 11.7.

Subject to the above review, a Party shall have the right as required by Applicable Law or its policies and standard operating procedures to (a) publish protocol summaries, results summaries, protocols, clinical study reports, plain language summaries and other study documents of all Clinical Studies conducted by or on behalf of such Party during the Term of this Agreement in any clinical trial register, including any of its own clinical trial registers; (b) publicly disclose results from other Clinical Studies where that Party determines that the results are scientifically important or relevant for patient care; and (c) make any other public disclosures of clinical Development Data that become required by GSK or CureVac due to Applicable Laws.

12. COMPLIANCE, QUALITY, INTEGRITY

12.1 Legal Compliance. Each Party shall procure that it and its personnel performs this Agreement in accordance with Applicable Laws.

12.2 GxP. GSK and CureVac shall undertake the Development activities regarding the Products, in compliance with GxP. With regard to any Clinical Studies conducted by CureVac under this Agreement, GSK may require CureVac to comply with the policies and standards of the GSK regarding the human subject research conducted to its benefit, and shall in this respect allow GSK, at its request, to review and approve at least the protocol and informed consent forms associated with such Clinical Studies.

12.3 Data Integrity. GSK and CureVac shall carry out their respective Development activities under this Agreement, and collect and record any data generated therefrom, in a manner consistent with the following good data management practices: (i) Development Data shall be generated using sound scientific techniques and processes; (ii) Development Data shall be analyzed appropriately, without bias and in accordance with good scientific practices; and (iii) Development Data shall be accurately recorded in accordance with good scientific practices by the individuals performing the research and in accordance with the ALCOA CCEA data integrity principles: (A) Attributable: data are traceable to the originator, (person and/or a computerized system, a device, an instrument), including any changes made to data, i.e. who performed an action and when, so that key decisions made during the conduct of the research, presentations made about the research and conclusions reached in respect of the research can be easily demonstrated and reconstructed; (B) Legible: data are readable and understandable; (C) Contemporaneous: data are recorded at the time they are generated or observed as per regulatory requirements; or in absence of regulatory requirements, local business practices; (D) Original (true copy): data as the file or format in which it was first generated, e.g. first paper record of manual observation, or electronic raw data file from a computerized system as per regulatory requirements; or in absence of regulatory requirements, local business practices; (E) Accurate: data, including error corrections and edits,

are correct, truthful and to the appropriate precision; (F) Complete: all expected elements of the data are present (i.e., no unexplained gaps in the data) and the full meaning and context is preserved with the data; (G) Consistent: all elements of the record follow in the expected sequence; (H) Enduring: data are recorded in a permanent medium (paper or electronic) and continue to be retained in a human readable format for as long as specified in applicable record retention requirements; and (I) Available: data are maintained securely in such a way that they are accessible and retrievable in reasonable times ("**Good Data Management Practices**"). Each Party shall maintain written policies and standards related to Good Data Management Practices and shall ensure appropriate, documented training of its relevant personnel with respect to Good Data Management Practices.

- 12.4 Human Biological Samples.** If the Parties wish to source Human Biological Samples on each other's behalf or exchange Human Biological Samples between them, such exchange shall be recorded in separate addendums to this Agreement setting forth further terms and conditions for the specific purpose. GSK and CureVac undertake that the Human Biological Samples used or collected in connection with the Development have been obtained and will be stored, transferred, used and disposed of in accordance with all Applicable Laws and any generally accepted ethical guidelines regarding the collection, use, transport and disposal of human tissue, including with regard to consents from patients, volunteers and other donors.
- 12.5 Privacy; Information Security.** The Parties shall comply with Data Protection Laws (as defined in Exhibit 12.5), including those concerning medical confidentiality and privacy in relation to human subjects of the Development activities regarding the Products. The Parties acknowledge that they do not intend that one Party processes personal information for and on behalf of the other Party. If personal information is transferred between the Parties (as between controllers) pursuant to the performance of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, the Parties shall comply with Exhibit 12.5, which may be amended from time to time by the Parties as is required by Applicable Laws. The Parties will enter into further data protection agreements if required by Applicable Laws.
- 12.6 Ethical Care of Animals.** The Parties shall comply with all Applicable Laws for the care, welfare and ethical treatment of animals in the country where animal testing or animal research is performed. The Parties shall implement the "3Rs" Principles – reducing the number of animals used, replacing animal with non-animal methods whenever possible and refining the research techniques used. All work shall be performed in adherence to the core principles for animals identified below. Local customs, norms, practices or laws may be additive to the core principles, but each Party agrees to comply and shall procure and ensure that those acting for or on behalf of such Party (including its subcontractors) comply, as a minimum, with these core principles: (i) access to species appropriate food and water; (ii) access to species specific housing, including species appropriate temperature and humidity levels; (iii) provision of humane care and a program of veterinary care through guidance of a veterinarian; (iv) animal housing that minimizes the development of abnormal behaviors; (v) adherence to principles of replacement, refinement and reduction in the design of in vivo or ex vivo studies with processes to optimize animal use
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and to ensure effective population management; (vi) supported by a relevant scientific justification/rationale, approved by an institutional ethical review process and subjected to independent scientific review; (vii) commitment to minimizing pain and distress during in vivo and ex vivo studies; and (viii) work is performed by personnel documented as trained and competent to conduct the procedures for which they are responsible. Each Party agrees that all protocols involving animal research or animal testing for in connection with the Products shall undergo an ethical review, whether or not required by Applicable Law, and that written documentation confirming ethical review shall be maintained by such Party until [*****] after the completion of the experiment or test, demonstrating that the review was completed. If a Party is currently accredited by AAALACi, such Party agrees to make commercially reasonable efforts to maintain its AAALACi accreditation during the life of this Agreement. Each Party shall have procedures in place to assess and approve its external suppliers and distributors who supply animals to it to: (i) ascertain and confirm the quality of the animals supplied; (ii) ensure legal requirements for the care and welfare of animals are met; and (iii) ensure that only purpose bred animals are used to perform the animal testing or research. The distance of suppliers from the test facility shall be minimized (where practicable) and transport processes (e.g. stocking densities, carrying crates, food and water) shall ensure minimum stress. On arrival, each Party shall ensure checks are in place to confirm only healthy animals are used. Each Party shall document the approval of its animal suppliers and distributors, which documentation shall be made available to the other Party upon request. GSK shall have the right, but not the obligation, to approve any supplier of non-human primates or other animals, which right may be invoked upon notice to CureVac.

- 12.7 Environment, Health and Safety.** CureVac shall: (i) maintain an "EHS" (environment, health and safety) policy and risk-based management system with a commitment to provide a safe and healthy workplace and protect the environment surrounding its operations; (ii) ensure there is at least one senior executive with responsibility for EHS and the organization has access to technical expertise to support the company in meeting EHS obligations; (iii) provide relevant information, education and training to workers on the hazards, risks and controls associated with their job; (iv) provide the physical infrastructure, workplace and engineering controls necessary to ensure safe storage, handling and processing of materials and waste in order to protect people, the environment and local communities from harm; and (v) provide and maintain emergency detection systems and an effective response and healthcare capabilities.
- 12.8 Sanctions and export controls.** The Parties represent and warrant that they are aware of, and undertake in carrying out their obligations under this Agreement and the agreements referred to within this Agreement that they will not violate and prevent becoming exposed to penalties under, all sanctions, export control, and anti-boycott laws, regulations, orders, directives, designations, licenses, and decisions of the European Union, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and of any other country with jurisdiction over activities undertaken in connection with this Agreement, if applicable ("**Sanctions & Trade Controls**"). Each Party undertakes that, at all times, in the performance of their obligations under this Agreement and the agreements referred to within this Agreement, they will not take any action that causes the other Party to violate or
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otherwise become exposed to penalties under any Sanctions & Trade Controls. Neither Party shall be required to take or refrain from taking any action, nor shall it be required to furnish any information, that would be prohibited under any Sanctions & Trade Controls (as defined above).

- 12.9 Anti-bribery and corruption.** Each Party shall comply fully at all times with all Applicable Laws, including but not limited to anti-corruption laws, and represents and warrants that it has not, and covenants that it will not, in connection with the performance of this Agreement, directly or indirectly, make, promise, authorize, ratify or offer to make, or take any act in furtherance of any payment or transfer of anything of value for the purpose of influencing, inducing or rewarding any act, omission or decision to secure an improper advantage; or improperly assisting in obtaining or retaining business, or in any way with the purpose or effect of public or commercial bribery, and warrants that it has taken reasonable measures to prevent subcontractors, agents or any other Third Parties, subject to its control or determining influence, from doing so. For the avoidance of doubt this includes facilitating payments, which are unofficial, improper, small payments or gifts offered or made to Government Officials to secure or expedite a routine or necessary action to which a Party is legally entitled. Either Party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement immediately on written notice to the other Party, if the other Party fails to perform its obligations in accordance with this Section 12.9. A Party shall have no claim against the other Party for compensation for any loss of whatever nature by virtue of the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section 12.9. Either Party shall inform the other Party in writing, if, during the course of this Agreement, it is convicted of or pleads guilty to a criminal offence involving fraud or corruption, or becomes the subject of any government investigation for such offenses, or is listed by any government agency as debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or otherwise ineligible for government programs. Either Party shall ensure that all transactions under the Agreement are properly and accurately recorded in all material respects on its books and records and each document upon which entries such books and records are based is complete and accurate in all material respects. Either Party must maintain a system of internal accounting controls reasonably designed to ensure that it maintains no off-the-books accounts.
- 12.10 Changes to Compliance Framework.** At any time during the term of this Agreement, either Party may suggest reasonable amendments to this Section 12 and the clauses of this Agreement referencing this Section 12, or any provision of any Ancillary Agreement concerning compliance, quality, safety or integrity, where such Party reasonably believes such changes are required to ensure compliance with Applicable Laws, or such Party's interpretation of Applicable Laws as reflected in the values, quality, integrity, safety or compliance framework of the group to which that Party belongs. The other Party shall not unreasonably refuse or delay its agreement to such amendments. In case of any conflict between the Parties' interpretation of frameworks, the more stringent interpretation or framework shall be reflected in the amendment.
- 12.11 Breaches.** Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party of any significant deficiencies impacting the performance of this Agreement having regard to its compliance with this Section 12 and any corrective actions taken.
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12.12 Audit. GSK or its nominee shall have the right to enter the CureVac's manufacturing facilities and any of CureVac's other offices, facilities, records and information systems to carry out an audit to verify and monitor CureVac's compliance with Section 12 [*****] per Calendar Year, save any For Cause audits. The scope of the audit may include, but need not be limited to, a tour of the facility, the opportunity to view relevant standard operating procedures (SOPs), training records, building management records, animal health records, ethical review documents, and any other documents reasonably necessary to assess compliance by CureVac. The duration of the inspection shall be at the sole reasonable discretion of GSK. Audits conducted under this Section 12.12 shall require reasonable prior notice of at least [*****], except in case of For Cause audits (as defined below), in which case such limitation a prior notice of [*****] shall suffice. Audits conducted under this Section 12.12 shall be scheduled in such a manner so as not to impact the production schedule or CureVac's normal business activities and shall be conducted during regular business hours. For the purposes of this Section 12.12, a "For Cause" audit shall be an audit conducted based on a substantiated suspicion by GSK of a material lack of compliance with Section 12, in respect of which GSK has shared with CureVac documentation substantiating its suspicion prior to the audit. Persons conducting the on-site audits shall be required to comply with reasonable CureVac rules applicable to the site and GSK shall ensure that any person involved in any audit (including a document-only inspection) shall be bound by an obligation of confidentiality. CureVac shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that the same audit rights for GSK as described in this Section 12.12 apply with respect to the premises of any subcontractors authorized in accordance with this Agreement.

13. INDEMNIFICATION AND REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

13.1 Indemnification by GSK. GSK will defend, indemnify and hold CureVac and its Affiliates and their directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents, permitted sublicensees and contractors (the "**CureVac Indemnified Parties**") harmless from and against any and all losses, liabilities, claims, suits, proceedings, expenses, fees, recoveries and damages, including reasonable and demonstrable legal expenses and costs including attorneys' fees, resulting or arising out of any claim by any Third Party resulting or arising from (i) the negligence or willful misconduct of GSK, any of its Affiliates or Sublicensees, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, agents or contractors (including CMOs of GSK); (ii) the Development, Manufacturing and/or Commercialization of the Products by or on behalf of GSK (other than as conducted by CureVac), any of its Affiliates or any of their respective Sublicensees or subcontractors (including CMOs of GSK); or (iii) any breach of this Agreement by GSK, any of its Affiliates or any of their Sublicensees; except, in each case, to the extent caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of any of the CureVac Indemnified Parties.

13.2 Indemnification by CureVac. CureVac will defend, indemnify and hold GSK and its Affiliates and their directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents, Sublicensees and contractors (the "**GSK Indemnified Parties**") harmless from and against any and all losses, liabilities, claims, suits, proceedings, expenses, fees, recoveries and damages, including reasonable and demonstrable legal expenses and costs including attorneys' fees, resulting or arising out of any

claim by any Third Party resulting or arising from (i) the negligence or willful misconduct of CureVac, any of its Affiliates, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents or contractors (including an approved subcontractor or approved CMO of CureVac); or (ii) the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of any of the Products, if any, by or on behalf of CureVac (other than as conducted by GSK), any of its Affiliates, or their approved subcontractors or approved other CMOs of CureVac); or (iii) any breach of this Agreement by CureVac, or any of its Affiliates; except, in each case, to the extent caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of any of the GSK Indemnified Parties.

13.3 Indemnification Procedures. The indemnified Party will give the indemnifying Party prompt notice of any such claim or lawsuit. Such notice shall include a reasonable identification of the alleged facts giving rise to such claim for indemnification. The failure to deliver written notice to the indemnifying Party within a reasonable time after the commencement of any action with respect to a claim shall only relieve the indemnifying Party of its indemnification obligations if and to the extent the indemnifying Party is actually and materially prejudiced thereby. The indemnifying Party shall notify the indemnified Party of its intentions as to the defense of the claim in writing within [*****] after the indemnifying Party's receipt of notice of the claim from the indemnified Party. If the indemnifying Party assumes defense of the claim, the indemnified Party may participate in, but not control, the defense of such claim using attorneys of its choice and at its sole cost and expense (i.e., with such cost and expense not being covered by the indemnifying Party). The indemnified Party shall reasonably cooperate with the indemnifying Party in its defense of the claim at the indemnifying Party's reasonable, pre-approved expense. The indemnifying Party will have the right to compromise, settle or defend any such claim or lawsuit; provided that (i) no offer of settlement, settlement or compromise by the indemnifying Party shall be binding on the indemnified Party without its prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, unless such settlement fully releases the indemnified Party without any liability, loss, cost or obligation incurred by the indemnified Party and in no event shall any settlement or compromise admit or concede that any aspect of any Patent Right owned or Controlled by the indemnified Party is invalid or unenforceable or adversely affect the scope of any Patent Right owned or Controlled by the indemnified Party; and (ii) the indemnifying Party shall not have authority to admit any wrongdoing or misconduct on the part of the indemnified Party except with the indemnified Party's prior written consent. If the indemnifying Party does not agree to assume the defense of the claim asserted against the indemnified Party (or does not give notice that it is assuming such defense), or if the indemnifying Party assumes the defense of the claim in accordance with this Section 13.3, but yet fails to defend or take other reasonable, timely action, in response to such claim asserted against the indemnified Party, the indemnified Party shall have the right to defend or take other reasonable action to defend its interests in such proceedings, and shall have the right to litigate, settle or otherwise dispose of any such claim; *provided, however*, that no Party shall have the right to settle a claim in a manner that would adversely affect the rights granted to the other Party hereunder, or would materially conflict with this Agreement, without the prior written consent of the Party entitled to control the defense of such claim, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned.

13.4 CureVac Representations and Warranties. Subject to the disclosures in the attached **Exhibit 13.4 ("Disclosure Letter")** CureVac represents and warrants to GSK as at the Effective Date (unless otherwise indicated below), that:

- (i) it is the sole and exclusive owner of the Patent Rights listed in Exhibit 1.50 or otherwise Controls such Patent Rights;
 - (ii) to CureVac's knowledge, it has the full right, power and authority to grant the rights and licenses it purports to grant hereunder;
 - (iii) neither CureVac nor any of its Affiliates has granted any Third Party any rights or licenses that would interfere or be inconsistent with GSK's rights and licenses hereunder;
 - (iv) CureVac has received no written notice of or any written demand relating to any threatened or pending litigation, and no other matters are within CureVac's knowledge, which would reasonably lead it to believe that GSK's exercise of any rights purported to be granted by CureVac under this Agreement will infringe any Patent Rights or infringe or misappropriate any other intellectual property right of any Third Party;
 - (v) there is no currently pending administrative proceedings or litigation and no administrative proceedings or litigation seeking to invalidate or otherwise challenge any CureVac Patent Right(s) has been threatened in writing;
 - (vi) CureVac has not given any written notice to any Third Party asserting infringement by such Third Party of any of the CureVac Technology or LNP Technology and, to CureVac's Knowledge, there is no unauthorized use, infringement or misappropriation of the CureVac Technology;
 - (vii) the CureVac Technology is free and clear of all encumbrances, security interests, options, and charges of any kind;
 - (viii) to CureVac's knowledge, the In-Licensing Agreements are valid and effective and CureVac has not received a written notice of termination for any of these In-Licensing Agreements;
 - (ix) to CureVac's knowledge, there is no ongoing litigation in respect of, litigation reasonably in prospect in connection with, and no reasonable prospect of termination under the In-Licensing Agreements by the respective counterparties under those agreements ahead of the respective expiry dates of such In-Licensing Agreements;
 - (x) to CureVac's knowledge, the information and documents set forth in or referred to in the Disclosure Letter are true, complete and accurate in all material respects;
 - (xi) to CureVac's knowledge, the information and documents regarding the In-Licensing Agreements, CureVac's portfolio of Patent Rights, toxicology studies, clinical data, process and analytical information, manufacturing process information, material filing and
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correspondence with Regulatory Authorities, disclosed in the [*****] e-data room prior to the Effective Date as a part of GSK's due diligence, is true, complete and accurate in all material respects;

(xii) CureVac has disclosed to GSK any written correspondence sent to or received from Regulatory Authorities, all drug safety monitoring board meeting minutes and internal safety review committee meeting minutes for the [*****] as of its Initiation; and

(xiii) as at the Fourth Amendment Effective Date, CureVac has the right to transfer, and as at the date of any transfer occurring prior to the Fourth Amendment Effective Date, CureVac had the right to transfer, the existing [*****] for the Manufacture of the Initial Products under this Agreement. CureVac further undertakes that it will obtain and maintain the right to complete the transfer of the [*****] for the Manufacture of the Initial Products under this Agreement to the extent occurring after the Fourth Amendment Effective Date.

13.5 LNP Warranties. To the extent permitted under the applicable LNP Agreement, CureVac hereby warrants to GSK on a pass-through basis each matter which is the subject of any representation or warranty given by each LNP Provider to CureVac under each applicable LNP Agreement.

13.6 Representations, Warranties of the Parties to Each Other. CureVac and GSK each represents and warrants and covenants with respect to itself only as at the Effective Date that:

(i) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of such Party, its officers and directors, and does not conflict with, violate, or breach any agreement to which such Party is a party, or such Party's corporate charter, bylaws or similar organizational documents;

(ii) this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party that is enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by general principles of equity or to applicable competition, bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, liquidation and other similar laws relating to, or affecting generally, the enforcement of applicable creditors' rights and remedies;

(iii) it is a company or corporation duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated.

13.7 Due Diligence. Prior to the execution of any Ancillary Agreement, other than the Clinical Supply Agreement, GSK shall be entitled to perform further due diligence regarding CureVac's capabilities to perform in accordance with terms defined herein for such agreement. Without prejudice to the Parties' other rights and remedies, the Parties shall in good faith cooperate to address and remedy any issue identified during the due diligence referred to in this Section. For

the avoidance of doubt, if GSK discovers a material issue regarding CureVac's capabilities to comply with such agreement, GSK may in addition to its other rights and remedies suspend the execution of any such agreement until such ground has been remedied by CureVac.

- 13.8 Disclaimer** Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, each Party expressly disclaims, waives, releases, and renounces any representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied either in fact or by operation of law, by statute or otherwise, whether written or oral, or arising from course of performance, course of dealing or usage of trade, including any representation or warranty with respect to non-infringement, value, adequacy, freedom from fault, quality, efficiency, suitability, characteristics or usefulness, or merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
- 13.9 Limitation of Liability.** Except in the case of any breach of Section 11 or in case of willful misconduct or gross negligence, neither Party shall be liable to the other Party for any indirect, punitive or consequential damages, or for damages for loss of profits or loss of business opportunity, whether based on contract or tort, or arising under Applicable Laws or otherwise.
- 14. TERM AND TERMINATION.**
- 14.1 Term.** The term of this Agreement will commence on the Closing Date and end on the expiry of all applicable royalty payment obligations to CureVac under this Agreement, unless terminated earlier according to the terms and conditions of this Agreement ("**Term**").
- 14.2 Termination at Will by GSK.** GSK may terminate this Agreement in its entirety or on a Program-by-Program basis, at any time without cause upon [*****] prior written notice to CureVac.
- 14.3 Termination for Cause by Either Party in respect of a Program before First Commercial Sale.** On a Program-by-Program basis before the First Commercial Sale of a Product under a Program in a Territory, if either Party ("**Breaching Party**") commits a material breach or default of any of its obligations hereunder, such breach to include a material breach by GSK of its diligence obligations under Section 4.10 with respect to a Product, the other Party hereto ("**Non-Breaching Party**") may give the Breaching Party written notice of such material breach or default, and shall request that such material breach or default be cured as soon as reasonably practicable. If the Breaching Party fails to cure such breach or default within [*****] after the date of the Non-Breaching Party's written notice thereof, the Non-Breaching Party may terminate this Agreement in part in relation to the relevant Program by giving written notice of termination to the Breaching Party. If the Breaching Party indicates in writing that it will be unable or is unwilling to cure the breach, this Agreement may be terminated in part, in relation to the relevant Program (but not any other Program), by the Non-Breaching Party with immediate effect.
- 14.4 Termination for Cause by Either Party in respect of a Program after First Commercial Sale.** On a Program-by-Program basis after the First Commercial Sale of a Product under a
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Program in a Territory, if: (i) GSK fails to pay any amount payable under Section 8 or any Ancillary Agreement; (ii) CureVac fails to pay any amount payable under any Ancillary Agreement; (iii) either Party commits any willful and material breach of the restrictions on any license granted to that Party pursuant to this Agreement; (iv) either Party commits a material breach of the non-compete obligations under Section 2.3; (v) GSK commits a material breach of its diligence obligations under Section 5.7, or (vi) either Party commits any persistent and material breach of Section 11, and the Party in breach of this Agreement (the "**Breaching Party**") fails to cure such breach or default within [*****] after the date of the written notice thereof from the other Party ("**Non-Breaching Party**"), the Non-Breaching Party may terminate this Agreement in relation to the relevant Product(s) (but not any other Program) by giving written notice of termination to the Breaching Party. If the Breaching Party indicates in writing that it will be unable or is unwilling to cure the breach, this Agreement may be terminated in relation to the relevant Product(s) by the Non-Breaching Party with immediate effect.

14.5 Termination in respect of Anti-bribery and Corruption. Either Party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement in the circumstances specified in Section 12.9.

14.6 Termination in Part and Program Replacement. If either Party terminates this Agreement with respect to a specific Program under this Section 14, or if GSK replaces a Program under Section 3.6, the rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder with respect to the specific Program shall terminate as at the effective date of such termination and the consequences set forth in Section 15 shall apply on a Program-by-Program basis.

14.7 Non-exclusive remedy. Termination of this Agreement or in relation to a Program in accordance with Sections 14.3, 14.4, or 14.5 shall not affect or impair the Non-Breaching Party's right to pursue any legal remedy, including the right to recover damages, for any harm suffered or incurred by the Non-Breaching Party as a result of such breach or default.

15. CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION.

15.1 Election by CureVac on Termination by GSK at Will or Termination by CureVac for Cause. CureVac shall notify GSK in writing within [*****] of notice of termination in accordance with Sections 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, or 14.5 if CureVac wishes to:

- a. cease the Development and Commercialization of the relevant Product(s) under the relevant Program(s) and decline the transfer of any rights in relation to the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the relevant Products under this Agreement (the "**CureVac Cease Option**"); or
 - b. continue, itself or with a Third Party, with the Development and Commercialization of the relevant Product(s) under the relevant Program(s) (the "**CureVac Continue Option**").
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- 15.2 Election by GSK on Termination by GSK for Cause.** GSK shall notify CureVac in writing within [*****] of notice of termination in accordance with Sections 14.3, 14.4, or 14.5 if GSK wishes to:
- a. cease the Development and Commercialization of the relevant Product(s) under the relevant Program(s) and decline the transfer of any rights in relation to Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the relevant Products under this Agreement, (the “**GSK Cease Option**”); or
 - b. continue with the Development and Commercialization of the relevant Product(s) under the relevant Program(s) (the “**GSK Continue Option**”).

15.3 [***] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.** Upon termination of this Agreement, regardless of any election made by the Parties in accordance with Sections 15.1 or 15.2, each Party shall be entitled to, and shall be required to, continue with the Manufacture and Commercialization of any Product in accordance with this Agreement and each applicable Ancillary Agreement, and (except as specified below) neither Party shall be relieved of any obligation under this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement relating to the Manufacture and Commercialization of any Product, if and to the extent required in accordance with its respective obligations under the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement to fulfill the Parties' commitments under each phase of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, until the later of: (i) the date on which the Parties have satisfied in full their respective commitments under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement; (ii) the effective date of termination of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement; or (iii) the effective date of release of GSK from or replacement of GSK under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with section 10.5 of the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement (the “**[*****] PPA End Date**”). The licenses granted to GSK under this Agreement (including under Section 2) and any rights associated with such licenses shall survive the termination of this Agreement (provided that, in each case, such licenses shall be non-exclusive for the purposes of this Section 15.3), if and solely to the extent required to fulfill the Parties' commitments under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement until the [*****] PPA End Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Section 2.3 shall terminate immediately and have no further effect.

For the avoidance of doubt, the termination of this Agreement shall not affect the Parties' obligations under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or under the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement. The Parties shall meet, following an election by the relevant Party in accordance with Sections 15.1 or 15.2, to discuss whether (and on what terms) either Party may be prepared to assume the rights and obligations of the other Party under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, provided that (i) neither Party shall be required, pursuant to this Section 15.3, to transfer, or to assume, any rights or obligations under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, (ii) any transfer or assumption must comply with Applicable Law, and (iii) any approval that may be required from [*****] for a transfer or assumption shall be obtained. Nothing in this Section 15.3 shall supersede or limit the Parties' respective rights and responsibilities under section 10.5 of the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement, and regardless of any

election made by the Parties in accordance with Sections 15.1 or 15.2, CureVac shall have the right to continue the Manufacture and Commercialization of Products under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (or any replacement agreement) for the term of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (or any replacement agreement).

15.4 Specific consequences of CureVac Cease Option and the GSK Cease Option. If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option or GSK elects the GSK Cease Option, then, subject to Section 15, with regard to the Program(s) in question:

- a. Reversion of Rights: Without prejudice to Sections 9.3.2 and 9.4, at the effective date of termination, all of CureVac's rights to the CureVac Technology and LNP Technology shall automatically revert back to CureVac and all of GSK's rights to the GSK Technology shall automatically revert back to GSK.
- b. Wind-Down: Each Party shall, at its own cost (subject to Sections 15.4c and 15.4d), use all reasonable endeavors to wind-down any on-going activities and commitments in connection with this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements by the effective date of termination.
- c. Costs (On Termination by GSK at Will): If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option following a termination of a Program by GSK in accordance with Section 14.2 while the R&D Plan for that Program has not been completed, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for the Development Costs set forth in the respective R&D Plan until the effective date of termination.
- d. Costs (On Termination by CureVac for Cause): If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option following a termination of a Program by CureVac for cause in accordance with Section 14.3, 14.4 or 14.5, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for the Development Costs set forth in the respective R&D Plan until the effective date of termination and reimburse CureVac for its demonstrable stranded costs arising from the early termination of the R&D Plan. CureVac shall use reasonable endeavors to mitigate those stranded costs.

15.5 Specific consequences of the CureVac Continue Option. If CureVac elects the CureVac Continue Option, then with regard to the Program(s) in question, the following shall apply:

- a. Transition: The JSC shall promptly meet to devise a transition plan, which provides for an orderly and cost-effective transition of, and which sets forth the responsibilities and a timetable for transferring, all Development, Manufacturing and Commercialization responsibilities to CureVac or a Third Party selected by CureVac for this purpose (the "**Transition Plan**"). Each Party will bear its own costs to agree and implement the Transition Plan unless CureVac has terminated this Agreement with respect to a specific Program for cause in accordance with Section 14.3, 14.4 or 14.5, in which case GSK shall reimburse CureVac for its reasonable and demonstrable direct costs incurred to implement the Transition Plan.
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- b. Reversion of Rights: Without prejudice to Sections 9.3.2 and 9.4, all of CureVac's rights to the CureVac Technology and LNP Technology shall automatically revert back to CureVac, except that if the date of termination occurs after the First Commercial Sale of the relevant Product, (i) the termination of the rights and obligations of the Parties, and the transfer and/or return of rights pursuant to this Article 15, shall take effect on a country-by-country basis, at time as CureVac is able to take over the Commercialization of the Product in such country where that Product is sold with no adverse impact on the continuous availability of Products in that country (the "**Cut-Over Date**") and (ii) until such date in such country, the licenses granted to GSK under this Agreement (including Article 2) and any rights and obligations associated with such licenses (including GSK's payment obligations under Section 8) shall survive.
- c. Transfer of Development Data and Regulatory Approvals. CureVac shall have the right to request in writing, as part of the Transition Plan:
- (i) a complete copy of all Development Data Controlled by GSK to be provided in original form and access to all other Know-How in GSK's possession or under its Control relating to the Products, such Development Data and other Know-How to be provided within [*****] of such request; and
 - (ii) the transfer of Regulatory Approvals held by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, and if Regulatory Approvals have not been obtained by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, CureVac may require that GSK transfers to CureVac the status of any application for the Regulatory Approvals and notifies the competent Regulatory Authority thereof and supplies CureVac with all documents and clinical data already prepared by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees for the filing of applications for Regulatory Approvals (with GSK using its good faith efforts to promptly undertake such actions).
- d. GSK Trademark License: As part of the Transition Plan, on receipt of a written request from CureVac, GSK grants to CureVac an exclusive (even as to GSK), cost-free, perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under the trademarks Controlled by GSK and used for the Products in the relevant jurisdiction(s) for the Manufacture and Commercialization of the Products in the Territory, excluding, however, any such trademarks – or such parts of a trademark - that include, in whole or part, any corporate name or logo of GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, and excluding any trademark – or such part of a trademark - which contains the letters "[*****]" as prefix or suffix (in which case GSK will not oppose any application by CureVac to register a trademark which is similar to any trademark owned by GSK but does not use the letters "[*****]" as prefix or suffix).
- e. GSK Technology License. On a Product-by-Product and country-by-country basis effective from the Cut-Over Date, GSK grants to CureVac (i) an exclusive (even as to GSK), perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under GSK's interest in Joint Patent Rights and Know-How related to the Inventions claimed in such Joint
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Patent Rights, and, (ii) upon CureVac's election, to be exercised no later than [*****] after the effective date of termination, a non-exclusive royalty-bearing, perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under the other GSK Technology which has been used by GSK for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of the terminated Products and is required for the further Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of such Products, in each case of (i) and (ii) for the continued Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the Products in the Territory.

- f. Post-Termination Financial Terms (Termination by GSK at Will): If GSK terminates this Agreement in its entirety or with respect to a specific Program in accordance with Section 14.2 and CureVac elects the CureVac Continue Option and the license to the GSK Technology under Section 15.5e(ii), then, on a Product-by-Product and country-by-country basis effective from the Cut-Over Date, in consideration of the licenses granted in Section 15.5e(ii), CureVac shall pay GSK royalties as forth in Exhibit 15.5.
 - g. Post-Termination Financial Terms (Termination by CureVac for Cause): If CureVac terminates this Agreement with respect to a specific Program for cause in accordance with Section 14.3, 14.4 or 14.5, CureVac shall pay GSK the fair market value for acquisition by CureVac of the Program(s) and the associated rights and benefits pursuant to this Section 15.5, provided that CureVac may, if CureVac claims or seeks to claim damages in relation to breach of this Agreement by GSK, suspend the payment of such fair market value until the amount of damages suffered or incurred by CureVac has been agreed between the Parties or determined by an arbitration panel in accordance with Section 16.5, at which point those damages (if any) shall be set off against such fair market value payment (and any fair market value payment which would remain outstanding after the set off of damages shall become due and payable within [*****] after the agreement or determination of the amount of damages).
 - h. For the purposes of Section 15.5h, the "fair market value" shall be agreed by the Parties, or if the Parties are unable to agree within [*****] from the date of election in accordance with Section 15.1, either Party may refer the matter to be determined by a panel of experts in accordance with this Section 15.5h. The Parties shall agree on the appointment of the panel of experts, comprising three members experienced in the biopharmaceutical sector, in transactions within the biopharmaceutical sector, and the valuation of technology of the biopharmaceutical sector, and shall agree with the experts the terms of their appointment. If the Parties are unable to agree on the identity of the experts within [*****] after expiry of the aforementioned term of [*****], or if any of the persons proposed is unable or unwilling to act, then each Party shall nominate one expert, which two experts shall together select the third and final expert, who shall preside the expert panel. The experts shall act on the following basis: (i) on their appointment, the experts shall confirm their neutrality, independence and the absence of conflicts in determining the fair
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market value for the rights granted pursuant to this Section 15; (ii) the experts shall act as experts and not arbitrators; (iii) the experts' determination shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding on the Parties and not subject to appeal; (iv) the experts shall decide the procedure to be followed in the determination in accordance with this Agreement; (v) the costs of the determination, including the fees and expenses of the experts (but excluding the parties' own costs which shall be borne by the Party incurring those costs), shall be borne by GSK; and (vi) the expert determination and all matters connected with it shall be held in complete confidence by each of the Parties and shall not be disclosed to any other person except as permitted under Section 11.

15.6 Specific Consequences of the GSK Continue Option.

If GSK terminates this Agreement or a Program under Sections 14.3, 14.4 or 14.5, the rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall terminate as at the effective date of such termination (or, if later, the Cut-Over Date) and the consequences set forth in this Section 15 shall apply:

- a. Survival of Licenses: The licenses granted to GSK under this Agreement (including under Section 2) and any rights associated with such licenses shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
- b. Post-Termination Financial Terms: All payment obligations under Section 8 shall remain in effect, provided that with respect to milestones and royalties arising after the effective date of termination, GSK may, if GSK also claims or seeks to claim damages in relation to breach of this Agreement by CureVac, suspend the payment of such milestone and royalty payments until the amount of damages suffered or incurred by GSK has been agreed between the Parties or determined by an arbitration panel in accordance with Section 16.5, at which point those damages (if any) shall be set off against such milestone and royalty payments (and any milestone or royalty payment which would remain outstanding after the set off of damages shall become due and payable within [*****] after the agreement or determination of the amount of damages).
- c. Costs (On Termination by GSK for Cause): CureVac shall undertake (at its own cost and without the right to be reimbursed) the transfer of Know-How in accordance with Sections 4.7 and 5.5, and shall reimburse all reasonable and demonstrable direct costs and expenses incurred by GSK in connection with those activities.

15.7 General Consequences of Expiry and Termination.

On any termination of this Agreement in its entirety or on a Program-by-Program basis the rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall terminate as at the effective date of such termination (unless stated otherwise in this Section 15) and the following shall apply:

- a. Reversion of Rights on Expiry: Upon expiry of this Agreement in a country and provided and to the extent that this Agreement is not terminated after such expiry by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.3, Section 14.4, or Section 14.5, or by GSK pursuant to Section 14.2, the licenses granted to GSK under Section 2 for such country shall become a fully paid-up, perpetual, and non-exclusive license.
- b. Reversion of Rights on Termination: Except as set forth in this Section 15, the rights and obligations of the Parties under this Agreement shall automatically lapse as at the effective date of the termination in question.
- c. Return of Information: No later than [*****] after the effective date of termination, each Party shall return or cause to be returned to the other Party or, at the other Party's option, destroy (and certify in writing the destruction of), all Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party in tangible form received from the other Party and all copies in any medium thereof; *provided, however*, that each Party may retain any Confidential Information reasonably necessary for such Party's continued Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the Products pursuant to this Section 15, and may retain the Confidential Information solely for the purpose of ensuring its compliance with this Agreement and Applicable Law by electronic files created in the ordinary course of business during automatic system back-up procedures pursuant to its electronic record retention and destruction practices that apply to its own general electronic files and information so long as such electronic files are (i) maintained only on centralized storage servers (and not on personal computers or devices), (ii) not accessible by any of its personnel (other than its information technology specialists), and (iii) are not otherwise accessed subsequently except with the written consent of the other Party or as required by law. Such retained copies of documents and Confidential Information shall remain subject to the confidentiality and non-use obligations set forth in this Agreement.
- d. Settlement of Outstanding Sums: Each Party shall pay all amounts then due and owing as at the termination effective date.
- e. Continuation of Ongoing Clinical Trials: In any event of termination, each Party may complete any clinical trial involving a Product it has initiated prior to the termination of this Agreement in accordance with the protocol for such trial, at its cost and such Party shall be granted by the other Party a cost-free, non-exclusive, sublicensable (as set forth in this Agreement), worldwide license under the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology or respectively the GSK Technology to complete such clinical trials in accordance with their protocols.

15.8 Effect of Expiry or Termination; Survival. Expiry or termination of this Agreement shall not relieve the Parties of any obligation accruing prior to such expiry or termination. Any expiry or termination of this Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of either Party against the other accrued or accruing under this Agreement prior to expiry or termination. The provisions of

Sections 1, 2.6, 4.6, 4.8.6, 8.9, 9.1, 9.3, 9.5, 11, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.8, 13.9, 15, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.7, 16.8, 16.11 and 16.12 and all other provisions contained in this Agreement that by their explicit terms or from which it is clear from the context survive expiry or termination of this Agreement, and any schedules contained in this Agreement to which reference is made in any surviving term, shall survive the expiry or termination of this Agreement. In the event of a termination of this Agreement with respect to only one of the Programs, and continuation of other Programs under this Agreement, the termination and consequences of termination provisions only apply to the terminated Program, and the Agreement will remain in full force and effect with respect to the continuing Programs.

16. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

16.1 Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned or otherwise transferred by either Party without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed; *provided, however,* each of the Parties may, without such consent, but with notification, assign this Agreement and its rights and obligations hereunder to any of its Affiliates or in connection with the transfer or sale of all or substantially all of the portion of its business to which this Agreement relates or in the event of its merger or consolidation with a Third Party. Any permitted assignee will assume all obligations of its assignor under this Agreement in writing concurrent with the assignment. Any purported assignment in violation of this Section 16.1 will be void. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their successors and permitted assignors under this Section 16.1.

16.2 Force Majeure. If the performance of any part of this Agreement by either Party, or any obligation under this Agreement, is prevented, restricted, interfered with or delayed by reason of any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party liable to perform, unless conclusive evidence to the contrary is provided, the Party so affected shall, upon giving written notice to the other Party, be excused from such performance to the extent of such prevention, restriction, interference or delay, provided that the affected Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and shall continue performance with the utmost dispatch whenever such causes are removed. When such circumstances arise and persist for a period of at least sixty (60) calendar days, the Parties shall discuss what, if any, modification of the terms of this Agreement may be required in order to arrive at an equitable solution.

16.3 Notices. All notices which are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by e-mail, sent by internationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

(i) if to CureVac, addressed to:

CureVac AG

Attention: CEO and General Counsel

with copy to: General Counsel

Address: [*****]

Email: [*****]

(ii) if to GSK, addressed to:

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

Attention: President of GSK Vaccines

with copy to: Vaccines General Counsel

Address: [*****]

Email: [*****]

or to such other address(es) as the Party to whom notice is to be given may have furnished to the other Party in writing in accordance herewith. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by e-mail on a Business Day (or if delivered or sent on a non-Business Day, then on the next Business Day); (b) on the Business Day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; or (c) on the [*****] following the date of mailing, if sent by mail.

16.4 Governing Law. This Agreement and all disputes arising hereunder, shall be exclusively governed by, and interpreted and enforced in accordance with Belgian law. The United Nations Convention of International Contracts on the Sale of Goods (the Vienna Convention) does not apply to this Agreement.

16.5 Dispute Resolution.

16.5.1 Unless otherwise set forth in this Agreement, in the event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any alleged breach under this Agreement or any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement, the Parties shall refer such dispute to the CEO (or its C-level delegate) of CureVac and the President of Vaccines (or another member of the global corporate execute team) of GSK. If the dispute has not been settled pursuant to the said rules within [*****] following the reference of the dispute to the senior management representatives of the Parties, either Party may submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration.

16.5.2 Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any issue relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement, which cannot be resolved amicably between the Parties after following the procedure set forth in Section 16.5.1, shall be submitted to and settled by arbitration in accordance with the arbitration rules of the

World Intellectual Property Organization (the "**WIPO**") in effect on the date of the commencement of the arbitration proceedings. The existence, nature and details of any such dispute(s), and all communications between the Parties related thereto, shall be considered Confidential Information of the Parties and shall be treated in accordance with the terms of Section 11 above. Any Confidential Information may be disclosed by either Party to counsel, experts or other advisors on the arbitration under obligations of confidentiality. The decision of the arbitrators shall be final and binding upon the Parties. The location of arbitration will be Zurich, Switzerland. The arbitration will be heard and determined by three (3) arbitrators, with one arbitrator being appointed by each Party and the third arbitrator being appointed by the WIPO. The language of the arbitration proceeding will be English. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 16.5.2, each Party shall have the right to seek interim injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction as such Party deems necessary to preserve its rights and to protect its interests.

- 16.6 Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is determined by any court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a replacement provision that is commercially equivalent, to the maximum extent permitted by Applicable Law, to such invalid or unenforceable provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement. Nor shall the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in one country or jurisdiction affect the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other country or jurisdiction in which such provision would otherwise be valid or enforceable.
- 16.7 Entire Agreement and Amendments.** This Agreement, together with all Exhibits attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications between the Parties, with respect to the subject matter hereof, including the Confidentiality Agreements. The foregoing may not be interpreted as a waiver of any remedies available to either Party as a result of any breach prior to the Effective Date, by the other Party of its obligations under the Confidentiality Agreements. No modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties unless in writing and executed by the duly authorized representative of each of the Parties; this shall also apply to any change of this Section 16.7.
- 16.8 Waivers.** The failure by either Party hereto to assert any of its rights hereunder, including the right to terminate this Agreement due to a breach or default by the other Party hereto, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver by that Party of its right thereafter to enforce each and every provision of this Agreement in accordance with its terms.
- 16.9 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, by original or electronic (including "pdf") signature, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
-

- 16.10 Independent Contractors.** The Parties are independent contractors and this Agreement shall not constitute or give rise to an employer-employee, agency, partnership or joint venture relationship among the Parties and each Party's performance hereunder is that of a separate, independent entity.
- 16.11 Third Parties.** None of the provisions of this Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any Third Party which shall be a Third Party beneficiary to this Agreement.
- 16.12 Costs.** Except as is otherwise expressly set forth herein, each Party shall bear its own expenses in connection with the activities contemplated and performed hereunder.
- 16.13 Insurance.** Each Party will procure and maintain during the Term and for [*****] after termination or expiry of this Agreement, insurance in line with industry standards. GSK will be permitted to satisfy any or all of its obligations under this Section 16.13 through a program of self-insurance. Such insurance policies will be primary and non-contributing with respect to any other similar insurance policies available to the other Party or its Affiliates. Any deductibles for such insurance will be assumed by insured Party. Each Party will provide the other Party with evidence of such insurance upon the other Party's request and prior to expiry of any one coverage. Any insurance will not be construed to create a limit of the insured Party's liability with respect to its indemnification obligations under this Agreement.

· · *Signature page follows* · ·

In Witness Whereof, the Parties have executed this Agreement to be effective as at the Closing Date.

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Exhibit 3.4

Clearance Template

1. Vaccine Products

For vaccine Products, the below table must be used for the clearance of Antigens. For each clearance, the primary vaccine Antigen must be reported in the first row, and any additional vaccine Antigens (if any) must be reported in the subsequent rows.

Organism naturally encoding Target (e.g. virus, bacterium)	Transcript Identifier: NCBI Refseq transcript ID	Gene Identifier: NCBI Refseq Gene ID	Gene Name and Synonyms	DNA Sequence coordinates or locus	Protein Amino Acid Sequence: FASTA format

2. Antibody Products

For Antibody Products each clearance request shall (i) designate the primary Antibody and any additional Antibody(ies) (if any) of such Antibody Product, and (ii) contain for each Antibody the following information:

- (A) the common name for such Antibody and any known synonyms, if applicable;
 - (B) a reference amino acid sequence for the baseline protein (i.e., the protein from which variants are established); and
 - (C) a description of the biological activity of interest of such Antibody. In case the Antibody binds to a non-human protein or a non-human antigen the identity of the non-human protein or non-human antigen should be identified using the above table as for Vaccine Products.
-

Exhibit 11.6
Draft Press Release



PRESS RELEASE

For media and investors only

Issued: [DAY + MONTH] 2020, London UK; Tübingen, Germany/ Boston, MA, USA

GSK and CureVac announce strategic mRNA technology collaboration

- Companies to collaborate on mRNA vaccine and monoclonal antibody research programmes in infectious diseases
- GSK to make equity investment of £130m (€150m) in CureVac, and an upfront payment of £104m (€120m)

GlaxoSmithKline plc (LSE/NYSE: GSK) and CureVac today announced the signing of a strategic collaboration agreement for the research, development, manufacturing and commercialisation of up to five mRNA-based vaccines and monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) targeting infectious disease pathogens. The collaboration complements GSK's existing mRNA capabilities with CureVac's integrated mRNA platform.

mRNA (messenger RNA) technology is a rapidly progressing, cutting-edge platform for the development of new vaccines and medicines, potentially expanding the range of diseases which can be prevented or treated, while also promising to significantly speed up development and manufacturing. mRNA enables protein synthesis in the human body, carrying the genetic code required for cells to manufacture and express proteins. By using mRNA technology in vaccines and medicines, specific proteins, or antigens, can be produced by the body's own cells, enabling the human immune system to prevent or fight disease.

CureVac's leadership in mRNA technology, along with its mRNA manufacturing capability, complements GSK's existing scientific leadership in vaccines, including GSK's own self-amplifying mRNA (SAM) vaccine technology platform, and further builds on GSK's growing capability in mAbs innovation, aligned to its R&D focus on the science of immunology. Advancing mRNA-based vaccine and treatment technologies is also expected to play a role in further improving response against future pandemics.

Roger Connor, President GSK Vaccines, said: "GSK's self-amplifying mRNA (SAM) vaccine technology has shown us the potential of mRNA technology to advance the science of vaccine development, and CureVac's experience complements our own expertise. Through the application of mRNA technology, including SAM, we hope to be able to develop and scale up advanced vaccines and therapies to treat and prevent infectious diseases quicker than ever before."

Dr. Franz-Werner Haas, acting Chief Executive Officer of CureVac, added: "We are delighted to partner with GSK. With this collaboration, we are gaining a world-class partner whose expertise and global footprint will allow us to further develop and translate the value of our platform into potential products for the world."

The companies will combine their mRNA expertise on development opportunities across a range of infectious disease pathogens, selected with the potential to best leverage the advantages of this platform technology, while addressing significant unmet medical need and economic burden. CureVac's existing COVID-19 mRNA and rabies vaccines research programmes are not included in the collaboration announced today.

Under the terms of the deal, GSK will make an equity investment in CureVac of £130m (€150m), representing an approximate 10% stake, an upfront cash payment of £104m (€120m) and a one-time reimbursable payment of £26m (€30m) for manufacturing capacity reservation, upon certification of CureVac's commercial scale manufacturing facility currently under construction in Germany.

CureVac will be eligible to receive development and regulatory milestone payments of up to £277m (€320m), commercial milestone payments of up to £329m (€380m) and tiered royalties on product sales.

GSK will fund R&D activities at CureVac related to the development projects covered by the collaboration. CureVac will be responsible for the preclinical- and clinical-development through Phase 1 trials of these projects, after which GSK will be responsible for further development and commercialization. CureVac will be responsible for the GMP manufacturing of the product candidates including for commercialization, and will retain commercialization rights for selected countries for all product candidates.

About GSK

GSK is a science-led global healthcare company with a special purpose: to help people do more, feel better, live longer. For further information please visit www.gsk.com/about-us.

About CureVac's mRNA technology platform

CureVac's mRNA technology platform has shown potential in the development and production of mRNA based vaccines and therapeutics. CureVac's RNAoptimizer platform aims to optimize the properties of mRNA medicines based on its three core pillars: protein design, mRNA optimization and mRNA delivery. The technology can be tailored to induce varying degrees of immune responses against specific protein antigens of choice, potentially providing potent prophylactic vaccines for the prevention of infectious diseases, such as Rabies, as well as immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer. The technology can also be adapted to avoid immune activation for purposes of protein therapy and antibodies, thereby providing potential new therapeutic modalities for patients suffering from a vast range of diseases.

About CureVac

CureVac is a leading clinical stage biotechnology company in the field of messenger RNA (mRNA) technology with 20 years of expertise in developing and optimizing this versatile molecule for medical purposes. The principle of CureVac's proprietary technology is the use of mRNA as a data carrier to instruct the human body to produce its own proteins capable of fighting a wide range of diseases. The company applies its technologies for the development of cancer therapies, antibody therapies, the treatment of rare diseases, and prophylactic vaccines. CureVac has received significant investments, amongst others from dievini Hopp BioTech holding and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In June 2020, the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy announced its commitment to invest 300 million Euros in CureVac through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW). CureVac has also entered into collaborations with multinational corporations and organizations, including Boehringer Ingelheim, Genmab, CRISPR Therapeutics, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CEPI and others. CureVac is headquartered in Tübingen, Germany with sites in Frankfurt and Boston, USA.

For more information, please visit www.curevac.com/ or follow CureVac on Twitter at [@CureVacAG](https://twitter.com/CureVacAG).

GSK media enquiries:

Simon Steel	+44 (0) 20 8047 5502	(London)
Simon Moore	+44 (0) 20 8047 5502	(London)
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Investor Relations

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sarah.fakh@curevac.com

Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements

GSK cautions investors that any forward-looking statements or projections made by GSK, including those made in this announcement, are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Such factors include, but are not limited to, those described under Item 3.D "Risk Factors" in the company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for 2019 and any impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registered in England & Wales:

No. 3888792

Registered Office:

980 Great West Road
Brentford, Middlesex
TW8 9GS

Exhibit 12.5
Data Protection Terms

The Parties agree that the processing of Personal Information under or in connection with this Agreement shall be in accordance with this Exhibit, including all Annexes.

1. Definitions

In this Exhibit:

"**CureVac**" means CureVac as defined in the Agreement and its Affiliates.

"**Data Protection Authority**" means each person having regulatory or supervisory authority over GSK or CureVac in the area of protection of Personal Information;

"**Data Protection Laws**" means: (a) the GDPR; and (b) all other laws concerning the processing of Personal Information;

"**GDPR**" means the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data;

"**GSK**" means GSK as defined in the Agreement and its Affiliates.

"**Party**" or "**Parties**" means CureVac and GSK as defined in this Exhibit.

"**Personal Information**" means information relating to an identified or identifiable individual;

"**Personal Information Breach**" means any actual breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, Personal Information transmitted, stored or otherwise processed; and

"**Transferred Personal Information**" means any Personal Information that is transferred pursuant to this Agreement (i) that is transferred to CureVac by GSK operating in the European Union; or (ii) that is transferred to GSK by CureVac operating in the European Union.

2. Data Processing

a. Status of each Party under Data Protection Laws

GSK and CureVac acknowledge that the status of each Party is a question of fact determined under Data Protection Laws. Without limiting the foregoing, GSK and CureVac each understand that, in relation to the Transferred Personal Information, GSK and CureVac

independently determine how and why Transferred Personal Information is processed (and accordingly each acts as a controller) and all processing of Transferred Personal Information shall be undertaken in accordance with Annex 1 (Controller Terms) to this Exhibit 12.5.

b. Description of processing

The Parties will document the following information in writing (including in electronic form)

Duration, nature and purpose of processing	
Duration of processing	[to be documented]
Nature and purpose of processing	[to be documented]
Personal Information	
Individuals may include any of:	[to be documented]
Categories of Personal Information may include any of:	[to be documented]
Special categories of Personal Information may include any of:	[to be documented]

3. Termination or expiry

On termination or expiry of this Agreement, this Exhibit shall survive and continue in full effect for as long as Transferred Personal Information is processed by the other Party.

4. Further Assurance

- a. If any Data Protection Authority adopts revised standard contractual clauses for the matters addressed in this Exhibit (including any Annex) and one Party notifies the other Party that it wishes to incorporate any element of those standard contractual clauses into this Exhibit, the other Party shall agree to changes (limited only to the extent of the requirement under such revised standard contractual clauses) as reasonably requested by such Party.
- b. Both Parties agree that, upon the request of any Party, they shall execute any specific form of data transfer agreement as reasonably requested by such Party to enable the other Party to comply with applicable Data Protection Laws or the requirements of any Data Protection Authority.

ANNEX 1 TO EXHIBIT 12.5 - CONTROLLER TERMS

1. General terms

- a. Subject to the remaining provisions of this Annex 1, in relation to the processing of all Transferred Personal Information, each Party:

- i. shall comply with its obligations under Data Protection Laws; and
- ii. acknowledges that, except as expressly stated otherwise under this Annex 1 or otherwise in the Agreement, it is (as between the Parties) solely responsible for meeting all of its obligations under Data Protection Law.

2. Legal basis and privacy notices

- a. Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, each Party shall be responsible for the lawfulness of the collection and disclosure to the other Party of the Transferred Personal Information, in particular, for obtaining any consent required by law from all individuals to whom the Transferred Personal Information relates in respect of all processing undertaken by that Party (including any disclosure to the other Party).
- b. If the transferring Party obtains consent for the processing of Transferred Personal Information, such consent shall cover the transfer and the further processing of Transferred Personal Information by the other Party for the purposes identified in this Exhibit.
- c. Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, each Party shall be responsible for providing privacy notices to all individuals to whom the Transferred Personal Information relates in respect of all processing undertaken by that Party. If either Party expressly agrees in writing to provide a privacy notice on behalf of the other Party, it shall ensure that the relevant privacy notices effectively address all information required to be provided under Data Protection Laws and take account of any reasonable proposals by the other Party.

3. Communications

- a. If either Party receives any communication from a Data Protection Authority which relates directly or indirectly to:
 - i. the other Party's processing of Transferred Personal Information; or
 - ii. a potential failure to comply with Data Protection Laws in relation to the processing of Transferred Personal Information,

the receiving Party, shall, to the extent permitted by Applicable Laws, promptly forward the communication to the other Party and provide the other Party with reasonable cooperation and assistance in relation to the same.

4. Handling of transferred personal information

- a. Each Party shall ensure that Transferred Personal Information supplied to it by or on behalf of the other Party:
 - i. is only used for the purposes for which it was collected;
 - ii. is not disclosed to any of its staff unless those persons that have committed themselves to confidentiality and have undergone appropriate training in data protection;
 - iii. is transferred to another Party or Third Parties only: in accordance with Applicable Laws; and
 - iv. is kept securely, including by application of the measures set out in Annex 2 (Information Security) to this Exhibit 12.5.

5. Rights of individuals

If an individual makes a written request to either Party to exercise any of their rights under Data Protection Laws in respect of Transferred Personal Information, the receiving Party shall respond to that request in accordance with Data Protection Laws. To the extent the request concerns processing of Transferred Personal Information undertaken by the other Party, the receiving Party shall: (i) promptly forward the request to the other Party; and (ii) cooperate and provide reasonable assistance in relation to that request to enable the other Party to respond in accordance with Data Protection Laws.

6. Personal information breach

- a. Without limiting any provision of Annex 2 (Information Security) to this Exhibit 12.5, if a Party becomes aware of a Personal Information Breach affecting Transferred Personal Information supplied to it by the other Party, the Party shall:
 - i. notify the other Party without undue delay, and provide the other Party with a reasonable description of the Personal Information Breach without undue delay as such information becomes available; and

not publish any communication concerning the Personal Information Breach without first consulting the other Party, save that it may disclose a breach to the extent required by Applicable Laws (e.g. to Data Protection Authority or to individual(s)).

ANNEX 2 TO EXHIBIT 12.5 – INFORMATION SECURITY

[to be completed as soon as reasonably practicable after the Closing Date]

Exhibit 15.5
Post-Termination Royalties

Where this Exhibit 15.5 applies, CureVac shall pay GSK, on a Product-by-Product and country-by-country basis, the royalty payments set forth below for Net Sales by CureVac, its Affiliates, or Sublicensees of such Product, depending in what stage of development that Product finds itself at the effective date of termination. With respect to any payments to be made by CureVac to GSK, the definition of "Net Sales" in Section 1.149 and the provisions of Sections 8.7.2, 8.7.3, 8.7.8, and 8.8 to 8.11 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

<i>Stage of Product Development at Termination</i>	<i>Rate</i>
*****	*****
*****	*****
*****	*****
*****	*****

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [*****], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.

**COVID CLA THIRD AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT
AGREEMENT**

dated

4 MARCH 2022

by and between

CUREVAC AG

and

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA

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AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT AGREEMENT

This **Amendment and Restatement Agreement** ("**Agreement**") is entered into on 4 March 2022 ("**Effective Date**")

BY AND BETWEEN

CUREVAC AG, a German cooperation with offices at [*****] ("**CureVac**");

AND

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA, a Belgium corporation with offices at [*****] ("**GSK**").

INTRODUCTION

- A. This Agreement is supplemental to and amends and restates a COVID Collaboration and License Agreement dated April 2, 2021, as subsequently amended and restated on September 29, 2021, on collaborating in the research, development and commercialization of non-replicating mRNA based vaccines targeting SARS-CoV-2 (the "**COVID CLA**").
- B. The Parties have consented to the amendments to the COVID CLA set out in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the following mutual covenants and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 In this Agreement, unless the contrary intention appears, a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule is a reference to a section, exhibit or schedule to this Agreement. Schedule 1 forms part of this Agreement.
- 1.2 Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, the words and expressions defined in the Amended and Restated COVID CLA (as defined below) shall have the same meanings when used in this Agreement and the rules and principles of interpretation set out in Section 1 of the Amended and Restated COVID CLA shall apply to this Agreement.
- 1.3 In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the terms of the Amended and Restated COVID CLA and this Agreement, this Agreement shall prevail.

2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement shall commence on and from the Effective Date.

3. AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT

- 3.1 Subject to Section 3.2, the Parties agree that the COVID CLA will be amended and restated in the form set out in Schedule 1 (the "**Amended and Restated COVID CLA**") on and from the Effective Date so that the rights and obligations of the Parties to the COVID CLA shall, on and from the Effective Date, be governed by and construed in accordance with the provisions of the Amended and Restated COVID CLA.
- 3.2 The COVID CLA will remain in full force and effect, except to the extent amended and restated by this Agreement, and each Party's rights, responsibilities and liabilities relating to any act or omission prior to Effective Date shall continue to be determined by:
- (a) the COVID CLA for any act and omission on or after September 29, 2021;
 - (b) the original, unamended version of the COVID Collaboration and License Agreement between the Parties dated April 2, 2021 for any act or omission prior to September 29, 2021.

4. REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

CureVac and GSK each represents and warrants and covenants with respect to itself only as at the Effective Date that:

- (a) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of such Party, its officers and directors, and does not conflict with, violate, or breach any agreement to which such Party is a party, or such Party's corporate charter, bylaws or similar organizational documents;
- (b) this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party that is enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by general principles of equity or to applicable competition, bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, liquidation and other similar laws relating to, or affecting generally, the enforcement of applicable creditors' rights and remedies;
- (c) it is a company or corporation duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated.

5. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 5.1 This Agreement and all disputes arising hereunder, shall be exclusively governed by, and interpreted and enforced in accordance with Belgian law. The United Nations Convention of International Contracts on the Sale of Goods (the Vienna Convention) does not apply to this Agreement.
- 5.2 If any provision of this Agreement is determined by any court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a replacement provision that is commercially equivalent, to the maximum extent permitted by Applicable Law, to such invalid or unenforceable provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement. Nor shall the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in one country or jurisdiction affect the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other country or jurisdiction in which such provision would otherwise be valid or enforceable.

- 5.3 This Agreement, together with Schedule 1 attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications between the Parties, with respect to the subject matter hereof, including the Confidentiality Agreements. The foregoing may not be interpreted as a waiver of any remedies available to either Party as a result of any breach prior to the Effective Date, by the other Party of its obligations under the Confidentiality Agreements. No modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties unless in writing and executed by the duly authorized representative of each of the Parties; this shall also apply to any change of this Section 5.3.
- 5.4 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, by original or electronic (including "pdf") signature, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 5.5 The Parties are independent contractors and this Agreement shall not constitute or give rise to an employer-employee, agency, partnership or joint venture relationship among the Parties and each Party's performance hereunder is that of a separate, independent entity.
- 5.6 None of the provisions of this Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any Third Party which shall be a Third Party beneficiary to this Agreement.

Signature page follows.

In Witness Whereof, the Parties have executed this Agreement to be effective as at the Effective Date.

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

Signed on behalf of
CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed: 4 March 2022

SCHEDULE 1

AMENDED AND RESTATED COVID CLA

COVID COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

dated

2 APRIL 2021

(AS AMENDED AND RESTATED A THIRD TIME ON 4 MARCH 2022)

by and between

CUREVAC AG

and

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA

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Exhibits

COVID COLLABORATION AND LICENSE AGREEMENT

This **COVID Collaboration and License Agreement** (this "**Agreement**") is entered into on April 2, 2021 ("**Effective Date**"), as amended and restated a third time ("**COVID Third Amendment**") on 4 March 2022 ("**COVID Third Amendment Effective Date**")

BY AND BETWEEN

CUREVAC AG, a German cooperation with offices at [*****] ("**CureVac**");
AND

GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS SA ("GSK")

INTRODUCTION

- A. WHEREAS, CureVac is a biotechnology company that is a pioneer and technology leader in mRNA-based prophylactic and therapeutic approaches and discovers, designs and develops first-in-class mRNA therapies for the prevention and treatment of diseases with unmet medical need. CureVac controls a first generation prophylactic mRNA based vaccine targeting SARS-CoV-2 which is in late stage development, [*****].
 - B. WHEREAS, GSK is a world leading global healthcare company developing, manufacturing and commercializing innovative pharmaceuticals, vaccines and consumer healthcare products worldwide.
 - C. WHEREAS, CureVac and GSK have entered into a Collaboration and License Agreement dated July 15, 2020 on collaborating in the research, development and commercialization of prophylactic and therapeutic non-replicating mRNA based vaccines and antibodies targeting certain infectious disease pathogens, such pathogens among others not including SARS-CoV-2, and have agreed to amend that agreement on the same date as this Agreement.
 - D. WHEREAS, CureVac and GSK have decided to build upon their existing collaboration to also collaborate in the research, development and commercialization of mRNA based vaccines targeting SARS-CoV-2 based on the technology controlled by CureVac.
 - E. WHEREAS, the Parties agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a first time by the COVID First Amendment dated September 29, 2021 to improve the competitiveness of the COVID Products, to accelerate the execution of the COVID R&D Plan, including, *inter alia*, that GSK will be enabled to Manufacture on its own clinical trial materials and will contribute significantly more resources to progress the Development and Manufacture of the COVID Products, as set forth, *inter alia*, in the amended COVID R&D Plan.
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- F. WHEREAS, the Parties are currently participating (as a bidding consortium) in a tender procedure conducted by the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by [*****] (the "[*****] **Tender Procedure**") concerning the conclusion of a framework agreement on the pandemic preparedness, manufacture and supply of mRNA-based vaccines (the "[*****] **Pandemic Preparedness Agreement**"), and have agreed to enter into a consortium agreement (the "[*****] **PPA Consortium Agreement**") to specify with respect to the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement the relationship between the Parties, in particular concerning the allocation of the responsibilities between the Parties.
- G. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a second time to address the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.
- H. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to amend and restate this Agreement a third time, in connection with GSK entering into a direct agreement with [*****] relating to use of its manufacturing facility in [*****].

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the following mutual covenants and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1 DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Agreement, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings, whether used in the singular or plural:

- 1.1** "**2020 Collaboration Agreement**" shall mean the Collaboration and License Agreement between CureVac and GSK dated July 15, 2020 (as amended).
- 1.2** "**Affiliate**" shall mean any corporation or other entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with a Party. A corporation or other entity will be regarded as under the control of another corporation or entity if the latter corporation or entity owns or directly or indirectly controls fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting stock or other ownership interest of the former corporation or other entity, or if the latter corporation or entity possesses, directly or indirectly, the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the former corporation or other entity or the power to elect or appoint fifty percent (50%) or more of the members of the governing body of the former corporation or other entity, provided, however, that regarding CureVac, Affiliate shall not include Mr. Dietmar Hopp, dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co.KG and/or any other companies controlled by Mr. Dietmar Hopp and/or dievini Hopp BioTech holding GmbH & Co.KG that are not subsidiaries of CureVac.
- 1.3** "**Agreement**" shall have the meaning set forth in the Preamble.
- 1.4** "**Alliance Manager**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
- 1.5** "**Ancillary Agreement**" shall mean any of the following agreements between the Parties (or their respective Affiliates) relating to this Agreement: any Clinical Supply Agreement; any Commercial Supply Agreement; any Distribution Agreement; any Quality Agreement and any pharmacovigilance agreement.
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- 1.6 "**Antigen**" shall mean any antigen, defined by its amino acid sequence, associated with a Pathogen, together with all Antigen Variants thereof.
- 1.7 "**Antigen List Rep**" shall mean the representative of CureVac designated as Antigen List Rep under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.
- 1.8 "**Antigen Variant**" shall mean any variant of an Antigen, including the wild type, naturally occurring variants, engineered variants wherein modifications to the native amino acid sequence have been introduced (for example, mutated versions, derivatives or fragments), provided, however, that any such variant possesses substantially similar biological activity to the naturally occurring antigen.
- 1.9 "**APA Share Credit**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.2.
- 1.10 "**Applicable Laws**" shall mean all applicable provisions of all national, supranational, regional, state and local, laws, treaties, statutes, rules, regulations, directives, administrative codes, ordinances, decrees, orders, decisions, guidance documents, injunctions, awards, judgments, and permits of or from any court, arbitrator, stock exchange, regulatory authority or governmental authority having jurisdiction over or related to the subject item.
- 1.11 "**Assigned Invention**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.5.
- 1.12 "**Background Technology**" shall mean the CureVac Background Technology and/or GSK Background Technology, as applicable.
- 1.13 "[*****]" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.14.
- 1.14 "[*****]" shall mean the [*****].
- 1.15 "[*****] **Options**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.1.
- 1.16 "[*****] **Agreement**" shall mean [*****].
- 1.17 "[*****] **Agreement**" shall mean the agreement regarding the provision of COVID-19 Vaccine [*****].
- 1.18 "**Brand IP**" shall mean any and all rights and privileges in trade names, domain names, brand names, product names, logos and trade dress (and the goodwill of any business symbolized thereby), including trademarks, service marks, copyrights and design rights for any of the above, and any similar intellectual property right recognized from time to time in any jurisdiction, as well as any and all registrations, applications, recordings and other legal protections to the foregoing.
- 1.19 "**Breaching Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.4.
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- 1.20 "**Business Day**" shall mean any day other than Saturday, Sunday, or any day that banks are authorized or required to be closed in Tübingen, Germany or Rixensart, Belgium.
- 1.21 "**Calendar Quarter**" shall mean each successive period of three (3) months ending on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each Calendar Year; provided, that the first Calendar Quarter under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Closing Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Quarter in which the Closing Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Quarter of the Term will be the period beginning on January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1, as applicable, and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement, and "Calendar Quarterly" shall be construed accordingly.
- 1.22 "**Calendar Year**" shall mean each successive period of twelve (12) months commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31; provided, however, that the first Calendar Year under this Agreement will be the period beginning on the Closing Date and ending on the end of the Calendar Year in which the Closing Date is encompassed and the last Calendar Year of the Term will be the period beginning on January 1 and ending on the effective date of expiry or termination of this Agreement.
- 1.23 "**Change of Control**" shall mean a transaction in which a Party (or any direct or indirect shareholder(s), unitholder(s) or partner(s) together holding (directly or indirectly) over fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the shares, units or partnership interests in a Party): (i) sells, conveys or otherwise disposes of all or substantially all of the Party's (or their indirect interest(s) in the Party's) property, assets or business; or (ii) merges or consolidates with any other entity; or (iii) effects any other transaction or series of transactions; in each case of clause (ii) or (iii), such that the ultimate direct or indirect shareholder(s), unitholder(s) or partner(s) of such Party immediately prior thereto, in aggregate, no longer own, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting securities or capital stock of the surviving entity following the closing of such merger, consolidation, other transaction or series of transactions. For the avoidance of doubt, "Change of Control" shall not mean a transaction which, in the case of paragraph (ii) or (iii), results in a person owning, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting securities or capital stock of the surviving entity and where there is an agreement or arrangement between that person (or any of its direct or indirect shareholders, unitholders or partners) and the relevant Party (or any of its direct or indirect shareholders, unitholders or partners) to reverse the effects of this transaction or to implement a further transaction so that the ultimate shareholders, unitholders or partners of the relevant Party immediately prior thereto will again own, directly or indirectly, beneficially or legally, more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting rights attached to the outstanding voting shares, units or partnership interests of the relevant Party or surviving entity.
- 1.24 "**Clinical Phase I Study**" shall mean a study in humans which provides for the first administration to humans of a product, conducted in healthy volunteers or patients to obtain information on product safety, tolerability, pharmacological activity or pharmacokinetics, as more fully defined in 21 C.F.R. § 312.21(a) or the non-United States equivalent thereof. For the avoidance of doubt, a Clinical Phase I Study may generate sufficient data (if successful) to commence pivotal studies/Clinical Phase III Studies, but it shall not constitute a Clinical Phase II Study.
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- 1.25 "**Clinical Phase II Study**" shall mean a clinical study (other than a Clinical Phase I Study) in humans of the safety, dose ranging and efficacy of a product, which is prospectively designed to generate sufficient data (if successful) to commence pivotal studies/Clinical Phase III Studies, as further defined in 21 CFR §312.21(b) or the non-United States equivalent thereof.
- 1.26 "**Clinical Phase III Study**" shall mean a controlled, and usually multicenter, clinical study in humans of the efficacy and safety of a product, which is prospectively designed to demonstrate statistically whether such product is effective and safe for use in humans in the indication being investigated in a manner sufficient to submit an application to obtain Regulatory Approval to market such product, as further defined in 21 CFR §312.21(c) or the non-United States equivalent thereof.
- 1.27 "**Clinical Studies**" shall mean all Clinical Phase I Studies, Clinical Phase II Studies and Clinical Phase III Studies, including pivotal studies.
- 1.28 "**Clinical Supply Agreement**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.1.
- 1.29 "**Closing Date**" shall mean the date on which the condition under Section 1.196 is fulfilled or waived by both Parties.
- 1.30 "**CMC Development**" shall mean all research and development activities conducted in respect of the Manufacture of COVID Products, including chemistry, manufacturing and control (CMC), creation of master and working cell banks, test method development and stability testing, process development, manufacturing scale-up, qualification and validation, quality assurance and quality control processes and techniques.
- 1.31 "**CMO**" shall mean a contract manufacturing organization.
- 1.32 "**COGS**" shall mean the total cost of Manufacture of a unit of COVID Product sold and shall include Manufacturing Costs and Pass-Through Costs, as defined below, and subject to periodic review and changes over time:
- "**Manufacturing Costs**" shall mean [*****]
- (i) "**Standard Manufacturing Cost**" is a budgeted cost per unit established to facilitate inventory evaluation, planning and budgeting, which shall include:
-

(a) [*****].

(b) [*****]:

(i) [*****];

(ii) [*****]

(iii) [*****].

(ii) "**Cost Variances**" is the variance between, for a period to be agreed by the Parties, actual costs of Manufacturing versus the Standard Manufacturing Cost and may include [*****];

(iii) "**Other Manufacturing Costs**" are additional costs of Manufacturing which [*****] and

(iv) "**Freight**" are costs incurred for [*****].

Manufacturing Costs shall exclude excess costs that result from a Party's (or its Affiliate's) negligence or willful misconduct.

Based on each Party's accounting policies, Manufacturing Cost can be calculated [*****].

"**Pass-Through Costs**" within COGS shall include [*****].

1.33 "Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product" shall mean:

- (i) each CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen and using the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, or any Antigen Variant thereof, as primary vaccine Antigen that the Parties have agreed to Develop and Commercialize under this Agreement during the Term, but excluding any First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product and Pathogen Combination Product; and
- (ii) each vaccine product targeting coronaviruses in respect of which GSK exercises its exclusive option pursuant to Section 3.7.3 of the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, where CureVac elects, in accordance with Section 3.7.3(a)(i) of the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, to Develop and Commercialize such product on a cost and profit split basis under this Agreement.

For clarity, Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products shall incorporate a mRNA backbone (otherwise known as the non-coding region) that is not identical to the First-Gen mRNA Construct.

1.34 "Combination Product" shall mean a product that is:

- (i) a single pharmaceutical formulation containing Drug Substances associated with a COVID Product and one or more other therapeutically or prophylactically active pharmaceutical ingredients [*****];
- (ii) any combination therapy comprised of a Finished Product and one or more other therapeutically or prophylactically active products, that is (x) priced and sold in a single package containing such multiple products; or (y) packaged separately but sold together for a single price; or
- (iii) comprised of a Finished Product and a companion or complementary diagnostic, priced and sold in a single package containing such multiple products or packaged separately but sold together for a single price,

in each case, including all dosage forms, formulations, presentations, line extensions, and package configurations. For clarity, a Pathogen Combination Product shall not be a Combination Product, unless it is (A) combined with another therapeutically or prophylactically active ingredient/product or (B) comprised of a Finished Product and a companion or complementary diagnostic product, as set forth in (i), (ii) or (iii) above.

- 1.35 "**Commercial Supply Agreement**" shall have the meaning given in Section 5.2.2.
- 1.36 "**Commercialization**" shall mean any and all activities directed to the preparation for sale of, offering for sale of, or sale of a COVID Product, including activities related to marketing, promoting, distributing, importing and exporting of COVID Products, interacting with Regulatory Authorities regarding any of the foregoing and medical affairs functions. For the avoidance of doubt, "Commercialization" shall not include the Manufacture of COVID Products. When used as a verb, to "**Commercialize**" and "**Commercializing**" shall mean to engage in Commercialization, and "**Commercialized**" has a correlative meaning.
- 1.37 "**Confidential Information**" shall mean all Know-How, Development Data or other information of a Party whether or not marked confidential or proprietary, including:
- (i) all communications between the Parties or information of whatever kind whether recorded or not and, if recorded, in whatever medium, relating to or arising out of this Agreement, whether disclosed prior to or after entering into this Agreement; and
 - (ii) all copies and excerpts of the communications, information, notes, reports and documents in whatever form referred to in paragraph (i) of this definition.
- For purposes of the confidentiality obligations set forth herein, (a) GSK Know-How, GSK Materials and GSK Inventions shall be deemed Confidential Information of GSK; and CureVac Know-How, CureVac Materials and CureVac Inventions shall be deemed Confidential Information of CureVac; (b) Confidential Information jointly owned by the Parties as well as Inventions and Know-How jointly owned by the Parties shall be deemed Confidential Information of both Parties; and (c) the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be deemed Confidential Information of both Parties (and both Parties shall be deemed the Receiving Party with respect thereto). "Confidential Information" also includes all information exchanged between the Parties pursuant to the Confidentiality Agreement.
- 1.38 "**Confidentiality Agreement**" shall mean that certain Confidential Disclosure Agreement entered into between the Parties as at January 9, 2020.
- 1.39 "**Control**" shall mean, with respect to any material, information or intellectual property right that a Party (i) owns such material, information or intellectual property right; or (ii) has a license to or right to use or grant access to such material, information or intellectual property right, in each case of (i) or (ii), without violating the terms of any agreement or other arrangement with a Third Party, provided that any intellectual property right in-licensed by a Party from the other Party under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement shall not be Controlled by such Party for the purpose of this Section 1.39.
- 1.40 "**Cover**" shall mean, (i) with respect to a claim of a Patent Right, that such claim would be infringed, absent a license, by the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of a COVID Product, or (ii) with regard to Know-How, that the use or disclosure of such Know- How without a license would be actionable.
- 1.41 "**COVID First Amendment**" shall mean the amendment to this Agreement dated 29 September 2021.
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- 1.42 "COVID First Amendment Effective Date" shall mean 29 September 2021.
- 1.43 "COVID Product(s)" shall mean (i) the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product(s); (ii) the Pathogen Combination Product(s); and (iii) upon the effective date of Option Exercise pursuant to Section 3.3.6, the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products; in each case of (i), (ii) and (iii) including Product Adjustments. COVID Products may be in Drug Product or Finished Product form (or precursors thereto). For the avoidance of doubt, the term "COVID Products" shall not include the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product(s) prior to effective Option Exercise by GSK.
- 1.44 "COVID R&D Plan" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.1.
- 1.45 "COVID Third Amendment Effective Date" shall mean March 4, 2022.
- 1.46 "CRO" shall mean a contract research organization or a contract development and manufacturing organization.
- 1.47 "CureVac Alliance Manager" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
- 1.48 "CureVac Background Technology" shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Controlled by CureVac at the Effective Date or generated or acquired by or on behalf of CureVac during the Term outside the scope of this Agreement.
- 1.49 "CureVac Elements" shall mean mRNA, LNP, CVCM and other technology or information, each as described in the CureVac Know-How or within the scope of the specifications of the CureVac Patent Rights (excluding any Invention or Know-How jointly owned by the Parties), excluding Modified MRNA.
- 1.50 "CureVac Indemnified Parties" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.1.
- 1.51 "CureVac Invention" shall mean both (i) any Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the COVID First Amendment Effective Date, and which qualifies as a "CureVac Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date; and (ii) any later Invention that falls under the definition of "CureVac Invention" as set forth in Section 9.3.1(i).
- 1.52 "CureVac Know-How" shall mean (i) all Know-How within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or during the Term that is necessary or useful for the Parties to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize COVID Products under this Agreement, provided that (x) with respect to Know-How within the CureVac Background Technology owned by a Third Party that is not necessary to ensure freedom to operate for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of COVID Products in the Field in the Territory and that comes under CureVac's Control, this shall only include Know-How which is deemed CureVac Know-How pursuant to Section 2.8.1; and (y) this shall not include the Know-How of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac after the Effective Date solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac; and (ii) all Know-How Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates arising or generated in connection with the performance of activities under this Agreement; provided, however, that
-

CureVac Know-How does not include Know-How related to (A) LNP Technology Controlled by a Third Party; and (B) [*****]. CureVac Know-How shall include (i) Know-How comprised in the CureVac Background Technology; and (ii) Know-How related to CureVac Inventions, (iii) CureVac's share in Know-How related to Joint Inventions, Joint Product Inventions and Joint Other Inventions, (iv) subject to Section 7.3, Know-How related to LNP technology owned or Controlled by CureVac (other than the Licensed LNP), (v) subject to Section 7.3, Know-How related to CVCMS; and (vi) other Know-How generated by or on behalf of CureVac under this Agreement. Without limiting Section 9.1, the CureVac Know-How existing at the Effective Date is further described in **Exhibit 1.52**.

- 1.53** "**CureVac Manufacturing Technology**" shall mean CureVac Patent Rights and CureVac Know-How that are required for the Manufacture of COVID Products.
- 1.54** "**CureVac Materials**" shall mean [*****] that are supplied or otherwise made available by or on behalf of CureVac and/or its Affiliate(s) to GSK hereunder for the purposes of this Agreement (excluding, for clarity, any Confidential Information, or any COVID Product).
- 1.55** "**CureVac mRNA**" shall mean [*****] on the Effective Date or during the Term.
- 1.56** "**CureVac mRNA-Based**" shall mean, with respect to a vaccine, that such vaccine is encoded by one or more CureVac mRNAs.
- 1.57** "**CureVac/[*****] Agreement**" means the master services and commercial manufacturing agreement between CureVac Real Estate GmbH and [*****] dated February 22, 2021.
- 1.58** "**CureVac Patent Right(s)**" shall mean (i) all Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or during the Term that are necessary or useful for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of COVID Products under this Agreement, provided that (x) with respect to Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology owned by a Third Party that are not necessary to ensure freedom to operate for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of COVID Products in the Field in the Territory and that come under CureVac's Control after the Effective Date, this shall only include Patent Rights which are deemed CureVac Patent Rights pursuant to Section 2.8.1; and (y) this shall not include the Patent Rights of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac, and (ii) all CureVac Program Patent Right and CureVac's interest in Joint Patent Rights; provided, however, that CureVac Patent Rights do not include Patent Rights Covering [*****]. CureVac Patent Rights shall include (i) Patent Rights comprised in the CureVac Background Technology; and (ii) CureVac's share in Joint Patent Rights, (iii) CureVac Program Patent Rights; (iv) subject to Section 7.3, Patent Rights Covering the LNP technology owned or Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates (other than the Licensed LNP) and Patent Rights Covering CVCMS. The CureVac Patent Rights within the CureVac Background Technology Controlled by CureVac or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date are listed in **Exhibit 1.58**.
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- 1.59 "CureVac Program Patent Right" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7.1.
- 1.60 "CureVac Project Leader" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
- 1.61 "CureVac Technology" shall mean CureVac Patent Rights and CureVac Know-How.
- 1.62 "CureVac Territory" shall mean Austria, Germany and Switzerland.
- 1.63 "CVCM" shall mean CureVac's next generation mRNA delivery vehicle, also referred to as CureVac Carrier Molecule™, which is disclosed in CureVac's patent families [*****], that is appropriate for the formulation of Drug Substance.
- 1.64 "CVnCoV" shall mean the vaccine named CVnCoV, Developed and Controlled by CureVac and targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, which (i) is in Clinical Phase IIb/III Studies as at the Effective Date, (ii) uses the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein as primary vaccine Antigen, and (iii) incorporates the First-Gen mRNA Construct.
- 1.65 "[*****] PPA Consortium Agreement" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
- 1.66 "[*****] PPA End Date" has the meaning set forth in Section 15.4.
- 1.67 "[*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
- 1.68 "[*****] Pandemic Preparedness Plan" has the meaning set forth in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.69 "[*****] PPA Stand-by Fee" shall mean the "Stand-by Fee" as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.
- 1.70 "[*****] Tender Procedure" has the meaning set forth in the Introduction.
- 1.71 "**Development**" shall mean all research, non-clinical, and clinical testing and drug development activities conducted in respect of the COVID Products, including those necessary or reasonably useful or otherwise requested or required by a Regulatory Authority as a condition or in support of obtaining or maintaining Regulatory Approvals and to successfully Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize the COVID Products for use in the Field. "**Development**" shall include CMC Development, delivery system development, mRNA sequence optimization, protein design, non-clinical testing, mechanism of action studies, toxicology, pharmacokinetics, clinical studies, regulatory affairs activities, statistical analysis and report writing, submission of documents, market research, pharmacoeconomic studies, and epidemiological/real world data studies. Development shall mean both (a) non-clinical and clinical Development; and (b) CMC Development. "**Develop**" and "**Developed**" have a correlative meaning.
- 1.72 "**Development Costs**" shall mean:
- (i) the following costs, which are incurred in accordance with the applicable COVID R&D Plan and further detailed in the Development budget set out in the COVID R&D Plan: [*****] and
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(ii) the following other costs (to the extent not covered by the COVID R&D Plan): [*****].

- 1.73** "**Development Data**" shall mean: (i) CMC Development data (including records of Manufactured batches); (ii) any non-clinical or clinical findings, results and other research data relating to the COVID Products, in any format; and (iii) the formal reports of preclinical toxicology studies and Clinical Studies, such data in each case of (i), (ii) and (iii) required for the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the COVID Products, including but not limited to, INDs and other regulatory filings and registration dossiers.
- 1.74** "**Development Transfer Materials**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.7.
- 1.75** "**Diligent Efforts**" shall mean, with respect to a Party, those efforts, expertise and resources commensurate with efforts, expertise and resources commonly used in the biopharmaceutical industry by a company of comparable size in connection with the development, manufacture and/or commercialization of a comparable high priority pharmaceutical product which is of similar market potential at a similar stage of development or commercialization in light of issues of safety and efficacy, product profile, public health, the competitiveness of the marketplace, the proprietary position of the compound or product, the regulatory structure involved, the profitability of the applicable products, product reimbursement, and other relevant factors such as technical, legal, scientific, or medical factors. Diligent Efforts shall be determined on a market-by-market and indication-by-indication basis for each COVID Product, and it may change over time.
- 1.76** "**Disclosing Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.1
- 1.77** "**Disclosure Letter**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.4.
- 1.78** "**Distribution Agreement**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 6.2.
- 1.79** "**Drug Product**" shall mean, for a given COVID Product, the drug product form thereof, comprising of one or more Drug Substance(s) of that COVID Product and formulated with the Licensed LNP (or, subject to Section 7.3, an LNP Controlled by CureVac or a CVCM), and any excipients.
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- 1.80 "**Drug Substance**" shall mean the active ingredient(s) of a COVID Product, being one or more mRNA molecules which contains the genetic information for the relevant Antigen(s).
- 1.81 [*****].
- 1.82 "**Effective Date**" shall have the meaning set forth in the Preamble.
- 1.83 "**EMA**" shall mean the European Medicines Agency.
- 1.84 "**Enhanced Diligent Efforts**" means, with respect to GSK, marketing efforts that are equal to, or which exceed, in all material respects, those marketing efforts undertaken by GSK for the commercialization of any New Non-mRNA COVID Product, taking into account issues of safety and efficacy, product profile, public health, the competitiveness of the marketplace, the proprietary position of the compound or product, the regulatory structure involved, product reimbursement, and other relevant factors such as technical, legal, scientific, or medical factors. Enhanced Diligent Efforts shall be determined on a market-by-market and indication-by- indication basis for each COVID Product, and it may change over time.
- 1.85 "[*****]" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.7.4.
- 1.86 "**Exclusive Option**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.2.
- 1.87 "**Executive Officers**" the Chief Executive Officer of CureVac (or a senior executive officer of CureVac designated by CureVac's Chief Executive Officer) and the President of GSK Vaccines (or a senior executive officer of GSK designated by the President of GSK Vaccines).
- 1.88 "**Existing COVID Projects**" shall mean the following vaccine development projects in which GSK is involved:
- (a) [*****].
 - (b) [*****].
 - (c) [*****].
 - (d) [*****].
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- 1.89 [*****].
- 1.90 "FDA" shall mean the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- 1.91 "Field" shall mean any and all prophylactic and/or therapeutic uses for the prevention, delay of onset or treatment of diseases caused by the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen in humans.
- 1.92 "Filled Containers" shall mean, for a given COVID Product, Drug Product, diluted and filled in vials, without labelling or packaging.
- 1.93 "Financial Partner" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.4.1(vi) below.
- 1.94 "Finished Product" shall mean, for a given COVID Product, the final presentation of such COVID Product, following labelling and packaging of Filled Containers, as registered in the applicable Regulatory Approval.
- 1.95 "First [*****] Option" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.1.
- 1.96 "First Commercial Sale" shall mean, on a COVID Product-by-COVID Product and country- by-country basis, the first sale of a COVID Product by or on behalf of GSK or its Affiliates or Sublicensees, or by CureVac or its Affiliates or Sublicensees, such as but not limited to, sales to a Third Party wholesaler, pharmacy, outpatient clinic, inpatient clinic, hospital, dispensing physician or government agency in a given country after necessary Regulatory Approval has been granted with respect to such COVID Product in such country, provided, however, that in the event of a sale of a COVID Product prior to Regulatory Approval which is substantially comparable to a commercial sale effected only after Regulatory Approval is obtained, then the first sale in any such arrangement shall also constitute a First Commercial Sale. For the avoidance of doubt, "treatment IND sales", "named patient sales" and "compassionate use sales" shall not be construed as a First Commercial Sale if the aggregate, annual Net Sales for all such programs are less than [*****]. For avoidance of doubt, any sale of a COVID Product by GSK to an Affiliate or Sublicensee or subcontractor is not a First Commercial Sale.
- 1.97 "First-Gen COVID Booster Vaccine" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1.98.
- 1.98 "First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product" shall mean (i) CVnCoV, and each vaccine Controlled by CureVac targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen that incorporates the First-Gen mRNA Construct (and not, for the avoidance of doubt, any other mRNA backbone), including vaccines modified to address naturally occurring variants of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, and (ii) each vaccine that incorporates the First-Gen mRNA Construct (and not, for the avoidance of doubt, any other mRNA backbone) boosting the immune response from a primary vaccination with a First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product or another vaccine targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen ("First-Gen COVID Booster Vaccine").
- 1.99 "First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products Dossiers/Data" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.8.4.
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- 1.100** "**First-Gen mRNA Construct**" means the "**backbone**" (otherwise referred to as the non-coding region) of CVnCoV, further details of which are set out in the dossier forming part of each application for Regulatory Approval.
- 1.101** "**First Regulatory Approval**" shall mean, in relation to each COVID Product, unless expressly stated otherwise in this Agreement, the earlier of (i) final marketing authorization for a COVID Product in any jurisdiction of the Territory, or (ii) the grant of any conditional authorization for a COVID Product in any jurisdiction of the Territory.
- 1.102** "**Force Majeure**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.2.
- 1.103** [*****].
- 1.104** "**FTE**" shall mean, with respect to a person, the equivalent of the work of one (1) employee full time for one (1) year (consisting of at least [*****] working hours per year (with no further reductions for vacations and holidays)). Overtime, and work on weekends, holidays and the like will not be counted with any multiplier (e.g., time-and-a-half or double time) toward the number of hours that are used to calculate the FTE contribution. The portion of a FTE billable for one (1) individual during a given accounting period shall be determined by dividing the number of hours worked by said individual on the work to be conducted under the Agreement during such accounting period by the number of FTE hours applicable for such accounting period based on [*****] working hours per year. FTE shall include the employee required to execute the COVID R&D Plan provided however that the costs of employees already taken into account in the calculation of SG&A or COGS shall not be included. FTE shall not include personnel undertaking general corporate activities including, by way of example only, investor relations, business development, legal affairs, human resources and finance, and any other activities not supporting activities conducted under this Agreement.
- 1.105** "**FTE Rate**" shall mean for GSK and CureVac, as applicable, for the period commencing on the Effective Date until such time as the Parties mutually agree otherwise, [*****] per annum. The FTE Rate shall include all fully loaded costs, including costs of salaries (including overtime), benefits, other employee costs, overhead and supporting general and administration allocations. The Parties may agree on an increase of the FTE Rate for inflation on an annual basis based upon the percentage increase in the European Consumer Price Index.
- 1.106** "**Good Clinical Practices**" or "**GCP**" shall mean, in connection with a Clinical Study, current practices set forth in or required by (i) the World Medical Association's Declaration of Helsinki entitled 'Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects' (ii) the principles of International Conference on Harmonization Harmonized Tripartite Guideline for Good Clinical Practice (CPMP/ICH/135/95) E6 and E11; (iii) the Directive 2001/20/EC of the European Union and in guidance published by the European Commission in relation to such Directive and any local laws, rules and regulations that implement such Directive and guidance; (iv) provisions of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (including Parts 11, 50, 54, 56, 312, 314, 320, 601 and 610) and all rules, regulations, order and guidance's published thereunder; and (v) any other country in which the Clinical Study is conducted.
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1.107 "**Good Distribution Practices**" or "**GDP**" shall mean the current (at a given time) standards, practices and procedures regarding the distribution of pharmaceutical products promulgated or endorsed by a Regulatory Authority and all Applicable Laws with respect thereto, as defined further or otherwise in the Distribution Agreement or a quality agreement ancillary thereto.

1.108 "**Good Laboratory Practices**" or "**GLP**" shall mean, at a given time, the current good laboratory practice standards promulgated or endorsed by the US Food and Drug Administration as defined in Part 58 of the Code of Federal Regulations Title 21, or comparable regulatory standards promulgated by the EMA or other applicable Regulatory Authority, as may be updated from time to time, including applicable quality guidelines promulgated under the ICH.

1.109 "**Good Data Management Practices**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.3.

1.110 "**Good Manufacturing Practices**" or "**GMP**" shall mean the current (at a given time) standards, practices and procedures regarding the Manufacturing of human vaccines promulgated or endorsed by a Regulatory Authority and all Applicable Laws with respect thereto, including:

- (i) the standards, rules, principles and guidelines set out in Chapter II of EC Commission Directive 2003/94/EC together with the guidance for the interpretation of the principles and guidelines of good manufacturing practices for medicinal products for human use laid down in Commission Directives 91/356/EEC, as amended by Directive 2003/94/EC and 91/412/EEC, contained in Volume 4 of "The Rules Governing Medicinal Products in the European Union";
- (ii) Parts 210 and 211 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations and all related guidance published by the FDA;
- (iii) The International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use ("**ICH**") Quality Guidelines relating to good manufacturing practice;
- (iv) the "**Good Manufacturing Practices for Pharmaceutical Products**" promulgated by the World Health Organization ("**WHO**"),

provided that term may be defined further or otherwise in the Quality Agreements regarding the supply of COVID Products (either in Drug Substance, Drug Product, Filled Containers or Finished Product format) for clinical or commercial purposes entered pursuant to this Agreement.

1.111 "**Government and NGO Contracts**" shall mean: (i) [*****]; and (ii) all agreements with governments, supra-national organizations or non-profit organizations relating to the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products entered into by CureVac before the Effective Date or following the Effective Date in accordance with Section 2.7.4; and (iii) all agreements with governments, supra-national organizations or non-profit organizations relating to the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products and the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products that are entered into by the Parties following the Effective Date in accordance with Section 2.7.4. The Government and NGO Contracts existing at the Effective Date are listed in **Exhibit 1.111**.

1.112 "**Government Official**" (where 'government' means all levels and subdivisions of governments,

i.e. local, regional, national, administrative, legislative, executive, or judicial, and royal or ruling families) shall mean: (i) any officer or employee of a government or any department, agency or instrumentality of a government (which includes public enterprises, and entities owned or controlled by the state); (ii) any officer or employee of a public international organization such as the World Bank or United Nations; (iii) any officer or employee of a political party, or any candidate for public office; (iv) any person defined as a government or public official under Applicable Law (including anti-bribery and corruption laws) and not already covered by any of the above; and/or; (v) any person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of any of the above. "Government Official" shall include any person with close family members who are Government Officials (as defined above) with the capacity, actual or perceived, to influence or take official decisions affecting either Party's business.

- 1.113 "GSK Alliance Manager"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.1.
- 1.114 "GSK Background Technology"** shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Controlled by GSK at the Effective Date or generated or acquired by or on behalf of GSK during the Term outside the scope of this Agreement.
- 1.115 "GSK Indemnified Parties"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13.2.
- 1.116 "GSK Invention"** shall mean both (i) any Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the COVID First Amendment Effective Date, and which qualifies as a "GSK Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date; and (ii) any later Invention that falls under the definition of "GSK Invention" as set forth in Section 9.3.1(ii).
- 1.117 "GSK Know-How"** shall mean all Know-How Controlled by GSK or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or thereafter during the Term that (i) is necessary for CureVac to perform the obligations and other activities pursuant to this Agreement, or (ii) is used by or on behalf of GSK its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize COVID Products under this Agreement. GSK Know-How shall include (i) Know-How comprised in the GSK Background Technology; (ii) Know-How related to GSK Inventions, (iii) GSK's share in Know-How related to other Inventions, and (iv) other Know-How generated by or on behalf of GSK under this Agreement.
- 1.118 "GSK Materials"** shall mean any [*****] that are supplied or otherwise made available by or on behalf of GSK and/or its Affiliate(s) to CureVac for the purposes of this Agreement (excluding, for clarity, any Confidential Information, or any COVID Product).
- 1.119 "GSK Patent Right(s)"** shall mean all Patent Rights Controlled by GSK or its Affiliates as at the Effective Date or thereafter during the Term that (i) are necessary for CureVac to perform the obligations and other activities pursuant to this Agreement, or (ii) are used by or on behalf of GSK its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize COVID Products under this Agreement. GSK Patent Rights shall include Patent Rights comprised in the
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- 1.120 "**GSK Program Patent Right**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7.2.
- 1.121 "**GSK Project Leader**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
- 1.122 "**GSK Technology**" shall mean any and all GSK Patent Rights and GSK Know-How.
- 1.123 "**GSK Territory**" shall mean all countries of the world other than the countries included in the CureVac Territory.
- 1.124 "**GxP**" shall mean the good practice regulations in the pharmaceutical industry, including Good Manufacturing Practices, Good Laboratory Practices, Good Clinical Practices and Good Distribution Practices (GMP, GLP, GCP and GDP).
- 1.125 [*****].
- 1.126 "**Human Biological Samples**" shall mean human biological material (including any derivative or progeny thereof), including any portion of an organ, any tissue, skin, bone, muscle, connective tissue, blood, cerebrospinal fluid, cells, gametes, or sub-cellular structures such as DNA, or any derivative of such biological material such as stem cells or cell lines; and any human biological product, including, but not limited to, hair, nail clippings, teeth, urine, faeces, breast milk, and sweat.
- 1.127 "**IND**" shall mean an investigational new drug application filed with, and accepted by, the FDA prior to beginning clinical trials in humans in the United States, or any comparable application to and acceptance by the Regulatory Authority of a country or group of countries other than the USA thereto, including EMA, prior to beginning clinical trials in humans in that country or in that group of countries.
- 1.128 "**In-Licensed IP**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.8.1.
- 1.129 "**In-Licensing Agreement**" shall mean the LNP Agreement, the agreements listed in **Exhibit 1.129**, and any other agreement with a Third Party pursuant to which CureVac Controls CureVac Technology or LNP Technology.
- 1.130 "**Initiation**" shall mean, with respect to a Clinical Study, the first administration of the first subject in such Clinical Study.
- 1.131 "**Invention**" shall mean an invention or discovery, whether or not patentable, discovered, made, conceived and/or first reduced to practice during the Term by or on behalf of CureVac or GSK or Affiliates of CureVac or GSK, alone or jointly with each other and/or any Third Party, which arise from the performance of activities under this Agreement, including performance of activities under the COVID R&D Plan.
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- 1.132 "**IP Sub-Committee**" shall mean the sub-committee to be established pursuant to Section 7.6.
- 1.133 "**Joint Inventions**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.3.1(iii).
- 1.134 "**Joint Product Invention**" shall mean an Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and which qualifies as a "Joint Product Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the COVID First Amendment.
- 1.135 "**Joint Other Invention**" shall mean an Invention that has been discovered, made, conceived and first reduced to practice prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and has been notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the COVID First Amendment Effective Date, and which qualifies as a "Joint Other Invention" pursuant to the version of this Agreement in effect prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date.
- 1.136 "**Joint Patent Rights**" shall mean Patent Rights Covering Joint Inventions, Joint Product Inventions or Joint Other Inventions.
- 1.137 "**Joint Steering Committee**", and "**JSC**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.2.1.
- 1.138 "**JST**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.8.6.
- 1.139 "**JST Charter**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4.8.6.
- 1.140 "**Know-How**" shall mean all technical, scientific and other information, inventions, discoveries, trade secrets, knowledge, technology, means, methods, processes, practices, formulae, instructions, skills, techniques, procedures, expressed ideas, technical assistance, designs, drawings, assembly procedures, computer programs, apparatuses, specifications, Development Data, results, non-clinical, clinical, safety, process and Manufacturing and quality control data and information (including trial designs and protocols), registration dossiers, in each case, solely to the extent confidential and proprietary and in written, electronic or any other form now known or hereafter Developed.
- 1.141 "**[*****] Facility**" shall mean the [*****].
- 1.142 "**Licensed LNP**" shall mean the LNP that is Controlled by CureVac as at the Effective Date pursuant to the LNP Agreement. Any amendment to the LNP Agreement made after the Effective Date shall not adversely affect the rights or increase the obligations of GSK or CureVac under this Agreement.
- 1.143 "**LNP**" shall mean a lipid nanoparticle system comprised of individual lipid components at specific ratios, which are manufactured in such a manner to encapsulate and deliver mRNA into a target cell.
- 1.144 "**LNP Agreement**" shall mean the Non-Exclusive License Agreement between CureVac and [*****]. For clarity, the use of any LNP Technology under
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this Agreement in relation to a COVID Product shall not count towards the limit on the number of LNP Licenses under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.

- 1.145 "**LNP License**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 2.1.2.
- 1.146 "**LNP Provider**" shall mean [*****].
- 1.147 "**LNP Technology**" shall mean the Patent Rights and Know-How Covering the Licensed LNP.
- 1.148 "**Major Markets**" shall mean [*****].
- 1.149 "**Manufacture**" shall mean all manufacturing operations (including for Drug Substance, Drug Product, fill and finish, packaging and labelling) for COVID Products, including all activities related to the preparation and use of master and working cell banks, making, production, processing, purifying, formulating, filling, and finishing, of the Finished Product, or any intermediate thereof, pre-clinical, clinical and commercial production, product, stability testing, quality assurance, and quality control. "**Manufacturing**" has a correlative meaning.
- 1.150 "**Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.6.
- 1.151 "**Materials**" shall mean CureVac Materials and GSK Materials.
- 1.152 "**Modified MRNA**" shall mean an mRNA in which [*****].
- 1.153 "**mRNA**" shall mean a replicating or non-replicating polynucleotide [*****] that is capable of directing the cellular machinery of a cell to produce polypeptide and a [*****] tail and contains cytosine, guanine, uracil and adenine nucleosides or chemically modified analogues thereof, such as Modified MRNA.
- 1.154 "**mRNA-Based**" shall mean, with respect to a vaccine, that the vaccine Antigen is encoded by one or more mRNAs.
- 1.155 "**Net Profits**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.3.
- 1.156 "**Net Sales**" shall mean the gross invoice price of COVID Product sold by the selling Party or its Affiliates or Sublicensees directly to a Third Party, less the following deductions if and to the extent such deductions to unaffiliated entities are actually allowed and granted:
- (i) trade, quantity, and/or cash discounts, charge-back payments, allowances or rebates, including promotional or similar discounts or rebates, and discounts or rebates to governmental or managed care organizations;
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- (ii) discounts provided in connection with coupon, voucher or similar patient programs;
- (iii) credits or allowances given or made with respect to a COVID Product by reason of rejection, defects, recalls, returns, rebates, or retroactive price reductions;
- (iv) any tax, tariff, duty or government charge (including any sales, value added, excise or similar tax or government charge, but excluding any income tax) levied on the sale, transportation or delivery of COVID Product and borne by the selling Party, its Affiliates or Sublicensees without reimbursement from any Third Party;
- (v) any charges for freight, postage, shipping or transportation, or for insurance, in each case to the extent borne by the selling Party, its Affiliates or Sublicensees without reimbursement from any Third Party; and
- (vi) any administrative fees paid to group purchasing organizations or managed care entities for the sale of COVID Product (provided, however, that such deduction may not exceed two percent (2%) of the gross sales in the corresponding accounting period).

All such discounts, allowances, credits, rebates and other deductions shall be fairly and equitably allocated to the sale of the relevant COVID Product by the selling Party, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, such that the COVID Product does not bear a disproportionate portion of such deductions as compared to other products sold separately from but with a certain link or other connection to the COVID Product. For the avoidance of doubt, the Net Sales shall be calculated only once for the first bona fide arm's length sale of the COVID Product by either the selling Party, its Affiliate or its Sublicensee, to a Third Party which is neither an Affiliate nor a Sublicensee of the selling Party. Net Sales shall be determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) applied in a consistent manner.

In the event a COVID Product is sold as part of a Combination Product (either as a separate Finished Product sold together with other products or because the Drug Substances associated with that COVID Product are formulated with additional other therapeutically or prophylactically active pharmaceutical ingredients (including, if mutually agreed between the Parties, [*****]) or companion or complementary diagnostic), Net Sales of the Combination Product will be calculated, on a country-by-country basis, as follows:

- (i) If (x) the COVID Product and (y) the other product(s) or active pharmaceutical ingredient are also sold separately in the applicable country, Net Sales of the COVID Product portion of the Combination Product will be calculated by multiplying the total Net Sales of the Combination Product by the fraction $A/(A+B)$, where A is the average gross selling price in the applicable country of the COVID Product sold separately in the same formulation and dosage, and B is the sum of the average gross selling prices in the applicable country of all other products or active ingredients in the Combination Product sold separately during the applicable Calendar Quarter.
 - (ii) If the COVID Product is sold separately, but the average gross selling price of the other product(s) or active ingredients cannot be determined, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to the Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by the
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fraction A/C wherein A is the average gross selling price of the COVID Product and C is the average gross selling price of the Combination Product.

- (iii) If the other product(s) or other active ingredients is/are sold separately, but the average gross selling price of the COVID Product cannot be determined, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to the Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by the following formula: one (1) minus B/C wherein B is the average gross selling price of the other product(s) or active ingredients and C is the average gross selling price of the Combination Product.
- (iv) If the average gross selling price of neither the COVID Product, nor the other product(s) or active ingredients, can be determined, e.g., because neither the COVID Product, nor the other product in a Combination Product, are being sold separately, Net Sales of the Combination Product shall be equal to Net Sales of the Combination Product multiplied by A/B wherein A is the number of COVID Products comprised in the Combination Product and B is the sum of "one" for each COVID Product and the relative value of the other product(s) and/or other active pharmaceutical ingredients comprised in the Combination Product, such value to be determined by the patent protection status of the respective products, the development costs of the respective products, and the pricing of comparable products in the Major Markets. For illustration purposes, if there are two additional active ingredients in a Combination Product, one valued at 30 percent of the average price of the COVID Products, and one valued at 50 percent of the average price of the COVID Products, A/B equals $2/2.8$, and Net Sales are multiplied by 0.71. The Parties will agree on the respective values in the JSC. If the JSC is unable to agree on the respective values within [*****] of the matter being referred by either Party to the JSC, either Party may refer the matter for resolution in accordance with Section 15.6(viii), provided that the reference to "fair market value" shall be replaced with the value of the respective COVID Product and the relative value of the other product(s) and/or other active pharmaceutical ingredients. Each Party will bear equally the cost of the experts appointed in accordance with Section 15.6(viii).
- (v) The average gross selling price for such other product(s) or active ingredients contained in the Combination Product shall be calculated for each [*****] period by dividing the sales amount by the units of such other product(s), as published by IMS or another mutually agreed independent source. In the initial [*****] period during which a Combination Product is sold, forecasted average gross selling prices shall be used for royalty calculation purposes. Any over or under payment due to a difference between forecasted and actual average gross selling prices shall be paid or credited in the second royalty payment of the following [*****] period. In the following Calendar Year the average gross selling price of the previous year shall apply from the second royalty payment on.

1.157 "New Non-mRNA COVID Product" means any non-mRNA Based vaccine for use in the Field, which falls outside the limitations set out in Section 2.3.1, except those resulting from an Existing COVID Project.

1.158 "NIAID" shall mean the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, an institute of the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

- 1.159 "**Non-Breaching Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.4.
- 1.160 [*****].
- 1.161 "**Option Exercise**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.6.
- 1.162 "**Option Exercise Fee**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.5.
- 1.163 "**Option Exercise Notice**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.3.
- 1.164 "**Option Period**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.2.
- 1.165 "**Other Allowable Expenses**" shall mean shall mean (i) amounts paid to Third Parties [*****] in connection with a product liability claim or other claim, suit, proceeding, litigation or action relating to alleged defects in a COVID Product resulting from the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of such COVID Product, (ii) expenses directly associated with notification, retrieval and return of a COVID Product, destruction of such returned Collaboration Product, replacement of a Collaboration Product and distribution of such replacement COVID Product, incurred with respect to a recall of such COVID Product, but in each of the foregoing cases excluding any such payments, costs and expenses caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of a Party or its Affiliates or Sublicensees, which amounts shall be solely borne by such Party.
- 1.166 "**Party**" shall mean CureVac or GSK (together, "**Parties**").
- 1.167 "**Patent Rights**" shall mean any and all patents and patent applications, including provisional and non-provisional applications, reissues, extensions, substitutions, confirmations, re-registrations, re-examinations, re-validations, patents of addition, supplementary protection certificates or the equivalents thereof, continuations, continuations-in-part and divisionals thereof and all foreign counterparts, and the like of any of the foregoing.
- 1.168 "**Pathogen**" shall mean any infectious disease causing agent such as a virus, bacterium, fungus, protozoan or other type of microorganism.
- 1.169 "**Pathogen Combination Product**" shall mean a CureVac mRNA-Based vaccine that incorporates a mRNA construct that is not identical to the First-Gen mRNA Construct and targets the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen and one or more Collaboration Pathogen(s) (as such term is defined in the 2020 Collaboration Agreement); provided that upon the effective date of Option Exercise a Pathogen Combination Product may also incorporate the First-Gen mRNA Construct.
- 1.170 "**Person**" shall mean an individual, firm, company, corporation, association, trust, estate, state or agency of a state, government or government department or agency, municipal or local authority and any other entity, whether or not incorporated and whether or not having a separate legal personality.
- 1.171 "**Product Adjustment**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.2.2.
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- 1.172 "**Program**" shall mean, on a COVID Product by COVID Product basis, any and all Development activities for such Product, including under the COVID R&D Plan, and all Manufacturing and Commercialization activities conducted in respect of that COVID Product.
- 1.173 "**Program Patent Rights**" shall mean both the CureVac Program Patent Rights and the GSK Program Patent Rights.
- 1.174 "**Project Leaders**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7.1.2.
- 1.175 "**Quality Agreement**" shall mean a quality agreement between CureVac and GSK setting out further administrative, technical and quality provisions regarding the Manufacture and supply of a COVID Product (or intermediary version thereof) for Development or Commercialization purposes, as applicable.
- 1.176 "**Receiving Party**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11.1.
- 1.177 "**Regulatory Approval**" shall mean any and all approvals (including supplements, amendments, pre- and post-approvals, pricing and reimbursement approvals), licenses, registrations or authorizations (including marketing and labeling authorizations) of any national, supra-national, regional, state or local Regulatory Authority, department, bureau, commission, council or other governmental entity, that are necessary for the Development, registration, Manufacture (including formulation), distribution, use, sale, import or export of a COVID Product in a given jurisdiction.
- 1.178 "**Regulatory Authority**" shall mean any competent regulatory or governmental authority which regulates any aspect of the Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization of a COVID Product, including those specifically referred to in this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement.
- 1.179 "**Regulatory Exclusivity**" shall mean, on a country-by-country and COVID Product-by- COVID Product basis, an additional protection, other than patent protection, granted by a Regulatory Authority that confers an exclusive period during which a Party or its Affiliates or Sublicensees have the exclusive right to market or sell a COVID Product in such country through a regulatory exclusivity right (e.g., new use or indication exclusivity, new formulation exclusivity, orphan drug exclusivity, pediatric exclusivity, or any applicable data exclusivity), provided that regulatory exclusivity shall only be deemed to exist in a country if (i) Applicable Laws, and the guidance, policies and practice of the competent Regulatory Authority allow other mRNA-Based products to qualify as generic or biosimilar versions of a COVID Product; and (ii) as a result, absent or after the expiry of the regulatory exclusivity right, such mRNA- Based products can enter the market of the country in question with substantially lower development investment.
- 1.180 "**RNA Printer**" shall mean the automation solution for CureVac's processes of mRNA manufacturing developed by CureVac and Tesla Grohmann Automation Solution GmbH under the Development and Intellectual Property Agreement dated December 22, 2017, including the Know-How licensed from Tesla Grohmann Automation Solution GmbH thereunder.
- 1.181 "**Royalty Term**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.3.2.
- 1.182 "**Sanctions & Trade Controls**" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.8.
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1.183 "SG&A" shall mean following expenses, as determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, consistently applied:

(i) expenses directly allocated to the COVID Product, comprising:

(a) [*****];

(b) [*****]

(c) [*****];

(ii) expenses indirectly allocated to the COVID Product in addition to the above, comprising:

- (a) [*****];
- (b) [*****];
- (c) [*****];
- (d) [*****]
- (e) [*****].

1.184 "SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen" shall mean the virus known as SARS-CoV-2.

1.185 "Second [***] Option"** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.1.

1.186 "Sublicensee" shall mean any Third Party licensee (aside from GSK's Affiliates and any Third Party contractors used by GSK in the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the COVID Products on GSK's behalf), which obtains rights to the CureVac Technology or LNP Technology under a license granted by GSK, its Affiliates or another Sublicensee, in each case in accordance with Section 2.2.

1.187 "Term" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.1.

1.188 "Territory" shall mean the entire world.

1.189 "Third Party" shall mean any Person, other than CureVac or GSK and their respective Affiliates.

1.190 "Third Party Infringement" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.1.1.

1.191 "[***] Purchase Agreement"** shall mean [*****] as amended from time to time.

1.192 "Valid Claim" shall mean either (a) a claim of an issued and unexpired patent within the CureVac Patent Rights or (ii) the LNP Technology which has not been revoked or held permanently unenforceable, unpatentable or invalid by a decision of a court or other governmental agency of competent jurisdiction, unappealable or unappealed within the time allowed for appeal, and which has not been found or admitted to be abandoned, disclaimed, denied, invalid or unenforceable through re-examination, reissue or disclaimer or otherwise, or (b) a claim of a pending patent application within (i) the CureVac Patent Rights or (ii) the LNP Technology which application has not been pending for more than [*****] from the date of its priority filing date and which claim has not been irretrievably revoked, irretrievably cancelled, irretrievably withdrawn, held invalid or abandoned by a patent office, court or other governmental agency of competent jurisdiction in a final and non-appealable judgment (or judgment from which no appeal was taken within the allowable time period), or finally determined to be unallowable in a decision from which an appeal cannot or can no longer be taken. For clarity, a claim of an issued patent that ceased to be a Valid Claim before it issued because it had been pending too long, but subsequently issues and is otherwise described by clause (a), shall again be considered to be a Valid Claim once it issues. The same principle shall apply in similar circumstances such as if, for example (but without limitation), a final rejection of a claim is overcome.

1.193 "VAT and Indirect Taxes" shall mean any value added, sales, purchase, turnover or consumption tax as may be applicable in any relevant jurisdiction, including but not limited to value added tax chargeable under legislation implementing Council Directive 2006/112/EC.

1.194 "WIPO" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 16.5.2.

1.195 Interpretation

In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to:

- (i) a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule is a reference to a paragraph, section, exhibit or schedule to this Agreement;
 - (ii) any document includes a reference to that document (and, where applicable, any of its provisions) as amended, novated, supplemented or replaced from time to time;
 - (iii) a statute or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them;
 - (iv) the singular includes the plural and vice versa, except as it regards the definitions of Party and Parties;
 - (v) "written" and "in writing" include any means of reproducing words, figures or symbols in a tangible and visible form, including acknowledged email or facsimile;
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- (vi) "include", "includes" and "including" means including without limitation, or like expression unless otherwise specified, and "for example", "e.g.", "such as" and similar words or phrases are descriptive, not limiting; and
- (vii) any reference to "demonstrable" costs and expenses means those costs and expenses can be evidenced in writing.

1.196 Condition precedent

The commencement of this Agreement is conditional on all applicable filings having been made under the United States Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 ("**HSR Act**") or the rules and regulations made thereunder and all applicable waiting periods (including any extensions thereof) under that Act or those rules and regulations having expired, lapsed or been terminated as appropriate, in each case in connection with the entry into this Agreement. If both Parties, acting reasonably, each conclude that no filing is required, either Party may waive this condition in whole or in part at any time by notice in writing to the other Party. Each Party must use all reasonable endeavors to procure (so far as it is able to procure) that the condition is fulfilled on or before [*****]. CureVac and GSK shall cooperate with each other and shall (a) promptly prepare and file all necessary documentation and (b) effect all necessary applications, notices, petitions and filings and execute all agreements and documents, in each case, to cause the waiting period under the HSR Act to terminate or expire. If the condition is not fulfilled or waived by the date specified, either Party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement by written notice with immediate effect, and only Sections 1, 11, 16.4, 16.5, 16.11 and 16.12 shall survive termination. Each Party shall be responsible for paying its own costs and expenses (including legal and consultants' fees) incurred in connection with obtaining clearance of the transactions contemplated hereby, and GSK will pay the filing fees incurred in connection with the filings required pursuant to the HSR Act.

2 LICENSES; EXCLUSIVITY.

2.1 License Grants to GSK.

2.1.1 License under CureVac Technology. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the disclosures set forth in paras (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, on a COVID Product- by-COVID Product basis, CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts: (i) a royalty-free, exclusive license to use the CureVac Technology for the Development and Manufacture of COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory; and (ii) an exclusive license to use the CureVac Technology for the Commercialization of COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory, bearing the financial consideration set forth in Article 8, subject to CureVac's rights with respect to the CureVac Territory under Article 6 and the Distribution Agreement. Subject to the disclosures set forth in the Disclosure Letter, the license granted hereunder shall be exclusive as to Third Parties and to CureVac, provided that CureVac retains the right to perform the Development and Manufacturing activities allocated to CureVac under this Agreement.

2.1.2 License under LNP Technology. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 2.1.2**, and subject to paras (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, on a COVID Product-by-COVID Product basis, CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts: (i) a royalty-free, non-exclusive sublicense under the LNP Agreement to use the

LNP Technology for the Development and Manufacture of the COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory; and (ii) a corresponding non-exclusive license to use the LNP Technology for the Commercialization of the COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory, bearing the financial consideration set forth in Article 8, subject to CureVac's rights with respect to the CureVac Territory under Article 6 and the Distribution Agreement ("**LNP License**"). Subject to the disclosures as set forth in the Disclosure Letter, CureVac shall not (i) grant a sublicense to any Third Party under the LNP Technology for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory, and (ii) itself carry out any activities under the LNP Technology for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of COVID Products for use in the Field in the Territory other than under this Agreement. Within [*****] following the Closing Date, the Parties will agree on a redacted copy of this Agreement (excluding any commercially confidential information) that CureVac can provide to the LNP Provider in accordance with its obligations under the LNP Agreement.

2.2 Sublicenses.

2.2.1 Right to Sublicense. GSK shall have the right to sublicense its rights under Article 2 to any of its Affiliates. GSK's right to sublicense any of its Development rights or any of its Manufacturing rights for Development purposes (subject to Section 5.2.1) under Section 2.1.1, or any of its rights to the LNP Technology under Section 2.1.2 to any other Third Party shall be subject to CureVac's prior written consent which CureVac may grant or withhold in its sole discretion. GSK's right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) any of its Manufacturing rights for commercial purposes (subject to Section 5.2.1) and/or Commercialization rights under Section 2.1.1 to a Third Party shall be subject to CureVac's prior written consent which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. For the avoidance of doubt, this Section 2.2.1 shall not restrict GSK or any of its Affiliates to subcontract any of its Development or Manufacturing activities to a CRO, CMO or other service provider of GSK or its Affiliate, subject to Article 5.

2.2.2 Sublicensing Requirements. The right to sublicense to a Third Party is subject to a written sublicense agreement containing terms and conditions that are consistent with those contained in this Agreement, and shall include, *inter alia*, provisions regarding confidentiality, non-compete, indemnification, audit, record-keeping, termination and consequences of termination that are consistent with the corresponding terms and conditions provided herein. GSK shall remain liable to CureVac for all obligations under this Agreement, including all payment obligations, and shall send to CureVac a copy of the signed sublicensing agreement within [*****] after its execution, subject to the reasonable redaction of confidential information. CureVac acknowledges that all information provided to CureVac by GSK under this Section 2.2.2 shall be deemed Confidential Information of GSK and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of Section 11.

2.3 Pathogen Exclusivity.

2.3.1 GSK. GSK shall work exclusively with CureVac on the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of mRNA-Based vaccine and mRNA-Based antibody products targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, and GSK shall not, and shall procure that its Affiliates and Sublicensees holding rights to the CureVac Technology in the Field and in the Territory will not, develop, manufacture or commercialize, solely or with a Third Party, any mRNA-Based vaccine or

mRNA-Based antibodies targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen other than a COVID Product Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement. This Section 2.3.1 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to activities of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of GSK solely as a result of a Change of Control in GSK, provided that such activities are performed without using the mRNA technology described in the Know-How, or within the scope of the specification of the Patents Rights, Controlled by GSK (excluding, for clarity any CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights). Notwithstanding the foregoing, GSK shall be permitted to perform Development and Manufacturing activities with respect to any mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibodies targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, using the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein as an Antigen, up to (and including) [*****], provided that GSK shall not be permitted to Commercialize any mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibodies targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, or to grant any Third Party a license to Commercialize any mRNA- Based vaccine targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen.

2.3.2 CureVac. Subject to CureVac's obligations as set forth in paras (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, CureVac shall work exclusively with GSK on the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of mRNA-Based vaccine and mRNA-Based antibody products targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, and CureVac shall not, and shall procure that its Affiliates will not, develop, manufacture or commercialize, solely or with a Third Party, any mRNA-Based vaccine or mRNA-Based antibody targeting the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen other than: (i) a COVID Product Developed and/or Commercialized under this Agreement, and (ii) the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, subject to Section 3.3.7. This Section 2.3.2 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to activities of any Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac, provided that such activities are performed without using the CureVac mRNA technology described in the CureVac Know-How or within the scope of specification of the CureVac Patent Rights.

2.3.3 Exclusivity Term. The covenants laid down in this Section 2.3 shall apply for a period commencing on the Effective Date until the expiry or termination of this Agreement, provided that if GSK exercises the GSK COVID Cease Option for a COVID Product, the limitations set forth in Section 2.3.2 shall not apply with respect to such COVID Product, and CureVac may Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize such COVID Product (alone or in collaboration with a Third Party).

2.4 Trademarks

2.4.1 Registration. As between the Parties and their Affiliates, GSK shall be solely authorized to determine the brand, trade name, logo and trade dress under which the Finished Products shall be Commercialized in the Territory. GSK shall have the first right, but not the obligation, to prepare, file, prosecute and maintain, at its own expense, any Brand IP for the Finished Products in the Territory; provided, however, that nothing herein shall grant GSK any right to use any trademark Controlled by CureVac and/or CureVac's Affiliates. GSK will own all right, title and interest in and to any such trademark it selects in its own name during and after the Term, subject to the licenses granted to CureVac with respect to the CureVac Territory under Article 6.

2.4.2 Restrictions. Subject to any separate agreement(s) amongst the Parties (or their Affiliates), CureVac shall not, and shall cause their respective Affiliates not to, during the Term: (i) use or

attempt to use any marks, brands or trade dress identical or similar to those covered by the Brand IP of GSK or its Affiliates, except as permitted by this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement; (ii) register or attempt to register or procure the registration anywhere in the world of any mark as a trademark for any goods or services or as a domain name that is same as or confusingly similar to the Brand IP for the Finished Products; (iii) use any Brand IP for any of the Finished Products in any way which could tend to allow it to become generic, to lose its distinctiveness, to become liable to mislead the public or which would otherwise be detrimental or inconsistent with the good name, goodwill, reputation or image of the Parties; (iv) challenge the ownership of the Brand IP belonging to GSK or its Affiliates except if Brand IP is prosecuted in breach of this Agreement; or (v) register or attempt to register or procure the registration of or use any mark or domain name that incorporates the letters "[*****]" either as a prefix or a suffix for use in connection with a pharmaceutical product. This Section 2.4.2 and the covenants set forth herein shall not apply to a Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliate) that becomes an Affiliate of CureVac solely as a result of a Change of Control in CureVac.

- 2.5 Documents and Declarations.** CureVac shall execute all documents, give all declarations regarding the licenses granted hereunder and reasonably cooperate with GSK to the extent such documents, declarations and/or cooperation are required for the recording or registration of the licenses granted hereunder at the various patent offices in the GSK Territory for the benefit of GSK. GSK shall reimburse CureVac for its reasonable and demonstrable external out of pocket costs associated therewith up to a total amount of EUR 20,000. For clarity, these costs shall be included in the calculation of Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3 (except to the extent relating to a Pathogen Combination Product).
- 2.6 No Implied License.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute the grant of any license or other right to either Party in respect of any technology of the other Party, except as expressly set forth herein, and no license rights shall be created hereunder by implication, estoppel or otherwise. Neither Party shall represent to any Third Party that it enjoys, possesses, or exercises any proprietary or property right or otherwise has any other right, title or interest in the technology of the other Party except for such rights as are expressly set forth herein. Any rights of a Party not expressly granted to the other Party under the provisions of this Agreement shall be retained by such Party.
- 2.7 Existing Agreements and future Government and NGO Contracts.**
- 2.7.1 Existing Agreements.** Prior to the Effective Date, CureVac has entered into: (i) the Government and NGO Contracts listed in **Exhibit 1.111**, and (ii) the [*****] Agreement.
- 2.7.2 GSK Consent for Supply of COVID Vaccine Products under Government and NGO Contracts.** Without prejudice to the rights of CureVac for the CureVac Territory under Article 6 and subject to Section 2.7.4, any supply of Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products under a Government and NGO Contract (including through an amendment of such Government and NGO Contract) is subject to prior approval by decision of the JSC. The allocation of Collaboration COVID Vaccine, and, as of the Option Exercise, the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product, across the GSK Territories and the CureVac Territories shall be conducted in a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory manner, and in accordance with the allocation principles endorsed by the JSC pursuant to Section 5.2.2.
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2.7.3 Assignment and Transfer of Government and NGO Contracts. Upon receipt of the Option Exercise Notice by CureVac, GSK and CureVac will discuss and agree in good faith [*****] (i) on whether and to what extent it is [*****] that certain Government and NGO Contracts will be partially or wholly transferred to GSK, provided that the Parties also agree on a transfer of associated regulatory responsibilities and a supply chain for the relevant COVID Products enabling GSK's fulfilment of such Government and NGO Contracts, and subject to CureVac's rights to Commercialize in the CureVac Territory and consent of the respective Third Party to such assignment and transfer, or (ii) on whether and to what extent it is [*****] that certain Government and NGO Contracts remain with CureVac, and, in that case, on the involvement of GSK in the Manufacturing of the COVID Products (at COGS) and the provision by GSK of regulatory services, pharmacovigilance services, quality and supply chain management services required by CureVac to meet its binding obligations under the Government and NGO Contracts; the Option Exercise being conditioned upon agreement to either (i) or (ii), as further set forth in Section 3.3.6 below. For clarity, if and to the extent GSK supplies COVID Products to CureVac, the COGS for the supply of such COVID Products and the SG&A for providing the services will be included in the calculation of Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3 (except to the extent relating to a Pathogen Combination Product).

2.7.4 Future Government and NGO Contracts.

- (a) Prior to the effective date of Option Exercise, CureVac is free to amend the Government and NGO Contracts with respect to First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, or to enter into further Government and NGO Contracts with respect to the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, but, subject to clause b) below, not with respect to Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products or Pathogen Combination Products, provided that such Government and NGO Contracts may not deprive GSK of its rights in connection with the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products or Pathogen Combination Products under this Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement. CureVac will notify GSK promptly after (and provide a copy of the executed agreement, if necessary in redacted form), execution of any such amended or further Government and NGO Contracts with respect to the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products.

 - (b) [*****].
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- (c) If the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement is replaced, in accordance with its terms, by an Equivalent Agreement (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) with [*****], references in this Agreement to the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall include that (or those) replacement agreement(s) with the [*****] (and with [*****] to the extent entered into pursuant to the agreement with [*****]) and references in this Agreement to the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement shall include that (or those) replacement agreement(s) between the Parties relating to the aforesaid replacement agreement(s).

2.8 In-Licensing Agreements.

- 2.8.1 Future In-Licensed IP.** If during the Term, CureVac obtains or intends to obtain, other than by way of a Change of Control, a sublicensable license to any Patent Rights or Know-How Controlled by a Third Party that is useful for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of COVID Products under this Agreement, but which is not necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of the CureVac Elements, for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of COVID Products under this Agreement ("**In-Licensed IP**"), which may include Third Party Patent Rights or Third Party Know-How regarding Modified MRNA, CureVac shall (i) notify GSK of the rights that CureVac has obtained or intends to obtain with respect to such In-Licensed IP, (ii) use commercially reasonable endeavors to obtain the right to sub-license those Patent Rights or Know-How, and
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(iii) notify GSK of the applicable financial terms, which shall be non-discriminatory (as between GSK and any other sublicensee of CureVac). Without limiting Section 7.3, and subject to a decision of the JSC to include any technology covered by In-Licensed IP in a COVID Product, (i) such In-Licensed IP is and shall be automatically included in the definition of CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights, as applicable, and be licensed to GSK under Section 2.1, and (ii) as a sublicensee of CureVac, GSK will meet all obligations of CureVac that are applicable to GSK's activities as a sub-licensee (to the extent notified by CureVac to GSK in advance in writing); and (iii) with respect to COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products) the costs under such In-Licensing Agreement will be included in the calculation of the Net Profit split in accordance with Section 8.2.3, and with respect to Pathogen Combination Products, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for additional amounts payable by CureVac under such license to such Third Party to the extent directly arising as a result of (x) the grant of such sublicense to GSK or (y) the use of the In-Licensed IP by the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of COVID Products by GSK, its Affiliates, and Sublicensees.

2.8.2 Enforcement, Maintenance and Amendment of In-Licensing Agreements. CureVac will reasonably enforce (including in connection with any counterparty's breach of any representations or warranties under the applicable In-Licensing Agreements), or otherwise take the actions necessary to enable GSK to enforce, CureVac's rights, benefits and the obligations of the respective counterparties under the In-Licensing Agreements that may impact the rights, benefits and obligations of GSK hereunder, and will inform GSK of any action it may take under the In-Licensing Agreements to the extent such action may impact GSK's interest under the respective In-Licensing Agreement. CureVac shall: (i) fulfil all of its obligations, including its payment obligations, under the In-Licensing Agreements; and (ii) not take any action or omit to take any action that would materially adversely affect, or would reasonably be expected to materially adversely affect, GSK's rights, benefits and obligations under this Agreement. CureVac shall reasonably notify GSK of any default, termination or amendment of, the In-Licensing Agreements, to the extent such default, termination or amendment may have an impact of GSK.

3 PRODUCT COMPOSITION; EXCLUSIVE OPTION.

3.1 COVID Product Composition. The Parties, through the JSC, will determine the composition of a COVID Product in accordance with Section 3.2.

3.2 Composition Restrictions.

3.2.1 General Restrictions. Each Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product shall use [*****].

3.2.2 Product Adjustments. Any of the following adjustments to a COVID Product (each, a "**Product Adjustment**") requires prior approval of the JSC: (i) any adjustment to the precise dosage and precise approved use of a COVID Product (e.g., for priming or boosting purposes); and (ii) any adjustment of the composition of a COVID Product, including in terms of Antigen(s), its formulation (including LNP or other delivery vehicles such as CVCM), or presentation. For the

avoidance of doubt, the addition of adjuvants is not a Product Adjustment, and requires mutual agreement between the Parties.

3.2.3 Additional Vaccine Targets. In the event that the Parties, through the JSC, agree to include one or more Antigen(s) which are associated with the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen, in addition to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, into the COVID Product pursuant to Section 3.2.2, within [*****] following receipt of the adjustment request, the Antigen List Rep shall perform an Antigen clearance under the LNP Agreement in accordance with the LNP Agreement to inquire whether such Antigen(s) is/are available. Within [*****] upon receipt of the confirmation from the LNP Provider that the additional Antigen(s) is/are available for licensing, CureVac shall secure the LNP License for such additional Antigen(s), make the additional payment for such additional Antigen(s) that is due under the LNP Agreement and the Parties will, as soon as reasonably practicable, work on an amendment to the COVID R&D Plan for the respective COVID Product. Upon amendment of the LNP Agreement to include reference to such additional Antigen(s) in accordance with the terms of the LNP Agreement, such additional Antigen(s) will be automatically included in the license grant under Section 2.1.2 For clarity, these costs shall be included in the calculation of Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3 (except to the extent relating to a Pathogen Combination Product).

3.2.4 Pathogen Combination Products. A decision to change the Development of a stand-alone Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product to a Pathogen Combination Product requires prior approval of the JSC. For clarity, other than in the circumstances set out in Section 15.8(i), any Pathogen Combination Product which targets the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen shall be subject to the terms of this Agreement, not the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.

3.3 Exclusive Option for First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products.

3.3.1 [***] Options.** CureVac and [*****] collaborate with respect to the development, manufacture and supply of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, and CureVac has granted to [*****] two exclusive options under the [*****] Agreement: (i) to negotiate exclusive licenses for the Commercialization of First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products (excluding the First-Gen COVID Booster Vaccines) in certain territories (the "**First [*****] Option**"); and (ii) to negotiate licenses to develop, manufacture and commercialize the First-Gen COVID Booster Vaccines (the "**Second [*****] Option**", together with the First [*****] Option, the "**[*****] Options**"). [*****]:

(a) [*****]

(b) [*****];

[*****].

- 3.3.2 First-Gen Exclusive Option.** Until [*****] ("**Option Period**"), subject to paras (ii) and (iii) of the Disclosure Letter, and the Government and NGO Agreements (to the extent entered into strictly in accordance with Section 2.7.4), CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts, the exclusive option to obtain exclusive licenses under the CureVac Technology to Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize (in addition to the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products and the Pathogen Combination Products) the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products [*****] ("**Exclusive Option**").
- 3.3.3 Option Exercise Notice.** If GSK intends to exercise its Exclusive Option, GSK shall send within the Option Period a written notice to CureVac exercising such Exclusive Option ("**Option Exercise Notice**"). Following receipt of the Option Exercise Notice by CureVac, the Parties shall as soon as reasonably practicable agree a COVID R&D Plan and/or Commercialization plan, as applicable, for the further Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products.
- 3.3.4 Access to Information.** Upon GSK's reasonable request at reasonable intervals during the Option Period, but in any event no more than once every [*****] provided that no restriction shall apply during the [*****] period that ends on the final day of the Option Period, CureVac will disclose to GSK (subject to its confidentiality obligations vis-à-vis Third Parties) all existing agreements and commitments with respect to the development, manufacture and commercialization of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products that would survive the exercise of the Exclusive Option by GSK, as well as all data, documents and information reasonably required by GSK to assess whether it wishes to exercise its Exclusive Option, as well as CureVac's then-current calculation of the Option Exercise Fee.
- 3.3.5 Option Exercise Fee.** If GSK exercises its Exclusive Option, GSK shall pay to CureVac a fee equal to [*****] of: (i) all reasonable and demonstrable: (A) costs and expenses of scientific, medical, technical personnel directly engaged in development (including regulatory) activities (which costs shall be determined based on the applicable FTE Rate), and (B) out-of-pocket expenses and other costs and expenses paid to Third Parties for the development (including regulatory activities) of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, in each case which were incurred or forecast to be incurred before the effective date of Option Exercise in accordance with Section 3.3.6, including for pre-clinical research and development activities to design and develop the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, the CMC Development, the performance of Clinical Studies, the manufacture of clinical study material, safety monitoring, regulatory filing and regulatory approvals, and all support services relating hereto; [*****], and in each case which were incurred or forecast to be incurred before the effective date of Option Exercise in
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accordance with Section 3.3.6; and (iii) any amounts paid to Third Parties under In-Licensing Agreements for the development of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products (whether as upfront payments, milestone payments, royalties or any other form of payment) were incurred or forecast to be incurred before the effective date of Option Exercise in accordance with Section 3.3.6 (the "**Option Exercise Fee**"). There shall be no double counting of any amounts to be paid by GSK to CureVac pursuant to this Section 3.3.5. For purposes of this Section 3.3.5, and to the extent allowed for under the applicable funding agreement, development costs shall be net of any subsidies, grants or other non-refundable external Third Party funding received by CureVac for the development or manufacture of the CureVac First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, provided that such subsidies, grants or other non-refundable external Third Party funding: (i) would not be repayable or forfeited by CureVac under the terms of the relevant funding agreement as a result of being applied to the calculation of Net Profit under this Agreement, and (ii) are not made as a pre-payment of consideration for the future supply of vaccines. The Parties agree that the payments received by CureVac under the [*****] Agreement and the [*****] Agreement are made as a pre-payment of consideration for the future supply of vaccines under the [*****] Agreement and [*****] Agreement, as applicable, and shall therefore not be considered for the calculation of the Option Exercise Fee. CureVac shall notify GSK of any subsidies, grants or other non-refundable external Third Party funding that are eligible to be credited against the development costs of First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products under this Section 3.3.5. For clarity, the costs for the development of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products shall not include the costs for constructing and upscaling Manufacturing facilities to Manufacture the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products. The Option Exercise Fee is to be paid by GSK to CureVac within [*****] days after receipt of an invoice from CureVac, with supportive documentation reasonably detailing the development (including regulatory) costs and expenses incurred by CureVac. For clarity, each of (i) the Option Exercise Fee and (ii) any repayment by CureVac of any pre-payment or consideration retained by CureVac for the future supply of vaccines in accordance with this Section 3.3.5 shall not be included in the calculation of Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3. In addition to the Option Exercise Fee, GSK shall bear up-front all costs for [*****] provided that these costs shall be included in the calculation of Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3 (except to the extent relating to a Pathogen Combination Product).

3.3.6 Option Exercise. Upon (i) receipt of an Option Exercise Notice by CureVac; (ii) full payment of the Option Exercise Fee due from GSK to CureVac; (iii) the Parties having agreed a COVID R&D Plan and/or Commercialization plan (as applicable) to further Develop, Manufacture and Commercialize the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products for which the Option was exercised; and (iv) the Parties having agreed in relation to each Government and NGO Contract on (x) either the whole or partial transfer of that Government and NGO Contract from CureVac to GSK, or (y) the retention of that Government and NGO Contract by CureVac, each in accordance with Section 2.7.2, the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products shall become COVID Products from (A) [*****] or (B) [*****] ("**Option Exercise**"). Upon the effective date of Option Exercise,

and unless set forth otherwise, such First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product shall become a COVID Product under this Agreement and all terms and conditions relevant for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products shall apply to the respective First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products including licenses, sharing of Development Costs, profit sharing arrangement and royalties (but only in relation to the period after the effective date of Option Exercise).

3.3.7 Exclusivity during Option Period. During the Option Period, subject to the [*****] Agreement, and CureVac's right to enter into further Government and NGO Contracts regarding the development, manufacturing and/or supply of First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products in accordance with Section 2.7.4, CureVac shall not grant any rights to a Third Party for the commercialization of First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products in the Field without GSK's express, written waiver of its rights under the Exclusive Option, which GSK may grant or withhold in its sole discretion. As between the Parties, if GSK does not exercise its Exclusive Option within the Option Period, CureVac shall have no further obligations towards GSK regarding the licensing of any rights for Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, and shall be free to develop, manufacture and commercialize the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products solely or in collaboration with Third Parties.

3.3.8 Provision of Services instead of Option Exercise. In case GSK does not exercise its Exclusive Option, upon the request of CureVac, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a service agreement under which GSK will provide to CureVac the services previously provided by Bayer under [*****].

4 DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION.

4.1 COVID R&D Plan. The Parties shall collaborate on the further Development of the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products, and will agree on R&D plans for each Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product (each such plan, a "**COVID R&D Plan**"). The initial COVID R&D Plan for two versions of the first Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product, and a supplementary plan for a Modified mRNA Pathogen Combination Product, is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4.1**, and may be amended from time to time by the JSC in accordance with this Agreement. Each Party shall conduct all activities as outlined in the COVID R&D Plan (as amended from time to time) as part of its ordinary course of business, and the other Party shall support the conduct of those activities, in each case in accordance with this Agreement.

4.2 Development Data, results and records. As provided for in a COVID R&D Plan, at least, however, on a monthly basis, the Parties will make available to one another through formal reports for review and discussion within the JSC all Development Data and other results of the Development conducted hereunder, and will keep such records (paper and electronic) as described herein. The Parties will maintain records of the Development Data and other results in sufficient detail as required by Regulatory Authorities and in good scientific manner appropriate for patent purposes, and in a manner that properly reflects all work done and results achieved in the performance of such Development.

4.3 Sharing of Development Costs for COVID Products. Subject to satisfaction of the condition set out in Section 1.196, the Parties shall from the Effective Date (or, in relation to the First- Gen COVID Vaccine Product, from the effective date of Option Exercise) equally share (50%/50%):

[*****].

- 4.4 Development Funding for Pathogen Combination Products.** GSK shall, subject to the remainder of this Section 4.4, compensate CureVac for the Development Costs CureVac incurs in performing the Development activities for a Pathogen Combination Product (with FTE calculated at the FTE Rate), where applicable in accordance with the budget and assumptions as agreed under that COVID R&D Plan.
- 4.5 All Development Costs.** The Parties shall in good faith consider means of gaining efficiencies in the performance of the COVID R&D Plan(s) that have a positive impact on the associated budget, and in connection with incurring any other Development Costs, such as outsourcing of certain research activities to a subcontractor, provided these will not adversely impact the timeline for completion of Development activities. The Parties shall account for their respective Development Costs and non-refundable funding on a Calendar Quarterly basis, where applicable with supportive documentation reasonably detailing the composition of the agreed budgeted cost (with FTE calculated at the FTE Rate) for the applicable Calendar Quarter period. The respective undisputed balance to achieve the equal share of Development Costs and non-refundable funding shall be paid within [*****] after receipt of an invoice from the respective Party which is entitled to receive a payment from the other Party (whether under profit-sharing arrangement or otherwise). The Parties shall promptly notify each other as soon as reasonably practicable in the event that either Party becomes aware that Development Costs are expected to deviate, where applicable, from the amounts approved in the Development budget, as a result of a change to the assumptions under a COVID R&D Plan, whereupon the Parties shall discuss the causes of such deviation and evaluate potential mitigation measures relating thereto,
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and an appropriate adjustment (if any) to the Development budget. The Parties shall refer any Development budget increase amounting to greater than [*****] of the previously approved amount to the JSC for prior approval. Unless such budget increase is approved by the JSC, a Party shall not be liable to bear, as part of the sharing of Development activities where the Development Costs are budgeted under the relevant COVID R&D Plan, any Development Costs incurred by the other Party in excess of [*****] of the amount set out in the agreed Development budget from time to time. The Parties shall not unreasonably withhold their approval in the JSC to any budget increase which is reasonably required as a result of the change to a budgeting assumption set out in a COVID R&D Plan. CureVac's share in Development Costs to be refunded under Section 4.3 shall in no event exceed an amount of [*****], and any Development Costs to be refunded under Section 4.3 which exceed such amount shall be offset against up to [*****] of the Net Profit share payment to be made by GSK to CureVac for the Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products under Section 8.2 below.

4.6 Materials. CureVac will provide GSK with any CureVac Materials required for the Development under the COVID R&D Plan, including those which comprise, embody or incorporate CureVac Background Technology. Without limiting the foregoing, this shall be carried out in accordance with the respective COVID R&D Plan. GSK will provide CureVac with any GSK Materials required for the Development under the COVID R&D Plan, including those which comprise, embody or incorporate GSK Background Technology. Without limiting the foregoing, this shall be carried out in accordance with the COVID R&D Plan. GSK will use the CureVac Materials and CureVac will use the GSK Materials, as applicable: (i) only in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement; (ii) not in human subjects, in clinical trials, or for diagnostic purposes involving human subjects, or for any animal studies, except as expressly provided for in the COVID R&D Plan; and (iii) not reverse engineer or chemically analyze the same except as expressly provided for (if at all) in the COVID R&D Plan. The Materials will remain the sole property of the Party supplying them and will be used by the recipient Party in compliance with all Applicable Laws and only to perform activities set forth in the COVID R&D Plan. The receiving Party shall not sell, transfer, disclose or otherwise provide access to the other Party's Materials without the written consent of the providing Party, except that the receiving Party may allow access to the other Party's Materials to its and its Affiliates' employees, officers, consultants, subcontractors and Sublicensees who require such access to perform its activities under this Agreement and solely for purposes consistent with this Agreement; provided that such employees, officers, consultants, subcontractors and Sublicensees are bound by agreement to retain and use the Materials in a manner that is consistent with the terms of this Agreement. The Materials are provided "as is". Except as expressly set out in this Agreement, no representations or warranties, express or implied, of any kind, are given by the providing Party with respect to any of the Materials including their condition, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The receiving Party acknowledges the experimental nature of the Materials and that accordingly, not all characteristics of the Materials are necessarily known. Upon termination or expiry of this Agreement if earlier, any and all remaining Materials will, within [*****] after such event, be returned to the Party supplying them (or destroyed, if the supplying Party shall so specify, with such destruction confirmed in writing). The provision of Materials hereunder will not constitute any grant, option or license to or under such Materials, or any Patent Rights or Know-how of the supplying Party, except as expressly set forth herein.

4.7 Know-How Transfer. As and when required in relation to a COVID R&D Plan (and from time to time during the Term if new Know-How within the CureVac Know-How comes to be Controlled by CureVac) or as soon as reasonably practicable upon GSK's request, CureVac shall disclose and/or deliver to GSK copies of all Development Data and the CureVac Know-How that is reasonably required for GSK's Development activities in accordance with the COVID R&D Plan (including for regulatory purposes) ("**Development Transfer Materials**"), with the exception, however, of all Know-How comprised in the CureVac Manufacturing Technology which shall be made available to GSK or its designee as set forth in Section 5.2.1. The technology transfer to be undertaken under this Section 4.7 shall be overseen by the Joint Steering Committee. Any transfer of Know-How pursuant to this Section 4.7 shall be carried out on the basis of a specific technology transfer plan determined in good faith by the Parties and reflected in a technology transfer addendum to this Agreement, detailing at least the following activities together with appropriate timelines: (i) the provision by CureVac of soft copies and, to the extent reasonably required by GSK, hard copies of all Development Transfer Materials; (ii) the procurement by CureVac of the services of such qualified and experienced scientists and technicians, production and quality assurance personnel, engineers, and quality checking personnel as may be reasonably necessary to support the transfer of the Development Transfer Materials. Until completion of the transfer of the Development Transfer Materials, CureVac shall build and maintain a secure, readable, accessible and complete repository of the Development Transfer Materials.

4.8 Regulatory Approvals of COVID Products.

4.8.1 Regulatory Filing for the COVID Products. GSK shall prepare and file all INDs and all new drug applications (or equivalents) for the COVID Products and shall own all Regulatory Approvals and be responsible for all decisions in connection with the Regulatory Approvals for COVID Products in the Field and in the Territory, subject to GSK's diligence obligations under Section 4.10. With regard to CMC Development and Manufacturing, CureVac shall contribute the necessary sections for such filings. CureVac shall have the right to review and comment on all such filings and safety related documents, and GSK shall be entitled to demand feedback within a reasonably short period. GSK will share with CureVac any regulatory filings before submission. CureVac shall cooperate in, and provide reasonable assistance to support, these efforts as reasonably requested by GSK. GSK shall provide CureVac with a final copy of each filing.

4.8.2 Transfer of Regulatory Approvals for the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products. Upon the effective date of Option Exercise, CureVac shall (or shall cause the Affiliate or Third Party holding the Regulatory Approvals to) assign and transfer to GSK the Regulatory Approvals granted for the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, subject to GSK's diligence obligations under Section 4.10 and the rights granted to CureVac with respect to the Regulatory Approvals relevant for the CureVac Territory under Article 6 and the respective Distribution Agreement. Any costs incurred in connection with this transfer shall be borne by the Parties in equal shares as part of the Development Costs in accordance with Section 4.3.

4.8.3 Communications. Subject to Sections 4.8.1 and 4.8.6, and subject to the rights and obligations of CureVac under Article 6 and the respective Distribution Agreement with respect to the Regulatory Approvals relevant for the CureVac Territory, GSK shall be responsible for all

regulatory interactions, including written communications and meetings with Regulatory Authorities, and safety management, including the reporting to the appropriate governmental authorities of all adverse events and any other information concerning the safety of COVID Products. GSK will, as part of its regular updates through the JSC, inform CureVac in writing of any material feedback from Regulatory Authorities relating to any COVID Product. Furthermore, GSK will provide copies of all Regulatory Approvals and material correspondence with Regulatory Authorities in the Major Markets relating to the Clinical Studies with respect to all COVID Products to CureVac. Where permitted by Applicable Laws, CureVac shall have the right to participate as a silent observer in a meeting with Regulatory Authorities.

- 4.8.4 Sharing of information.** CureVac will reasonably support GSK, at GSK's request at reasonable intervals (considering CureVac's limited personnel resources), on all regulatory matters with respect to the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Products, including by providing data and documents as reasonably required for obtaining Regulatory Approvals and for interactions with Regulatory Authorities regarding the COVID Products, provided that such documents and data will remain the property and Confidential Information of CureVac, and GSK will only use such documents and data in accordance with Section 4.8.5 and Article 11. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, CureVac shall provide to GSK: [*****].
- 4.8.5 Cross-referencing.** To the extent required by GSK, or an Affiliate or Sublicensee of GSK to the COVID Products, CureVac hereby authorizes GSK, its Affiliates and Sublicensees to cross-reference to the sections of the dossiers of any Regulatory Approval of the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product for COVID Products and products developed under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement. GSK hereby authorizes CureVac, its Affiliates and licensees to cross-reference to the dossiers of the Regulatory Approvals of COVID Products for other CureVac mRNA-Based products. Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing prior to any such cross-referencing.
- 4.8.6 Pharmacovigilance.** The Parties shall have in place and will maintain during the Term (or, as applicable, until the obligations intended to survive termination of this Agreement have been fulfilled) systems, procedures, training programs and documentation needed to perform and comply with their pharmacovigilance regulatory obligations, and each Party shall promptly notify the other Party of any safety issues that may arise and that need to be reported under Applicable Laws. Each Party will ensure that it complies with all Applicable Laws regarding the
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COVID Products relating to risk management, drug safety and pharmacovigilance. The Parties shall negotiate in good faith and conclude a pharmacovigilance agreement within [*****] after the Effective Date. As part of such pharmacovigilance agreement, a joint safety team ("JST") shall be established by the Parties before Initiation of the first Clinical Study, with representatives of each Party, and the Parties shall develop a JST charter ("**JST Charter**"). The JST composition will be established as per the JST Charter. The JST Charter will define roles and responsibilities with regards to data compilation and review in order to ensure that JST is able to conduct proper activities and make/provide appropriate recommendations/input, which may include access to safety data (including safety data from post-marketing surveillance activities) relating to COVID Products and First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products, to allow the JST to ensure adequate safety reviews.

- 4.9 CureVac Development Diligence.** Subject to GSK complying with its obligations under this Agreement, CureVac will conduct all Development activities assigned to it in a COVID R&D Plan in a timely manner and in accordance with the respective COVID R&D Plan, and obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources as are reasonable and adequate to complete such COVID R&D Plan.
- 4.10 GSK Development and Regulatory Diligence.** Subject to CureVac complying with its obligations under this Agreement, GSK will:
- (i) conduct all Development activities assigned to it in the COVID R&D Plan(s), progress the COVID Products into the next appropriate Clinical Study, and obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources as reasonably required to complete the COVID R&D Plan(s); and
 - (ii) use its Diligent Efforts to secure biologics licensure by the FDA and marketing authorization by EMA following completion of all appropriate Clinical Studies.
- 4.11 Use of GSK Technology.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, GSK hereby grants to CureVac, and CureVac accepts, a royalty-free, non-exclusive, license (with the right to sub-license in accordance with Section 4.12) to use the GSK Technology for performing the Development and Manufacturing activities allocated to CureVac under this Agreement (and, subject to the terms of each Ancillary Agreement, under the Ancillary Agreements).
- 4.12 Right to Sublicense.** CureVac shall have the right to sublicense its rights under Section 4.11 to any of its Affiliates, but not to any Third Party, subject only to the right to subcontract as set forth under Section 4.13 below.
- 4.13 Subcontracts.** Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and as further defined in the COVID R&D Plan, the Parties may subcontract to Affiliates and Third Parties, including CROs and CMOs, certain activities to be performed. Any subcontractor shall be required to enter into appropriate agreements with respect to non-disclosure of Confidential Information and ownership of any intellectual property developed in the course of subcontracted activities, unless such subcontracting would not require the transfer of the other Party's Confidential Information to the Affiliate or Third Party subcontractor and there is no reasonable possibility of the creation
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of new intellectual property. Each Party shall promptly inform the other Party in writing of any subcontracting of activities under this Agreement providing the name of the subcontractor and the activities to be performed by such subcontractor, and shall remain liable to the other Party for any act or omission of its subcontractor.

5 MANUFACTURING AND COMMERCIALIZATION.

5.1 Clinical Supply.

Within the JSC the Parties shall decide whether CureVac should ensure Manufacture and supply to GSK of doses of COVID Products required for use by GSK in accordance with this Agreement for the Clinical Studies or whether GSK, or a CMO appointed by GSK (and approved by CureVac), in lieu of CureVac should Manufacture clinical materials following a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, or whether and how the Manufacturing capability of both Parties should be combined, such decision to be based on the respective Manufacturing capacities available as declared by the respective Party, the context of the respective clinical trial material portfolios and batches across all projects, and to be aligned with the Parties' intention to ensure the Manufacture of Drug Product conforming to the required quality standards, the agreed specifications and the estimated timelines for Development of COVID Products defined in the COVID R&D Plan, and that supports the competitiveness of the COVID Products. Where the COVID Product for use in Clinical Studies is Manufactured by CureVac, its Affiliates and/or any CMO appointed by CureVac, one or more clinical supply agreement(s) and associated clinical Quality Agreement(s) will be negotiated and agreed between GSK and either or both CureVac, the CureVac Affiliate and/or CMO appointed by CureVac supplying the COVID Products to GSK, and in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 5.1 ("Clinical Supply Agreement")**. To the extent CureVac or its Affiliates Manufacture clinical trial material, CureVac and its Affiliates will reserve the required capacity for the Manufacture of COVID Products for clinical supply in its GMP Manufacturing Facilities in accordance with the forecasts given under the supply agreement(s). In the event of a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology for clinical supply under this Section 5.1 (excluding the transfer to [*****) in accordance with Section 5.4), such transfer shall only be made to GSK, and only to one site at GSK designated by GSK and approved by CureVac (which approval is hereby already given if GSK designates its vaccines manufacturing site in [*****)], and GSK shall have no right to subsequently transfer the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to another GSK site or a Third Party without the prior written consent of CureVac. Unless otherwise provided herein, Section 5.4 below shall apply mutatis mutandis.

5.2 Commercial Supply.

5.2.1 Subject to Section 5.2.3, the Parties will determine a Manufacturing and supply strategy that for each COVID Product creates an efficient and reliable Manufacturing network and supply chain, so that the COVID Products are Manufactured in accordance with the Regulatory Approvals, GMP and Applicable Laws at sufficient volumes in light of the potential demand for such COVID Product. GSK shall have the right to perform prior due diligence on all elements of a proposed Manufacturing network and supply chain, including subjecting CureVac and any CMOs within the overall Manufacturing network of CureVac (subject to the CMOs' consent and at the sole cost of GSK), and the respective Manufacturing facilities, to an audit to verify the ability to Manufacture sufficient volume of the COVID Products in accordance with the

Regulatory Approvals, GMP and Applicable Laws, which audit shall be conducted in accordance with Section 12.12. After having completed such due diligence and audits, GSK shall have the final decision regarding the Manufacturing and supply chain strategy and the composition of the supply chain for a given COVID Product, including to select the facilities within the CureVac Manufacturing network (and that of its CMOs) to supply the COVID Products, or to let GSK, its Affiliate, or another CMO (approved by CureVac), Manufacture the COVID Products (or a part thereof) pursuant to a transfer of the Manufacturing of the COVID Product (or a part thereof) in accordance with Section 5.4, as well as regarding subsequent changes to Manufacturing and supply chain strategy; provided, however, that any such decision must not jeopardize CureVac's and/or GSK's performance of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.

5.2.2 Subject to Section 5.2.3, once a Manufacturing and supply strategy for a given COVID Product has been determined as set forth in Section 5.2.1, GSK and CureVac will implement such strategy and will where applicable (i) negotiate and agree in good faith on a Commercial Supply Agreement in respect of that COVID Product, including a Quality Agreement, according to which CureVac or its Affiliates will Manufacture supply to GSK the respective COVID Product at COGS in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in **Exhibit 5.2** or, (ii) if the COVID Product in question is Manufactured in part or in full by a CMO within CureVac's Manufacturing network, GSK and CureVac will reasonably facilitate the execution of a bilateral commercial supply agreement between GSK and that CMO in respect of the Manufacture and supply by that CMO of such COVID Product (each, a "**Commercial Supply Agreement**"). As part of the Manufacturing and supply chain strategy, where CureVac's Manufacturing network is relied upon, the Parties will discuss and determine: (x) the reservation of Manufacturing capacity in CureVac's network, and if the Parties approve such reservation, CureVac (or GSK, as of such time as GSK has entered into Commercial Supply Agreements with the CMOs in accordance with Section 5.2.1) will reserve the approved capacity in CureVac's network, and (y) how to implement such Manufacturing and supply chain strategy, including how to manage critical raw materials, in a way that is fair and reasonable and takes into account potential impacts on cash flow and working capital. The Manufacturing sub-committee for discussing COVID Product related Manufacturing and supply will meet within not more than [*****] of the Effective Date to determine as soon as practicable, for the COVID Products to be Manufactured in [*****], the Manufacturing capacity to be reserved in CureVac's network, and the type and amount of critical raw materials to be sourced in accordance with the preceding sentence. Each Party shall, and shall procure that its Affiliates shall, act reasonably and in good faith when entering into or accepting any new agreements or commitments for the supply of COVID Products, and in the case of CureVac, the supply of First-Gen COVID Product, taking into account its commitments towards the other Party under, in the case of CureVac, the Commercial Supply Agreements, or, in the case of GSK, the Distribution Agreement, and its expected manufacturing capacity. The Parties acknowledge that the manufacturing capacity available for the Collaboration COVID Vaccine in CureVac's Manufacturing network (including its CMO) for the calendar year of [*****] is estimated by CureVac at the Effective Date at a maximum of [*****], however the Parties will in good faith and in a timely manner consider means of increasing such capacity if required to meet expected demand. As part of the aforementioned Manufacturing and supply chain strategy, the Parties shall determine forecasting and allocation binding principles, to be endorsed by the JSC, for use by the Parties when a constraint on the availability of raw materials, components, ingredients, or other materials, or of manufacturing capacity (including by an unforeseen reduction of yield or loss of Manufacturing

slots), makes it impossible to fulfil all valid and legitimate forecasts and orders of Collaboration COVID Products (across the GSK Territory and the CureVac Territory) and the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product, so that any allocation of available resources is carried out in a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory manner.

5.2.3 The COVID Products sold and supplied to [*****] under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement shall be Manufactured by CureVac and GSK under this Agreement in accordance with the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Plan and the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.

5.3 **QP Release.** GSK, as holder of the Regulatory Approvals of the COVID Products, shall be responsible for the certification by a qualified person and release of Manufactured batches of COVID Products in accordance with GMP, that are distributed under such Regulatory Approval (whether for Development or Commercialization purposes), and the Quality Agreements shall reflect the same.

5.4 **Manufacture by GSK.**

5.4.1 Upon the request of GSK, CureVac shall transfer all Know-How comprised in the CureVac Manufacturing Technology ("**Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials**") to GSK, an Affiliate of GSK or a CMO designated by GSK and approved by CureVac (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, and not to be withheld when the transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology is required to enable the Commercialization of a Product in a market where localized manufacturing is necessary in light of the characteristics of such market, or requested by a government in such market), as applicable, so that GSK itself, the Affiliate of GSK or the appointed Third Party CMO (approved by CureVac), as applicable, can take over the Manufacture of COVID Products for GSK (of Finished Product, Filled Containers or Drug Product and Drug Substance, or a combination thereof); provided, however, that (i) any such request must not jeopardize the Parties' obligations under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement unless otherwise agreed with [*****], in particular to the extent that the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement requires that the Manufacture of COVID Products is performed in specific facilities, in a specific territory or by a specific CMO, and (ii) [*****] – provided that a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to enable the Manufacturing of COVID Products for use in Clinical Studies shall not prohibit a later transfer of the Manufacturing process for commercial Manufacturing. GSK shall use reasonable efforts to mitigate the requirement for repeating the transfer of any CureVac Manufacturing Technology for commercial Manufacturing that has been successfully transferred to GSK or a Third Party CMO on a previous occasion for clinical Manufacturing. CureVac hereby acknowledges that GSK has designated, and CureVac has approved, [*****] as a CMO as at the COVID Third Amendment Effective Date, and CureVac will perform a transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to the [*****] Facility in accordance with the 2020 Collaboration Agreement. In the event of a technology transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, the JSC shall establish a Manufacturing tech-transfer sub-committee ("**Manufacturing Sub-Committee**"), which shall agree, manage and oversee the

Manufacturing technology transfer. Any transfer of Know-How pursuant to this Section 5.4 shall be carried on the basis of a specific technology transfer plan determined in good faith by the Parties and reflected in a technology transfer addendum to this Agreement, detailing at least the following activities together with appropriate timelines: (i) the provision by CureVac of soft copies and, to the extent reasonably required by GSK, hard copies of all Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials; (ii) if and to the extent reasonably required, the procurement by CureVac of the services of such qualified and experienced scientists, production and quality assurance personnel, engineers, and quality checking personnel as may be reasonably necessary to support the transfer of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials; and (iii) if and to the extent reasonably required by GSK, the provision by CureVac to the personnel of GSK or its Affiliate with reasonable access to its facilities to observe the Manufacture at such times as the Parties may agree; provided such access shall be coordinated in a manner to minimize the disruption of CureVac's activities and considering CureVac's limited personnel resources, and CureVac may require any personnel of a Third Party with access to its facilities to sign a confidentiality agreement and to abide by the rules and guidelines applicable to the CureVac facility. Until the completion of the transfer of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials, CureVac shall build and maintain a secure, readable, accessible and complete repository of the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials. For the avoidance of doubt, following such transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology, GSK, or the Affiliate or CMO of GSK to which the CureVac Manufacturing Technology has been transferred, shall have no right to subsequently transfer the CureVac Manufacturing Technology to another site of GSK, or another site of such Affiliate or CMO, as applicable, or to any Third Party without the prior written consent of CureVac.

- 5.4.2** GSK will bear all costs and expenses for the technology transfer contemplated under this Section 5.4 (including any work of the FTEs at the FTE Rate), any payments due under a CMO agreement as a result of the technology transfer to GSK (including reservation fees, cancellation costs or any kind of termination costs resulting from the fact that the COVID Product in question is no longer Manufactured at the site in question) and any increase in COGS (if any), i.e., such costs will not be split as part of the profit split, other than in the case where (i) GSK terminates this Agreement on the basis of CureVac's material breach or otherwise for cause and GSK exercises the GSK Continue Option; or (ii) the transfer of the CureVac Manufacturing Technology is to an Affiliate of GSK or a CMO in a given market where localized Manufacturing is necessary in light of the characteristics of such market, or requested by a government in such market (in which case the cost will be shared between the Parties). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the transfer of CureVac Manufacturing Technology to [*****] at the [*****] Facility will be compensated solely under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.
- 5.4.3** CureVac may also request that GSK Manufactures Finished Product, Filled Containers and/or Drug Product and Drug Substance, whether for Development or for Commercial supply. The Parties shall discuss such matter in good faith, but the final decision shall be with GSK. Any relevant Clinical Supply Agreement, Commercial Supply Agreement or Quality Agreement shall be adapted (or terminated) as appropriate in light of the in-transfer by GSK (or a GSK-designated) CMO of the Manufacturing of COVID Products.
- 5.4.4** For the avoidance of doubt, GSK may use the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials solely for (a) the Manufacture of COVID Products under this Agreement and (b) for the
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manufacture of products under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, or otherwise in accordance with and to the extent permitted by this Agreement or the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, as applicable.

5.4.5 In case GSK manufactures an mRNA-Based product, GSK shall, at the request of CureVac, provide evidence to an independent expert agreed by the Parties in good faith proving that GSK is not using the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials for the manufacture of such mRNA-Based product. Unless the expert finds that GSK has used the Manufacturing Technology Transfer Materials for a purpose not permitted under this Agreement, CureVac shall be responsible for the expense of retaining the independent expert. This obligation shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement.

5.4.6 Intellectual Property Matters and Operational Cooperation with CMOs appointed by GSK. Upon a technology transfer under this Article 5, including the transfer to [*****] at the [*****] Facility:

- (i) in the case of any transfer to a CMO of GSK (approved by CureVac), and without limiting Section 4.13 and Section 9.6, GSK shall enter into an agreement with that CMO, pursuant to which (A) the CMO is required to disclose to GSK (to enable GSK to disclose to CureVac in accordance with Section 9.2) any improvements, modifications or other changes of the Manufacturing process, and promptly to make available to GSK (to enable GSK to make available to CureVac) any other all Know-How, including data and documentation, required to apply such improvements, modifications or other changes, (B) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to assign to CureVac in accordance with Section 9.5) any CureVac Inventions, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.3.1, (C) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to assign to CureVac in accordance with Section 9.5) its interest in any Joint Technology, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.3.2, (D) the CMO irrevocably assigns to GSK (to enable GSK to license such rights to CureVac) any GSK Inventions with CureVac Contribution (and related Know-How), in any field, to the extent necessary to enable GSK to comply with its obligation under Section 9.4;
 - (ii) the Parties, through the Manufacturing Sub-Committee, will meet for technical reviews to exchange and discuss Manufacturing data obtained by each Party from its (or its CMOs') respective Manufacturing activities (including any equivalent activities under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement) no less than [*****] per Calendar Year, at times to be agreed between the Parties;
 - (iii) the Parties will inform each other, on an ongoing basis, of any improvements, modifications or other changes of the Manufacturing process, and will promptly make available to each other all Know-How, including data and documentation required to apply such improvements, modifications or other changes in their (or their CMO's) respective Manufacturing sites. Furthermore, CureVac shall have the right, and in case GSK uses a CMO (approved by CureVac), GSK shall include such right into the respective agreement between GSK and such CMO, to: (A) receive copies of GMP documentation supporting change notifications with respect to the process, the materials, QC methods, Product specifications and equipment, validation and stability plans and reports, deviations, or out-of-specification investigation which could potentially trigger changes notifications outlined above, (B) receive summaries of reports (or parts thereof) from audits and inspections to the extent such reports (or parts thereof, as applicable) relate to the Manufacture of Products and to the extent such reports (or parts thereof, as
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applicable) are shared with GSK by the respective CMO, and (C) receive copies of regulatory documentation relating to the Manufacturing of Products. CureVac may (acting reasonably) request GSK, and GSK will not unreasonably reject such request, to (x) provide data, information and records specifically relating to the Manufacture of Products, and (y) to participate in technical visits of the CMO site performed by GSK to the extent permitted under the respective CMO agreement.

- (iv) GSK will not prevent CureVac from entering into a manufacturing agreement with [*****] for the manufacture of products at the [*****] Facility by entering into an exclusive manufacturing agreement with [*****] with respect to the [*****] Facility beyond [*****].

5.5 Commercialization of COVID Products; Diligence. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, GSK shall have the rights and the responsibility for the Commercialization of COVID Products in the Field in the GSK Territory. Unless terminated or replaced in accordance with this Agreement, GSK will use Diligent Efforts to Commercialize the COVID Products in the Field in the Major Markets (other than Germany, unless waived by CureVac pursuant to Section 6.1), subject to obtaining Regulatory Approval in the relevant Major Market, and subject to CureVac agreeing to, in the JSC, and supporting the COVID R&D Plans that are necessary for the Regulatory Approval for the marketing of the COVID Products in each Major Market. Without limiting the generality of and conditions for the Diligent Efforts obligations under this Section 5.5, GSK shall:

- (i) on a COVID Product-by-COVID Product basis make the First Commercial Sale of a COVID Product in a country as soon as reasonably practicable following the issuance of the Regulatory Approval for such COVID Product in such country;
 - (ii) Commercialize at least [*****] Collaboration COVID Vaccine Product (besides Pathogen Combination Products) in the Major Markets in the GSK Territory;
 - (iii) in addition to the reports provided by GSK to CureVac under Section 8.2, beginning with the First Commercial Sale of the first COVID Product in the Territory and continuing until expiry of the payment obligations under Article 8, provide CureVac, at least once annually by March 31 of each Calendar Year, with a confidential, non-binding sales forecast for that Calendar Year for discussion in the JSC (or the Commercialization sub-committee, as applicable) of the estimated aggregate (x) sales of COVID Products in the GSK Territory and (y) sales of COVID Products in each Major Market, provided that GSK shall not be required to provide supporting materials in relation to such forecast; and
 - (iv) in countries where GSK commercializes a New Non-mRNA COVID Product, the level of diligence that GSK must apply regarding the Commercialization of COVID Products in that country shall be increased to Enhanced Diligent Efforts.
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- 5.6 **Resources.** The Parties shall both obtain and maintain sufficient facilities, personnel (with appropriate qualifications and experience), equipment, materials and other resources necessary to meet their respective obligations under this Article 5, in accordance with the timelines specified in and in accordance with this Article 5.
- 6 **COMMERCIALIZATION OF COVID PRODUCTS IN THE CUREVAC TERRITORY.**
- 6.1 **Commercialization in CureVac Territory.** CureVac shall have the sole and exclusive right to Commercialize the COVID Products in the Field in the CureVac Territory. On a COVID Product-by-COVID Product basis, until the execution of a Distribution Agreement between the Parties under Section 6.2 for a COVID Product, CureVac shall have the right to waive its right to Commercialize such COVID Product in the CureVac Territory by giving written notice to GSK. Upon receipt of such waiver notice by GSK, with respect to the respective COVID Product, the CureVac Territory shall become part of the GSK Territory, and GSK shall have the right to Commercialize the COVID Product in such extended GSK Territory, and the obligation to use Diligent Efforts to Commercialize the COVID Products in Germany, subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Article 8 below sets forth the financial terms of Commercialization of COVID Products by CureVac in the CureVac Territories, more specifically with respect to the profit-share for COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products) and the royalties to be paid by CureVac to GSK for Pathogen Combination Products.
- 6.2 **Distribution Agreement.** On a COVID Product-by-COVID Product and on a CureVac Territory by CureVac Territory basis, upon request of CureVac, but no later than [*****] prior to the estimated First Commercial Sale of the respective COVID Product in the Field in any CureVac Territory, the Parties shall negotiate and agree in good faith on a distribution agreement under which CureVac has the exclusive rights to Commercialize such COVID Product in the Field in the CureVac Territory in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the key distribution terms in **Exhibit 6.2 ("Distribution Agreement")**. Article 8 below sets forth the financial terms of such distribution, i.e., with respect to the profit-share for COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products) and to the royalties to be paid by CureVac to GSK for Pathogen Combination Products. CureVac shall comply with all policies, practices, standards, guidelines, codes and requirements generally inferred by the GlaxoSmithKline group on distributors of its products in the CureVac Territory, which shall be further detailed in the Distribution Agreement and compliance with which shall be subject to audit by GSK as specified in the Distribution Agreement.
- 7 **GOVERNANCE.**
- 7.1 **Management.**
- 7.1.1 **Alliance Management.** Management of the collaborative alliance reflected in this Agreement will be under the responsibility of the individual designated in writing no later than [*****] after the Closing Date for CureVac ("**CureVac Alliance Manager**") and of the individual designated in writing no later than [*****] after the Closing Date for GSK ("**GSK Alliance Manager**", and together with the CureVac Alliance Manager, the "**Alliance Managers**"), provided that the Alliance Managers under this Agreement and under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement shall be the same individuals. Each Alliance Manager will be the
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primary point of contact for the other Party on all matters relating to the operation of this Agreement and the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.

- 7.1.2 Development and Manufacturing Management.** The management of the Development and Manufacturing activities hereunder will be under the responsibility of the individual designated in writing no later than [*****] after the Closing Date for CureVac ("**CureVac Project Leader**") and of the individual designated in writing no later than [*****] after the Closing Date for GSK ("**GSK Project Leader**", and together with the CureVac Project Leader, the "**Project Leaders**"). Each Project Leader will be the primary point of contact for the other Party on all matters relating to the COVID R&D Plans.
- 7.2 Joint Steering Committee.**
- 7.2.1 Establishment.** No later than [*****] after the Closing Date the Parties will establish a joint steering committee ("**Joint Steering Committee**" or "**JSC**") to oversee the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products and to facilitate the exchange of information between the Parties. The JSC shall be comprised of four (4) representatives of CureVac and four (4) representatives of GSK, one representative being the Alliance Manager of the respective Party, in each case with appropriate scientific and technical expertise and sufficient seniority within the applicable Party consistent with the scope of the JSC's responsibilities. Each Party may replace its JSC representatives at any time upon written notice to the other Party, provided, however, that each Party shall use all reasonable efforts (*obligation de moyen*) to ensure continuity on the JSC.
- 7.2.2 JSC Meetings.** The JSC shall meet at least on a quarterly basis, or such other frequency as agreed by the Parties, by teleconference, videoconference or in person, provided that at least every [*****], or such other frequency as agreed by the Parties, the meeting shall be in person (which in-person meeting will be held at alternate facilities of each Party), unless agreed otherwise by the JSC representatives. The JSC will have a quorum if at least one (1) representatives of each Party is present or participating. Each Party will be responsible for all of its own expenses of participating in the JSC meetings. The Parties will endeavor to schedule meetings of the JSC at least [*****] in advance. Each Party may call special meetings of the JSC with at least [*****] prior written notice, except in exigent circumstances, to resolve particular matters requested by such Party and within the decision-making responsibility of the JSC. Each Party may invite guest participants to certain items on the agenda of the meetings, with reasonable prior notice, in order to discuss special technical or commercial topics, provided that such guest participants shall be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations consistent with the terms of this Agreement and shall not have a voting right in such meeting. The chair of the JSC will alternate each Calendar Year, with CureVac to chair the first year. The Party chairing the JSC shall prepare the meeting agenda with input from the other Party.
- 7.2.3 JSC Minutes.** The Alliance Manager of the Party chairing the JSC shall record the minutes of each JSC meeting in writing. Such minutes shall be circulated to the other Party's Alliance Manager no later than [*****] following the meeting for review, comment and approval of the other Party. If no comments are received within [*****] of the receipt of the minutes by the other Party, unless otherwise agreed, they shall be deemed to be approved by the other Party. Furthermore, if the Parties are unable to reach agreement on the
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minutes within [*****] of the applicable meeting, the sections of the minutes that have been mutually agreed between the Parties by that date shall be deemed approved and, in addition, each Party shall record in the same document its own version of those sections of the minutes on which the Parties were not able to agree.

- 7.3 JSC Functions and Powers.** The JSC will be responsible generally for facilitating the Parties' interactions under this Agreement and specifically for overseeing the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products. The JSC has (i) no jurisdiction to make any amendments to this Agreement, which right is reserved to the Parties; and (ii) no jurisdiction over any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement. The principal functions of the JSC will include:
- (i) overseeing the Development of Collaboration COVID Vaccine Products in accordance with the COVID R&D Plan(s), including deciding the strategy for the Manufacturing and supply of clinical materials, as referred to in Section 5.1;
 - (ii) approving Product Adjustments;
 - (iii) approving the development of Pathogen Combination Products;
 - (iv) updating the initial COVID R&D Plan to include the further Development work;
 - (v) discussing and agreeing the Development budgets under the COVID R&D Plan(s);
 - (vi) the resolution and approval of any issue and recommendation from the Parties with respect to the modification of the COVID R&D Plan(s), including but not limited to modifications of the budget and timelines;
 - (vii) receiving written reports or presentations from GSK and CureVac of their respective progress with the further Development of each COVID Product summarizing their Development activities and the results thereof with respect to the applicable COVID Product and discuss at meetings the status, progress, and results of the Development of the respective COVID Product;
 - (viii) exchanging Development Data and other technical information;
 - (ix) discussing and agreeing on the entry of supply agreements that provide for the supply of Collaboration COVID Vaccine, and, as of the Option Exercise, the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product, across the GSK Territories and the CureVac Territories;
 - (x) discussing and agreeing on the entry of new agreements with governments and/or non-governmental organizations regarding the Development, Manufacturing and supply of the Collaboration COVID Vaccine, and, as of the Option Exercise, the First-Gen COVID Vaccine Product;
 - (xi) creating sub-committees, including the IP Sub-Committee pursuant to Section 7.6, a Commercialization sub-committee for the coordination of Commercialization activities for COVID Products by GSK in the GSK Territory and by CureVac in the CureVac
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Territory and a Manufacturing sub-committee for discussing COVID Product related Manufacturing and supply.

- (xii) serving as a forum where each Party shall inform the other Party of any material feedback received from Regulatory Authorities in relation to any COVID Product;
- (xiii) informing on material regulatory filings and regulatory interactions related to the COVID Products;
- (xiv) discussing and deciding on whether to Develop (temporarily or completely) several different COVID Products in parallel, and if several COVID Products are developed in parallel, decide on whether the Development will be completed only for one or for more than one COVID Product;
- (xv) fostering the collaborative relationship between the Parties;
- (xvi) discussing and agreeing, and reviewing no more than once each Calendar Year, the rate payable for distribution costs comprised in the COGS, taking into account possible cost savings, efficiency savings or increases in the underlying costs;
- (xvii) resolving disputes between the Parties; and
- (xviii) such other functions as assigned to it under this Agreement, the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement or as agreed by the Parties.

If the JSC establishes a sub-committee in accordance with this Section 7.3, unless otherwise agreed, the governance provisions of this Article 7 shall apply accordingly to such sub- committee.

The Parties shall, within the JSC, in good faith evolve the composition and operation of the JSC to reflect the change in roles and responsibilities of the Parties in the further Development, Manufacturing and Commercialization of the COVID Products.

Neither Party shall make its consent (whereby either Party may give or withhold its consent in its sole discretion) subject to a change of the financial model for the Development, Manufacturing and Commercialization of COVID Products set forth in this Agreement or on the payment by the other Party of any additional consideration under this Agreement (although, for clarity, any costs incurred by the other Party in respect of obtaining a license to any In-Licensed IP shall be taken in account in the calculation of Net Profits, as set forth in this Agreement).

7.4 JSC Decisions.

7.4.1 Initial Dispute Resolution. Without prejudice to the discretionary decision rights granted to a Party in this Agreement, a Clinical Supply Agreement, a Commercial Supply Agreement or a Quality Agreement, actions to be taken by the JSC and any subcommittee shall be taken only following a unanimous vote, with each Party's representatives collectively having one (1) vote. If any subcommittee fails to reach unanimous agreement on a matter before it for decision for a period in excess of [*****], the matter shall be referred to the JSC.

7.4.2 Final Decision-Making.

- (i) On matters concerning COVID Products, other than the matters under (ii) and (iii) on which GSK has the deciding vote, if the JSC fails to reach unanimous agreement on a matter before it for decision for a period in excess of [*****] (which number shall be reduced to [*****] in case of a matter that is deemed urgent by either Party, acting reasonably), the matter may be referred by either Party to the Executive Officers, who shall meet in person or via teleconference within [*****] and attempt to resolve such matter in good faith. If the Executive Officers fail to reach agreement as to such matter for a period in excess of [*****] from their initial meeting (which number shall be reduced to [*****] in case of a matter that is deemed urgent by either Party, acting reasonably), the final decision on such undecided matter may be brought for dispute resolution in accordance with Section 16.5 below.
- (ii) On matters concerning the Manufacturing of doses of the COVID Products for use in Clinical Studies, GSK shall have the right to make a final decision towards the Manufacturing by GSK of such doses for use in the Clinical Studies.
- (iii) Without limiting Section 7.4.2(iv), on matters concerning the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Pathogen Combination Products, GSK shall have the deciding vote, *provided that* GSK shall not unilaterally reduce its diligence obligations under this Agreement, make material amendments to the COVID R&D Plan(s) for such Pathogen Combination Products (including the budget and the number of FTEs agreed in the respective COVID R&D Plan) which have an adverse impact on CureVac or on the Development or Commercialization of other COVID Products, adopt a decision that would cause significant delay of the Development timelines as set forth in the respective COVID R&D Plan or would oblige CureVac to perform additional obligations under this Agreement or the COVID R&D Plan for the respective Pathogen Combination Product.
- (iv) GSK shall also have the deciding vote on any matter that jeopardizes GSK's (or its Affiliates') responsibilities as Regulatory Approval holder for a COVID Product in a given country (including those regarding certification of Manufactured batches by a qualified person and batch release in accordance with GMP).

7.5 **Information and results.** Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Parties will make available and disclose to one another Development Data and other results of work conducted prior to and in preparation for the JSC meetings, by the deadline and in the level of detail, form and format to be designated by the JSC; provided, however, that, in any event, each Party shall to the extent reasonably possible provide the other Party with monthly updates regarding its activities hereunder, preferably [*****] prior to each JSC meeting.

7.6 **IP Sub-Committee.** No later [*****] after the Closing Date the JSC shall establish an IP Sub-Committee comprising up to two patent attorneys of each Party. The IP Sub-Committee shall be the forum for discussion and liaison between the Parties concerning filings to be made for Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights. For the avoidance of doubt, the IP Sub-Committee is not a decision-making forum, except (in the first instance) with respect to matters concerning the maintenance of the Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights, and,

in relation to the Program Patent Rights and Joint Patent Rights, the patent term extension strategy, patent litigation, patent defense and enforcement, but serves as a forum for discussion where the Parties may coordinate and consult with each other with respect to any such filings. The IP Sub-Committee shall in particular: (i) convene no less than once every [*****] to facilitate regular interaction regarding the intellectual property matters arising from this Agreement (or any Ancillary Agreement); (ii) exchange information necessary to keep the Parties reasonably informed of each other's prosecution of patents and trademarks that form part of the intellectual property rights licensed under this Agreement; (iii) review any Invention arising under a Program (including any Joint Product Invention and Joint Other Invention) and determine in good faith the ownership thereof, in accordance with this Agreement; (iv) coordinate intellectual property aspects of publications or presentation of Development Data, in accordance with Section 11.7; (v) cooperatively review and discuss potential material infringements by Third Parties as well as the potential infringement by either Party or its Affiliates of any intellectual property of a Third Party pursuant to Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization under this Agreement; and (vi) escalate any intellectual property-related issue on which the Parties are not in agreement to the JSC.

8 CONSIDERATION AND PAYMENTS.

8.1 Upfront Payment. In partial consideration for the exclusive licenses granted to GSK under the CureVac Technology, GSK shall pay to CureVac a non-refundable and non-creditable fee in the amount of seventy-five million Euro (EUR 75,000,000) within [*****] after the Closing Date. CureVac shall issue an invoice for that amount on or before the Closing Date.

8.2 Profit Sharing for COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products).

8.2.1 Profit Split Allocation. As further consideration for the rights and licenses granted by CureVac to GSK to the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology under this Agreement, subject to Section 8.2.2 and the royalty scheme which applies for Pathogen Combination Products under Section 8.3, the Parties agree to split the total Net Profit generated with the sale of COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products) in the Territory as follows:

- (i) [*****].
 - (ii) [*****]
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(iii) [*****].

8.2.2 APA Share Credit.

As further consideration for the rights and licenses granted by CureVac to GSK to the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology under this Agreement, CureVac shall be entitled to receive the first [*****] of GSK's share under the profit split for the sale of COVID Vaccines (other than Pathogen Combination Products) under Sections 8.2.1(i) and (ii)(A), (B) and (C) (the "**APA Share Credit**").

As further consideration for the exclusive licenses granted to GSK under the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology under this Agreement, the APA Share Credit set out in this Section 8.2.2 shall be increased by the amounts specified below upon achievement of the following events, provided achieved within the specified timelines:

*****	*****	*****
*****	*****	*****
*****	*****	*****
*****	*****	*****
*****	*****	*****

* Parties acknowledge that readiness for shipment of clinical materials is also dependent on GSK's diligence in connection with the timely review of the information relevant for the certification by GSK's qualified person and batch release in accordance with GMP, and the taking of certification and release decisions on the basis thereof. As such, any delay beyond the term for GSK to undertake such activities as from the receipt by GSK of all information it requires to decide on such certification and release (as defined in the applicable Quality Agreement), and that is not caused by an issue with the Manufacturing of the clinical materials in accordance with GMP, Applicable Laws, the Regulatory Approval and the applicable Quality Agreement, nor with a failure of such clinical materials meet the specifications set forth in the Regulatory Approval, shall be added to the timeline for completion of the milestone. [*****].

8.2.3 Calculation of Profit Split.

For the purposes of Section 8.2.1:

"**Net Profits**" shall mean Net Sales less:

- (i) COGS;
 - (ii) royalties and intangible amortization payments (including in-licensing fees and other payments due as a result of sublicensing) arising under any existing and future
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agreements with any Third Party pursuant to which a Party Controls any intellectual property rights required to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize any COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products), including any In-Licensing Agreement (but excluding any expenses arising under CureVac's existing agreements with [*****]) for COVID Products (other than Pathogen Combination Products), provided, however, that for purposes of the Net Profits split, [*****] of any upfront payment which GSK may make to a Third Party with respect to Modified mRNA will be deducted from the otherwise payable Net Profits share of CureVac. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall such otherwise payable Net Profits share of CureVac for a Calendar Quarter be reduced by more than [*****] (floor). Any amount not deducted as described above will be carried forward to the following Calendar Quarter(s); and

- (iii) SG&A, subject to the caps on SG&A deductions specified in Section 8.2.4 below; and
- (iv) Other Allowable Expenses;

provided, however, that to the extent any of the costs and expenses listed above are already shared by the Parties under the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement, such costs shall not be taken into account for calculating Net Profits under this Agreement.

For clarity, any liability of either Party to the other Party (or any third party beneficiary or indemnified party) under this Agreement (including for any breach of this Agreement, for breach of warranty, under any indemnity or otherwise), or any other agreement (including the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement and the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement), shall not be taken into account in the calculation of Net Profits.

Where this Agreement refers to the "generation" of a Net Profit, such term shall be interpreted to refer to the recognition of the revenue from the gross sale underlying the Net Profit in question, as determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. As such, subject to Section 8.2.1(iii), Net Profit shall be shared in full in light of when a sale of a COVID Product in question is recognized upon delivery thereof, irrespective of CureVac having received upfront payments with regard to the sale of such product when it was not yet a COVID Product.

8.2.4 SG&A deductions. For purposes of calculating Net Profits, the SG&A expenses of both Parties (to be deducted from Net Sales when calculating the Net Profits) are capped as follows:

- (i) For Net Sales generated anywhere in the Territory of a COVID Product, SG&A shall be capped (a) at [*****] of Net Sales for the first COVID Product which achieves Regulatory Approval during the first [*****] after the First Commercial Sale of such COVID Product; and (b) at [*****] of Net Sales for any further COVID Products, and for the first COVID Product which achieves Regulatory Approval after the first [*****] after the First Commercial Sale of such COVID Product; and
 - (ii) For Net Sales generated anywhere in the Territory of a COVID Product through Government and NGO Contracts, SG&A shall be capped from and including the date of
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8.2.5 Profit Sharing Term. Profit sharing payments under this Section 8.2 shall be made as long as GSK Commercializes COVID Vaccines.

[*****] **PPA Stand-by Fee(s).** For purposes of calculating Net Sales, any [*****] PPA Stand-by Fee(s) will not be included. The allocation between the Parties of any [*****] PPA Stand-by Fee(s) and the related costs for maintaining a state of Pandemic Preparedness (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) during the Stand-by Phase (as defined in the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement) shall be governed by the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement.

8.3 Royalty Payment for Pathogen Combination Products.

8.3.1 Royalty Rate for the GSK Territory. As further consideration for the rights and licenses granted by CureVac to GSK to the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology under this Agreement with respect to Pathogen Combination Products, GSK shall pay to CureVac the following royalties on Net Sales in each Calendar Quarter in the GSK Territory of all Pathogen Combination Products in the amounts set forth below:

Annual Net Sales of Pathogen Combination Product	Royalty Rate
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

8.3.2 Royalty Term. On a country-by-country and Pathogen Combination Product-by-Pathogen Combination Product basis, GSK's royalty obligations as set forth in this Section 8.3 shall begin with the First Commercial Sale of such Pathogen Combination Product by GSK in such country, and shall expire upon the later to occur of:

- (i) the expiry of the last to expire Valid Claim of any Patent Rights Controlled by CureVac (whether alone or jointly) Covering such Pathogen Combination Product in such country;
 - (ii) the earlier of (A) expiry of Regulatory Exclusivity for such Pathogen Combination Product in such country and (B) twelve (12) years following the First Commercial Sale of such Pathogen Combination Product in such country; or
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(iii) ten (10) years following the First Commercial Sale of such Pathogen Combination Product in such country, provided that such Pathogen Combination Product incorporates Know- How Controlled by CureVac, or Know-How of the other Party is required to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize the Pathogen Combination Product in such country,

and provided further that GSK's royalty obligations under this Section 8.3 with respect to a Pathogen Combination Product shall expire for all countries of the respective Party Territory on the twentieth (20th) anniversary of the First Commercial Sale of such Pathogen Combination Product in the first country of the respective Party Territory (the "**Royalty Term**"). For clarity, the matters specified above shall not apply to the calculation of Net Sales for the purposes of the Net Profit split.

- 8.3.3 Know-How Reduction.** During the applicable Royalty Term and on a country-by-country and Pathogen Combination Product-by-Pathogen Combination Product basis, the royalty rate for a Pathogen Combination Product in a country shall be reduced by [*****] of the applicable rate determined pursuant to Section 8.3.1, if such Pathogen Combination Product is not or no longer Covered by a Valid Claim in such country. For clarity, this reduction shall not apply to the calculation of Net Sales for the purposes of the Net Profit split.
- 8.3.4 No Milestones under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.** For clarity, if the Development of a stand-alone "Product" under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement is abandoned prior to Regulatory Approval of such product, and the SARS-CoV-2 Pathogen is included into such product for the Development of a Pathogen Combination Product, then any events which would trigger "Development & Regulatory Milestone Payments" and "Sales Milestone Payments" under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, and that had not yet been achieved for such stand-alone abandoned product, will not be triggered by the Pathogen Combination Product, but the Pathogen Combination Product will then be subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 8.3.5 Exhaustiveness.** Except as set forth otherwise in this Agreement, the royalty shall be the exhaustive consideration for the maintenance by CureVac of the CureVac Technology with respect to Pathogen Combination Products, and CureVac shall be responsible for the payment of any royalties, fees, costs or expenses under the In-Licensing Agreements required for Pathogen Combination Products.
- 8.3.6 Third Party Offset.** Without limiting any other right or remedy of GSK under this Agreement, or any obligation of CureVac, on a country-by-country and Pathogen Combination Product-by- Pathogen Combination Product basis, if, during the Term, GSK or any of its Affiliates is required to obtain a license under certain Third Party Patent Rights to obtain freedom to operate with respect to the use or exploitation of any CureVac Elements for the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of Pathogen Combination Products under this Agreement and to pay a royalty or other consideration under such license (including milestone payments or any payment in connection with the settlement of a patent infringement claim), then the Parties shall discuss obtaining an FTO license in accordance with Section 10.2.4. Royalties due to CureVac for the respective Pathogen Combination Product in the respective country(ies) Covered by the Third Party Patent Rights in-licensed by GSK to obtain at its discretion freedom to operate under this Section 8.3.6 shall, subject to Section 8.3.7, be reduced by: (i) [*****] of the reasonable amount payable by GSK to the Third Party for licenses required in respect of the
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Patent Right listed in **Exhibit 8.3.6** relevant to the Pathogen Combination Products; and (ii) [*****] of the amount payable to the Third Party for any other licenses. Where a Pathogen Combination Product is encoded by Modified MRNA, CureVac will not bear any payments to Third Parties with respect to such Modified MRNA for a Pathogen Combination Product (without prejudice to the procedure set forth in Section 2.8). For clarity, this offset shall not apply to the calculation of Net Sales for the purposes of the Net Profit split.

- 8.3.7 Cumulative Deductions.** Notwithstanding the above, any royalty reduction made pursuant to Section 8.3.3 and/or Section 8.3.4 shall in no event reduce the applicable royalty rate for the respective Pathogen Combination Product in the respective country to less than [*****] of the amounts determined pursuant to Section 8.3.1.
- 8.4 Blended Payments.** With respect to a potential step down in profit sharing or royalty rates to account for the expiry of certain Patent Rights, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the CureVac Technology, GSK Technology and the LNP Technology licensed hereunder may justify profit sharing and royalty rates for sales of COVID Products in different amounts, which rates could be applied separately to COVID Products involving the exercise of CureVac Technology, the LNP Technology and the GSK Technology. Furthermore, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the CureVac Technology licensed under this Agreement may justify profit sharing royalty rates and/or royalty terms of differing amounts for sales of COVID Products in the GSK Territory, which rates could be applied separately to COVID Products involving the exercise of CureVac Patent Rights in the GSK Territory and/or the incorporation of CureVac Know-How, and that if such profit sharing rates or royalties were calculated separately, profit sharing rates and royalties relating to the CureVac Patent Rights in the GSK Territory and profit sharing rates and royalties relating to the CureVac Know-How would last for different terms. For practicality reasons the Parties have agreed on blended profit sharing and royalty rates. For clarity, this Section 8.4 solely explains the rationale behind the profit sharing royalty rates agreed on by the Parties and does not modify any of the other provisions of this Agreement.
- 8.5 Profit Sharing, Royalty Payments.** Within [*****] after the end of each Calendar Quarter in which any Net Sales occur, each Party shall calculate the profit sharing and royalty payments owed to the other Party and shall remit to the other Party the amount owed to such other Party. All profit sharing and royalty payments shall be computed by converting the Net Profits and Net Sales in each country in the GSK Territory and in the CureVac Territory into the currency of Euro, using the monthly exchange rates as customarily used by such Party. All costs and expenses shall be computed by converting the relevant costs and expenses into the currency of Euro, using the monthly exchange rates as customarily used by such Party.
- 8.6 Reports.** Each payment shall be accompanied by a written report describing the Net Profits and Net Sales of each COVID Product sold by or on behalf of the respective Party, its Affiliates and Sublicensees during the applicable Calendar Quarter for each country in which sales of any COVID Product occurred, specifying: (i) the gross sales (if available) and Net Sales in each country's currency, including an accounting of deductions taken in the calculation of Net Sales; (ii) the COGS and SG&A and other deductions made to calculate Net Profits in accordance with Section 8.2.3; (iii) the applicable exchange rate to convert from each country's currency to Euro; and (iv) the profit share and royalties payable in Euro. All costs and expenses invoiced by either Party shall be accompanied by a detailed breakdown of those costs and expenses, together with
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the applicable exchange rate to convert from the currency in which the costs and expenses were incurred to Euro.

8.7 Records and Audit. Each Party and its Affiliates and/or its Sublicensees shall keep and maintain records of: (i) sales of the COVID Product(s) in the CureVac Territory or the GSK Territory, as the case may be, so that the profit share (including Net Profit) and royalties payable and the royalty reports may be verified; and (ii) all costs and expenses incurred by it which are reimbursable (or shared equally by the parties) under this Agreement, so that the costs and expenses reimbursable (or which are shared) may be verified. Such records shall upon reasonable written notice be open to inspection during business hours for a [*****] after the Calendar Quarter to which such records relate, but in any event not more than once per Calendar Year, by a nationally recognized independent certified public accountant selected by the auditing Party and retained at the auditing Party's expense. Said accountant shall have the right to audit the records kept pursuant to this Agreement for a period covering not more than [*****]. If said examination of records reveals any underpayment(s) or over payment(s) of any amounts payable, then the audited Party shall promptly pay or credit the balance due to the auditing Party, and if the underpayment(s) is/are more than [*****], then the audited Party shall also bear the expenses of said accountant (and if no further payments are due, shall be refunded or paid by the audited at the request of the auditing Party).

8.8 Payment Terms.

8.8.1 All payments by GSK to CureVac shall be made by wire transfer payment in Euro and shall be remitted to the following bank account:

[*****]: [*****]

[*****]

[*****]: [*****]

[*****]: [*****]

Electronic invoicing is GSK's preferred method for receiving invoices. [*****] is GSK's e-invoicing partner for submitting electronic invoices. The Parties shall collaborate to sign CureVac up to such platform to allow for electronic invoicing. All invoices should include the following information: Invoice Date, Number and Amount; Sender's Address, and Phone Number; Purchase Order Number; Tax Identification Number; Agreement Reference No (if applicable).

All payments by CureVac to GSK shall be made by wire transfer payment in Euro and shall be remitted to the following bank account:

[*****]:

[*****]:

[*****]: [*****]



- 8.8.2** If any sum payable by a Party under this Agreement is subject to a good faith dispute between GSK and CureVac: (i) such Party shall, pay to the other Party, by the due date, all amounts not disputed in good faith by such Party; (ii) such Party shall notify the other Party, within [*****] after the due date, of any disputed amounts and shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after it has provided that notification, describe in reasonable detail its reasons for disputing each amount; and (iii) the Parties shall seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with Section 16.5. When any dispute regarding the amounts payable under this Agreement is resolved, the Party owing the payment shall pay any sum which is agreed or determined (in accordance with Section 16.5) to be payable by such Party within [*****] the date of resolution of that dispute (or such other period as is agreed between the Parties or determined by arbitration pursuant to Section 16.5), plus interest thereon at the interest rate set forth in Section 8.8.3 from the time such payment was due.
- 8.8.3** Any undisputed payments not paid within [*****] after the due date under this Agreement shall bear interest at an annual rate of [*****] above the three-month- EURIBOR rate of the respective currency for the time period in which such amount is outstanding, as disclosed from time to time by the European Central Bank which applied on the due date. Calculation of interest will be made for the exact number of days in the interest period based on a year of 360 days (actual/360).
- 8.9 Taxes.**
- 8.9.1** Each Party shall be responsible for its own income taxes assessed by a tax or other authority except as otherwise set forth in this Agreement. The Parties agree, in accordance with Section 16.10, that the relationship between the parties is one of independent contractors and does not constitute a partnership or joint venture, and agree not to take (or cause any person to take) any position on any tax return or in the course of any audit, examination or other proceeding inconsistent with such treatment, unless otherwise required by Applicable Laws and except upon a final determination of the applicable tax authority.
- 8.9.2** The Parties acknowledge and agree that it is their mutual objective and intent to optimize, to the extent feasible and in compliance with Applicable Laws, taxes payable with respect to their collaborative efforts under this Agreement and that they shall use reasonable efforts to cooperate and coordinate with each other to achieve such objective.
- 8.9.3** If any taxes are required to be withheld under Applicable Laws, from any payment to be made by either Party under this Agreement, that Party shall (a) deduct such taxes from the payment to be made to the other Party, (b) timely pay the taxes to the proper taxing authority, and (c) send proof of payment to the other Party with an explanation of payment of such taxes within [*****] following such payment. For purposes of this Section 8.9.3, each Party shall provide the other with reasonably requested assistance which assistance includes provision of any tax forms and other information that may be reasonably necessary for a Party not to withhold tax.
- 8.9.4** All payments due to the terms of this Agreement are expressed to be exclusive of VAT and Indirect Taxes. VAT and Indirect Taxes shall be added to the payments due to the terms if legally applicable.
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9 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.

9.1 Background Technology. As between the Parties, all right, title and interest in and to all CureVac Background Technology shall remain under the Control of CureVac; and all right, title and interest in and to all GSK Background Technology shall remain under the Control of GSK. As between the Parties, each Party shall have the sole right, in its sole discretion and at its sole expense, to prosecute, maintain and defend Patent Rights within its Background Technology; provided, however, that (i) CureVac shall consider in good faith the interests of GSK in the prosecution, maintenance and defense of the CureVac Patent Rights within CureVac Background Technology, and (ii) the prosecution, maintenance and defense of Background IP that is generated under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement shall be subject to the provisions of the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.

9.2 Disclosure of Inventions. Each Party shall as soon as reasonably practical disclose to the other Party through the IP Sub-Committee and Alliance Manager, the making, conception, or reduction to practice of any Invention that may be owned in part or in whole by the other Party pursuant to this Article 9.

9.3 Ownership and exploitation of Inventions.

9.3.1 Ownership of Inventions. The Parties agree that any CureVac Invention, GSK Invention, Joint Product Invention, and Joint Other Invention that have been discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date and notified by the inventing Party to the other Party at the latest [*****] after the COVID First Amendment Effective Date shall be governed by Sections 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.3.3, 9.3.4 and 9.3.5 of the version of this Agreement existing prior to the COVID First Amendment Effective Date.

With respect to any other Invention (i.e., Inventions governed by the COVID First Amendment), the following shall apply:

(i) "**CureVac Inventions**", i.e.

- (a) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of GSK alone or jointly by or on behalf of both GSK and CureVac; (bb) do not Cover a COVID Product; (cc) are Independent from the GSK Background Technology and earlier GSK Inventions; (dd) are not Independent from CureVac Background Technology, the LNP Technology or any earlier CureVac Invention; and (ee) are not Specific CureVac Inventions ("**CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution**").

An Invention that is "**Independent**" from certain technology or other Invention shall, for purposes of this Section 9.3, mean that such Invention was discovered, conceived, made and reduced to practice, or that it could have been so, without access to the other technology or Invention referred to;

- (b) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice (as applicable) by or on behalf of CureVac alone; (bb) do not Cover a
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COVID Product; (cc) are not Specific CureVac Inventions; and (dd) are not GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution; and/or

- (c) all Inventions that are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice (as applicable) by or on behalf of either Party, or jointly by the Parties, in one of the following areas:

- (aa) [*****];

- (bb) [*****]

- (cc) [*****].

[*****].

("Specific CureVac Inventions")

shall be solely owned by CureVac;

- (ii) "**GSK Inventions**", i.e.

- (a) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of CureVac alone or jointly by GSK and CureVac; (bb) do not Cover a COVID Product, (cc) are Independent from the CureVac Background Technology, the LNP Technology and any earlier CureVac Invention; and (dd) are not Independent from any GSK Background Technology or any earlier GSK Invention ("**GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution**"), and

- (b) all Inventions that (aa) are discovered, made, conceived, and first reduced to practice by or on behalf of GSK alone; (bb) do not Cover a COVID Product; (cc) are not Specific CureVac Inventions; and (dd) are not CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution;

shall be solely owned by GSK;

- (iii) all other Inventions, i.e., Inventions which are neither governed by the Agreement existing prior to the COVID First Amendment, nor are CureVac Inventions or GSK Inventions, are governed by Section 9.3.2 below and are Inventions owned jointly by the Parties ("**Joint Inventions**").

9.3.2 Exploitation, Licensing and Assignment of Joint Technology. Subject to Sections 2.1.1 and 2.3, each Party may freely practice, exploit and license any Joint Inventions, and any resulting Joint Patent Rights and related Know-How ("**Joint Technology**"), in any field and in perpetuity, *provided, however*, that:

- (a) such freedom does not imply the licensing of any GSK Background Technology or CureVac Background Technology;
- (b) subject to Section 16.1 below, neither Party shall assign to a Third Party (other than to an Affiliate) its interest in any Joint Technology without the prior written consent of the other Party, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned; and
- (c) if a Party assigns to a Third Party its interest in any Joint Patent Right or related Know-How, such assigning Party shall ensure that the assignee is legally bound to respect the rights of the other Party pursuant this Section 9.3.2.

9.4 License-back under GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution and CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution. GSK hereby grants to CureVac, and CureVac hereby accepts, a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive license, with the right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) under the GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution (and related Know-How) to freely practice, use and exploit such GSK Inventions With CureVac Contribution and related Know-How, in any field. CureVac hereby grants to GSK, and GSK hereby accepts, a royalty-free, perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive license, with the right to sublicense (in multiple tiers) under the CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution (and related Know-How) to freely practice, use and exploit such CureVac Inventions With GSK Contribution, in any field. For the avoidance of doubt, the foregoing does not imply the licensing of any GSK Background Technology or CureVac Background Technology. If CureVac (for CureVac Inventions with GSK Contribution) or GSK (for GSK Inventions with CureVac Contribution) assigns to a Third Party its title or interest in any of the aforementioned Inventions (or in the associated Patent Rights or Know-How rights), such assigning Party shall ensure that the assignee is legally bound to respect the rights of the other Party as licensee of such assigned rights pursuant to this Section 9.4.

9.5 Assignment and transfer of Inventions. To give effect to the ownership principles described in Section 9.3 each Party shall assign and transfer, and hereby assigns and transfers, to such other Party or such other Party's designee all or a [*****] share, as the case may be, of its present and future rights, interest and title to any such Invention that is to vest in the other Party pursuant to the ownership principles described in Section 9.3, and the other Party shall accept and hereby accepts such assignment and transfer ("**Assigned Invention**"). At the written instruction of the other Party, the transferring Party agrees to make or procure all such assignments from its employees, consultants and subcontractors as are necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Section 9.5 and to assist the transfer in every way reasonably required by the transferee (i) to obtain Patent Rights to such Assigned Invention in any and all countries for

which Patent Rights are being sought; and (ii) to maintain and defend Patent Rights in all Assigned Inventions which have been or may be assigned as provided above. The transferring Party shall execute and deliver, and cause its employees, consultants and subcontractors to execute and deliver, all such documents, instruments and other papers and take all such other action which the transferee may reasonably request in order to give effect to the provisions of this Section 9.5.

9.6 Cooperation. Each Party represents and agrees that all its employee(s), contractor(s) and agent(s) will be obligated under a binding written agreement or otherwise to assign to such Party all Inventions discovered, created, conceived, developed or reduced to practice by such employee(s), contractor(s) or agent(s) in connection with this Agreement.

9.7 Filing, Prosecution, Maintenance and Defense.

9.7.1 CureVac Program Patent Rights. CureVac shall have the first right, but not the obligation, at its sole expense, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend the Patent Rights Covering a CureVac Invention (each, a "**CureVac Program Patent Right**") throughout the Territory. At the latest [*****] before filing, CureVac shall give GSK an opportunity to review and comment upon the text of any application with respect to any CureVac Program Patent Right, shall consult with GSK with respect thereto, shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of GSK's comments and supply GSK with a copy of the application as filed, together with notice of its filing date and serial number. CureVac shall keep GSK reasonably informed, through the IP Sub Committee, of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, maintenance and defense, including but not limited to any substantive communications with the competent patent offices that may affect the scope of such filings, and CureVac shall to the extent reasonably possible give GSK a timely, prior opportunity to review and comment upon any such substantive communication and shall consult with GSK with respect thereto, and shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of GSK's comments. Notwithstanding the above, prior to filing any application for a CureVac Invention that may disclose, in part or in full, a any other Invention, CureVac shall provide GSK with a copy of the draft application and provide GSK with at least [*****] to review and comment upon the text of such draft application. If GSK notifies CureVac within the above [*****] deadline that GSK has decided to file an application for the other Invention, the Parties shall coordinate the filing of the application for a CureVac Invention with the filing of GSK's application for such other Invention so that CureVac's application and GSK's application are filed on the same day or otherwise filed in a way that secures and protects each of the Parties' interest. For the avoidance of doubt, CureVac will not include a any Invention other than a CureVac Invention in a separate patent claim of a patent application to be filed by CureVac without GSK's prior written consent. CureVac shall promptly give notice to GSK of the grant, lapse, revocation, surrender or invalidation of any CureVac Program Patent Rights. CureVac shall as soon as reasonably practicable give notice to GSK of any final decision to not file patent applications claiming CureVac Program Patent Rights or to cease prosecution and/or maintenance and/or defense of CureVac Program Patent Rights on a country by country basis and, in such cases, shall permit GSK, in GSK's sole discretion, to file such patent applications or to continue prosecution or maintenance or defense of such CureVac Program Patent Rights (in which case thereafter they will be assigned by CureVac to GSK and deemed a GSK Program Patent Right) at its own expense and in its own name.

9.7.2 GSK Program Patent Rights. GSK shall have the sole right, but not the obligation, at its sole expense, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend the Patent Rights Covering a GSK Invention (each, a "**GSK Program Patent Right**") throughout the Territory in good faith consistent with its customary patent policy and its reasonable business judgment and shall consider in good faith the reasonable interests of CureVac in so doing. GSK shall keep CureVac reasonably informed, through the IP Sub-Committee, of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, maintenance and defense, of all GSK Program Patent Rights. Notwithstanding the above, prior to filing any application for a GSK Invention that may disclose, in part or in full, any other Invention, GSK shall provide CureVac with a copy of the draft application and provide CureVac with at least [*****] to review and comment upon the text of such draft application. If CureVac notifies GSK within the above [*****] deadline that CureVac decides to file an application for a CureVac Invention, the Parties shall coordinate the filing of the application for a GSK Invention with the filing of CureVac's application for such CureVac Invention so that CureVac's application and GSK's application are filed on the same day or otherwise filed in a way that secures and protects each of the Parties' interest. For the avoidance of doubt, GSK will not include any Invention, other than a GSK Invention in a separate patent claim of a patent application for a GSK Program Patent Right without CureVac's prior written consent. CureVac shall as soon as reasonably practicable give notice to GSK of any desire to cease prosecution and/or maintenance and/or defense of GSK Program Patent Rights on a country by country basis and, in such cases, shall permit CureVac, in CureVac's sole discretion, to continue prosecution or maintenance or defense of such GSK Program Patent Rights (in which case thereafter they will be assigned by GSK to CureVac and deemed a CureVac Program Patent Right) at its own expense and in its own name.

9.7.3 Joint Patent Rights. GSK shall have the first right, but not the obligation, to file, prosecute, maintain and defend Joint Patent Rights throughout the Territory, at its sole expense, and GSK shall give timely notice to CureVac of any final decision to not file patent applications claiming Joint Patent Rights or to cease prosecution and/or maintenance of Joint Patent Rights on a country-by-country basis and, in such cases, shall permit CureVac, in CureVac's sole discretion, to file such patent applications or to continue prosecution, maintenance or defense of such Joint Patent Rights at its own expense. At the latest [*****] before filing, the prosecuting Party shall give the non-prosecuting Party an opportunity to review and comment upon the text of any application with respect to such Joint Patent Right, shall consult with the non-prosecuting Party with respect thereto, shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of the non-prosecuting Party's comments and supply the non-prosecuting Party with a copy of the application as filed, together with notice of its filing date and serial number. The prosecuting Party shall keep the non-prosecuting Party reasonably informed of the status of the actual and prospective prosecution, and maintenance, including but not limited to any substantive communications with the competent patent offices that may affect the scope of such filings, and the prosecuting Party shall give the non-prosecuting Party a timely, prior opportunity to review and comment upon any such substantive communication and shall consult with such non-prosecuting Party with respect thereto, and shall not unreasonably refuse to address any of such non-prosecuting Party's comments.

9.8 Patent Term Extension and Supplementary Protection. The IP Sub Committee shall decide on any patent term extensions, including supplementary protection certificates and any other extensions, including pediatric extensions, for a COVID Product that are now or become

available in the future, wherever applicable, in order to secure the optimal protection for the COVID Products available under Applicable Laws. The Party holding the marketing authorization for the COVID Product Covered by any Patent Rights shall have the obligation for applying for any such extension or supplementary protection certificate, and such Party shall keep the other Party fully informed of its efforts to obtain such extension or supplementary protection certificate. The other Party shall provide prompt and reasonable assistance, as requested by the applying Party. GSK shall pay all expenses for obtaining and maintaining any extension or supplementary protection certificate in respect of a COVID Product in the GSK Territory.

9.9 Development Data. Subject to Article 11, the Development Data shall be treated as Confidential Information of the Parties. Each Party may use, and allow its Affiliates to use, the Development Data for the purpose of obtaining adequate protection and prosecution of their respective Know-How and Patent Rights, or as provided for otherwise in accordance with this Agreement, provided that in each case it provides the other Party with prior written notice of its intent to use the Development Data for such purpose. The other Party may, within a reasonable time following receipt of such notice, request the notifying Party to delay the use of the Development Data, in order to safeguard the protection and prosecution of other Know-How and Patent Rights. Following such request, the Parties shall cooperate in good faith to align the protection and prosecution of each Party's Know-How and Patent Rights. For the avoidance of doubt, the terms and conditions of this Article 9 shall govern the intellectual property rights of the Parties in the Development Data.

9.10 Challenges to CureVac Patent Rights, Patent Rights included in the LNP Technology or GSK Patent Rights. If GSK or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of the CureVac Patent Rights or the Patent Rights included in the LNP Technology, or supports a Third Party in the challenge of a CureVac Patent Right or a Patent Right included in the LNP Technology in such legal proceeding, it shall promptly, and in no event later than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge (or such shorter period as required due to a court's, patent office's or other filing deadline associated with the relevant triggering event giving rise to the challenge, but in any event not less than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge), notify CureVac hereof. If CureVac or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of the GSK Patent Rights in a legal proceeding, or supports a Third Party in the challenge of a GSK Patent Right in such legal proceeding, it shall promptly, and in no event later than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge (or such shorter period as required due to the court or other filing deadline associated with the relevant triggering event giving rise to the challenge, but in any event not less than [*****] prior to initiating such challenge), notify GSK thereof. The Parties, through the IP Sub-Committee, shall promptly discuss any such issue in good faith, including the grant of a freedom to operate license at terms to be negotiated, and, if they cannot find an agreement, escalate the issue to the Executive Officers. If the Executive Officers despite good faith negotiations cannot find a solution, and a CureVac Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology is not granted or is declared invalid upon a successful challenge by GSK or any of its Affiliates (either alone or with a Third Party), such CureVac Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology shall be deemed to have been granted or shall be deemed valid until the expiry of regular patent protection for such CureVac Patent Right that would have applied if such CureVac

Patent Right or Patent Right within the LNP Technology had been granted or had not been successfully declared invalid for the purposes of Section 1.192 (Valid Claim) and Section 8.3.2 (Royalty Term).

9.11 Challenges to Third Party Patent Rights. If either Party or any of its Affiliates (directly or indirectly, individually or in association with any other person or entity) intends to challenge the validity of any Third Party Patent Rights potentially Covering the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of a COVID Product (including, but not limited to, any request for, or filing or declaration of, any invalidity proceedings, interference, deviation proceeding, opposition, inter partes review, post-grant review, third party observations or re-examination), it shall, prior to initiating such challenge, notify the other Party through the IP Sub-Committee. The Parties, through the IP Sub-Committee shall discuss the strategy for such challenge. If the Parties agree to pursue a joint challenge, (i) the Parties shall collaborate with respect to such challenge, (ii) the Parties shall [*****], and (iii) the Parties shall [*****] all costs and expenses of such challenge, provided that if the total costs and expenses exceed [*****]. Either Party and its Affiliates shall also be entitled, if agreed by the Parties, or if the IP SubCommittee does not agree on a joint challenge, without the other Party, to challenge the validity of any Third Party Patent Rights. In this case, the Party bringing the challenge (i) shall have no obligation to consult with the other Party regarding its strategy and (ii) shall bear all the costs and expenses of such challenge.

10 ENFORCEMENT AND DEFENSE.

10.1 Enforcement.

10.1.1 Notice. Each Party shall promptly provide the other Party with written notice reasonably detailing any known or alleged infringement by a Third Party of any CureVac Patent Rights, GSK Patent Rights or Joint Patent Rights which competes with the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of COVID Products in the Territory (collectively "Third Party Infringement").

10.1.2 GSK Rights. Subject to Section 10.1.3, GSK shall have the primary right to determine and control a course of action designed to curtail a Third Party Infringement in the Field in the Territory at its own expense. GSK shall keep CureVac closely informed as to any legal courses of action it pursues pursuant to this Section 10.1.2, and the Parties shall consult with each other, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action.

10.1.3 CureVac Rights. On a COVID Product-by-COVID Product basis, for as long as CureVac holds the exclusive right to Commercialize a COVID Product in the CureVac Territory pursuant to Article 6, CureVac shall have the primary right to determine and control a course of action designed to curtail a Third Party Infringement in the Field in the CureVac Territory at its own expense. CureVac shall keep GSK closely informed as to any legal courses of action it pursues pursuant to this Section 10.1.2, and the Parties shall consult with each other, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action.

10.1.4 Taking over. If the Party having the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement pursuant to Sections 10.1.2 or 10.1.3, respectively, elects not to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement or not to further pursue the enforcement of its rights, such Party shall notify the other Party of such decision as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within [*****] after receipt of the Third Party Infringement notice or after the decision not to further pursue the enforcement of its rights. If after the expiry of the [*****] period (or, if earlier, the date upon which the Party which has the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement provides written notice that it has decided not to or to no longer enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement), the Party which has the primary right to enforce its rights against such Third Party Infringement has neither obtained a discontinuance of the Third Party Infringement, nor filed suit with regard to such Third Party Infringement, then the other Party shall have the right, but not the obligation, to take action or bring suit with respect to such Third Party Infringement at its own expense.

10.1.5 Collaboration. If such course of action includes litigation, the enforcing Party shall notify the non-enforcing Party of the commencement of that litigation and shall have the right and standing to use and sue in the other Party's name. Notwithstanding the first sentence of this paragraph, irrespective of which Party brings an action with respect to a Third Party Infringement hereunder, (i) the Parties shall collaborate with respect to such action; (ii) the non-enforcing Party shall have the right, at its own expense, to be represented by independent counsel in any such litigation; and (iii) the Parties shall consult with each other regarding, and agree on strategic decisions and their implementation in connection with such action. Except as set forth otherwise herein, the Party bringing the action shall bear all costs and expenses of such action.

10.1.6 Recoveries. Any recoveries obtained by either Party as a result of any proceeding with regard to a Third Party Infringement (other than any Third Party Infringement of intellectual property rights subsisting in any Pathogen Combination Product) under this Section 10.1 shall be allocated as follows:

- (i) such recovery shall first be used to reimburse the Party or Parties bringing the action for all reasonable costs incurred in connection with such proceeding;
- (ii) the remaining portion of such recovery, if any, shall be [*****] between CureVac and GSK.

In relation to any Pathogen Combination Product: (A) such recovery shall first be used to reimburse each Party for all reasonable costs incurred in connection with such proceeding; (B) such recovery shall then be used to compensate each Party for the respective damages suffered from the Third Party Infringement (in the case of damage suffered by CureVac, as calculated at the Royalty Rate), provided that in the event the remaining portion of the recovery is not sufficient to compensate each Party's damages, such compensation shall be shared on a pro-rata basis depending on the amount of the respective damages suffered; and (C) the remaining portion of such recovery, if any, shall be equally shared between CureVac and GSK.

10.1.7 Settlements. Neither Party shall settle any claim or demand in any such litigation that materially negatively impacts the other Party's rights or interests under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. In addition to the foregoing, to the extent any action initiated by GSK involves any infringement

of CureVac Patent Rights and/or Joint Patent Rights, as the case may be, and is reasonably likely to relate to technologies other than a COVID Product, GSK will consult with CureVac regarding issues relating to such CureVac Patent Rights, Joint Patent Rights, and/or CureVac's products and technologies, and the Parties will mutually agree on strategic litigation decisions regarding such issues.

10.1.8 Assistance. The non-enforcing Party shall provide such assistance as the enforcing Party reasonably requests in connection with any action or suit hereunder to prevent or enjoin a Third Party Infringement at its own cost (or the enforcing Party's cost, in relation to any Pathogen Combination Product). At the request of the enforcing Party, the non-enforcing Party shall provide reasonable assistance to the enforcing Party, at the non-enforcing Party's expense (or the enforcing Party's expense, in relation to any Pathogen Combination Product), in connection with such enforcement, including by executing reasonably appropriate documents, and joining as a party to the action. The Parties agree that, irrespective of which Party brings the action or suit pursuant to this Section 10.1, the Parties will update each other as to the status of such actions through the IP Sub-Committee and the enforcing Party will not unreasonably reject comments from the other Party relating to the management of such litigation.

10.2 Defense.

10.2.1 Notice. If the Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of any COVID Product in any country in accordance with this Agreement or other activity of either of the Parties pursuant to the Agreement is alleged by a Third Party to infringe a Third Party's Patent Right, the Party becoming aware of such allegation shall promptly notify the other Party.

10.2.2 Control. CureVac has the first right, but not the obligation, to control any defense of any such claim involving an alleged infringement of Third Party rights by (i) the exploitation or use of the CureVac Technology, where such alleged infringement is allegedly not caused solely by the Development, Manufacturing or the Commercialization of one or more COVID Products or (ii) CureVac's activities under this Agreement (including Development, Manufacturing or the Commercialization of one or more COVID Products, and the Commercialization of COVID Products in the CureVac Territory), by counsel of its own choice, and the costs of such defense shall be equally shared between the Parties; and GSK may choose to be represented with respect to any such claim at its own expense and by counsel of its own choice. GSK has the first right, but not the obligation, to control any defense of any such claim other than where CureVac has the first right to control the defense of a claim, by counsel of its own choice, and the costs of such defense shall be equally shared between the Parties; and CureVac may choose to be represented with respect to any such claim at its own expense and by counsel of its own choice.

10.2.3 Assistance. Upon the defending Party's request, the non-defending Party shall provide reasonable assistance to the defending Party with respect to a defense and/or shall join in any action if reasonably required by the defending Party in order to defend such claim or to assert all available defenses and claims, and shall reasonably cooperate with the defending Party, provided the costs of such assistance shall be equally shared between the Parties. The defending Party shall not enter into a settlement that imposes a financial obligation upon the non-defending Party or which limits the scope or invalidates any Patent Right of the other Party without such Party's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, and in any

settlement the defending Party shall always take into consideration the interest of the non-defending Party.

10.2.4 FTO Licenses. Without prejudice to other provisions of Section 13.4, and the rights and remedies of GSK thereunder, where a Party reasonably concludes that use or exploitation of: (i) in the case of GSK, any CureVac Elements; or (ii) in the case of CureVac, any technology used by or on behalf of GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees to Develop, Manufacture and/or Commercialize COVID Products under this Agreement that is described in the Know-How, or within the scope of the specification of the Patents Rights, Controlled by GSK (excluding, for clarity any CureVac Know-How or CureVac Patent Rights), in each case for the Development, Manufacturing or Commercialization of COVID Products, infringes Third Party rights and will require a freedom-to-operate license from such Third Party, the Parties will discuss the issue and the strategy for obtaining a sublicensable license in the IP Sub-Committee, giving due consideration to the other Party's interest to develop its Background Technology outside the Field and a potential extension of such FTO license at the cost of the other Party, with final endorsement by the JSC. The Parties will inform each other of the status of discussions regarding an FTO license and shall allow the other Party to participate in the negotiations, e.g., by allowing a representative to be part of the negotiation team. Upon request of such Third Party or the other Party, the requested Party will consider in good faith whether and how it may support obtaining a freedom-to-operate license, e.g., by granting a cross-license under its Background Technology to such Third Party. If the Third Party rights are reasonably expected to affect the COVID Products as well as other products, and if they are necessary to obtain freedom to operate with respect to any CureVac Elements, CureVac shall reasonably consider obtaining such freedom-to-operate license, and that license, if sublicensable, will become an additional In-Licensing Agreement as set forth in Section 2.7.1. For any COVID Product other than the Pathogen Combination Products, the license fees payable under such In-Licensing Agreement will be reflected in the profit sharing under Section 8.2.1. With respect to Pathogen Combination Products, if such license is obtained by GSK and required to obtain freedom-to-operate under CureVac Elements, as between the Parties, any costs shall be borne in accordance with Section 8.3.6. If such license is required to obtain freedom-to-operate with respect to a Pathogen Combination Product and/or Modified mRNA used for Pathogen Combination Product (but not under any CureVac Elements), the costs will be borne by [*****], and GSK will use all reasonable efforts to ensure that such license extends to CureVac upon termination of this Agreement.

11 CONFIDENTIALITY.

11.1 Obligation of Confidentiality. As at and after the Effective Date, all Confidential Information disclosed, revealed or otherwise made available to one Party or its Affiliates ("**Receiving Party**") by or on behalf of the other Party ("**Disclosing Party**") under, or as a result of, this Agreement is made available to the Receiving Party solely to permit the Receiving Party to exercise its rights, and perform its obligations, under this Agreement and the 2020 Collaboration Agreement. The Receiving Party shall not use any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information for any other purpose, and shall not disclose, reveal or otherwise make any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information available to any other person, firm, corporation or other entity, without the prior written authorization of the Disclosing Party, except as explicitly stated in this Article 11. Without limiting the foregoing no Receiving Party shall be permitted under this Agreement to share any Confidential Information supplied by a Disclosing Party with (i) any

Third Party (or such Third Party's Affiliates) that becomes an Affiliate of that Receiving Party solely as a result of a Change of Control in that Receiving Party or (ii) in the case of CureVac, any Third Party sublicensee under the CureVac Technology (including those identified in item (iii) of the Disclosure Letter).

11.2 Additional Obligations.

11.2.1 Appropriate Safeguards. In furtherance of the Receiving Party's obligations under Section 11.1 hereof, the Receiving Party shall take all reasonable steps, and shall implement all appropriate and reasonable safeguards, to seek to prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information. The Parties will jointly agree a protocol with information security measures to be implemented to safeguard secured exchange of Confidential Information and personal information, no later than [*****] after the Closing Date.

11.2.2 Unauthorized Use or Disclosure. The Receiving Party shall furnish the Disclosing Party with written notice immediately of it becoming aware and indicating details of any unauthorized use or disclosure of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information by any employee, officer, director, consultant, CRO, CMO, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), and Sublicensees, or Financial Partner of/the Receiving Party, and shall take all actions reasonably required in order to prevent any further unauthorized use or disclosure of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Receiving Party remains responsible and liable for any unauthorized use by any employee, officer, director, consultant, CRO, CMO, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), and Sublicensees, or Financial Partner of the Receiving Party.

11.3 Limitations. The Receiving Party's obligations under Section 11.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Receiving Party can demonstrate by competent written evidence that any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information:

- (i) is known by the Receiving Party at the time of its receipt, and not through a prior disclosure by or on behalf of the Disclosing Party under this Agreement;
- (ii) is in the public domain by use and/or publication before its receipt from the Disclosing Party, or thereafter enters the public domain through no fault of the Receiving Party;
- (iii) is subsequently disclosed to the Receiving Party by a Third Party who may lawfully do so and is not under an obligation of confidentiality regarding the Confidential Information; or
- (iv) is developed by the Receiving Party independently of Confidential Information or material received from the Disclosing Party.

11.4 Authorized Disclosures.

11.4.1 Necessary Disclosures. Each Party may disclose the other Party's Confidential Information as expressly permitted by this Agreement or if and to the extent such disclosure is reasonably necessary in the following instances:

- (i) disclosure to judicial, governmental or other regulatory agencies or authorities in connection with the filing, prosecution, maintenance and defense of Patent Rights as permitted by this Agreement;
- (ii) disclosure to judicial, governmental or other regulatory agencies or authorities to gain or maintain approval, authorizations or the like to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize a given COVID Product that such Party has a license or right to Develop, Manufacture or Commercialize hereunder in a given country or jurisdiction;
- (iii) prosecuting or defending litigation as permitted by this Agreement;
- (iv) disclosure to its and its Affiliates' employees, officers, directors, consultants, CROs, CMOs, contractors, agent(s), consultant(s), to Sublicensees (in the case of GSK) or permitted sublicensees (in the case of CureVac) or the LNP Provider, in each case on a need-to-know basis for the purposes as expressly authorized and contemplated by this Agreement, including for the Development, Manufacturing and/or Commercialization of the COVID Products (or for such entities to determine their interest in performing such activities) in accordance with this Agreement, on the condition that such Affiliates or Third Parties agree to be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations that substantially are no less stringent than those confidentiality and non-use provisions contained in this Agreement;
- (v) disclosure to such Party's attorneys, independent accountants or financial advisors for the sole purpose of enabling such attorneys, independent accountants or financial advisors to provide advice to the Receiving Party, on the condition that such attorneys, independent accountants and financial advisors agree to be bound by the confidentiality and non-use obligations contained in this Agreement; or
- (vi) disclosure to any bona fide potential or actual investor, insurer, acquirer, merger partner, Sublicensee (in the case of GSK), or permitted sublicensees (in the case of CureVac) or other bona fide potential or actual financial partner or funding source ("**Financial Partner**") solely for the purpose of evaluating or carrying out an actual or potential investment, acquisition, license or collaboration, and to any related persons directly connected with such activity being contemplated with the Financial Partner, such as an advisory firm or investment bank; provided that in connection with such disclosure, the Disclosing Party shall notify each disclosee of the confidential nature of such Confidential Information and disclosure shall be subject to the agreement of each disclosee to be bound by confidentiality and non-use obligations that substantially are no less stringent than those confidentiality and non-use provisions contained in this Agreement;

provided, however, that before the effective date of Option Exercise, First-Gen COVID Vaccine Products Dossiers/Data, may not be disclosed under this Section 11.4.1, unless it is in the public domain through no fault of GSK.

11.4.2 Required Disclosures. If a Party is required by judicial, governmental or administrative process, including to comply with Applicable Laws (including stock exchange rules) or pursuant to Section 11.4.1 to disclose Confidential Information that is subject to the non-disclosure

provisions of Section 11.1, such Party shall to the extent reasonably possible provide the other Party with reasonable advance notice of the disclosure that is being sought in order to provide the other Party an opportunity to challenge or limit the disclosure obligations. Confidential Information that is disclosed by judicial, governmental or administrative process shall remain otherwise subject to the confidentiality and non-use provisions of this Article 11, and the Party disclosing Confidential Information pursuant to judicial, governmental or administrative process shall take all steps reasonably necessary, including to seek an order of confidentiality, to ensure the continued confidential treatment of such Confidential Information.

- 11.5 Survival.** All of the Receiving Party's obligations under this Article 11 hereof, with respect to the protection of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, shall for a period of [*****] survive the expiry or termination of this Agreement for any reason whatsoever.
- 11.6 Public Announcements, Press Releases.** Except as otherwise expressly permitted in this Agreement, and except as may be required by Applicable Law, including the listing standards or agreements of any national or international securities exchange, neither Party shall issue any press release or public statement disclosing information relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby or the terms hereof without the prior written consent of the other Party, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Each Party may repeat any information relating to this Agreement that has already been publicly disclosed in accordance with this Section 11.6, provided such information continues at such time to be accurate.
- 11.7 Publication of Development Data.** The Parties acknowledge the merit of publishing Development Data regarding the COVID Products (other than CMC Development Data) in searchable, peer-reviewed scientific literature in accordance with international scientific publishing practices and standards (including regarding the recognition of contribution and authorship). Either Party may request the other Party to discuss and determine in good faith a joint publication strategy for the Development Data regarding the COVID Products, which shall be effective upon endorsement by the IP Sub-Committee and the respective Alliance Managers. As between the Parties, the Party by whom or on whose behalf the experiment or study generating such Development Data has been conducted, shall be responsible for the publication of such Development Data, unless defined otherwise in a joint publication strategy. Any intended publication of Development Data regarding a COVID Product (including presentations to Third Parties or publication in intellectual property filings) shall be notified to the IP Sub-Committee by the relevant Party as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event at least [*****] before the final decision to publish, to allow the other Party to review and comment on the publication. The other Party may demand that the publication of the proposed presentation or publication is delayed for a period of [*****] in order to assess whether the Development Data intended to be published is patentable. If the other Party decides to pursue patent protection, it may request the publishing Party to further delay the publication of the proposed presentation or publication for a time not exceeding [*****] from the date of the publishing Party's notification, to enable adequate protection and prosecution of Patent Rights by either Party or their Affiliates.

With respect to any agreements between a Party and Third Parties (including clinical investigators) that a Party enters into after the Closing Date relating to the Development of any COVID Product or otherwise relating to Development activities under this Agreement, such

Party shall use reasonable efforts to include publication provisions regarding results of the experiments and studies for such COVID Products that allow such Party to receive and provide a copy of any proposed publications or public presentations to the other Party, which such Party shall submit to the other Party with a reasonable amount of time for review as described in this Section 11.7.

Subject to the above review, a Party shall have the right as required by Applicable Law or its policies and standard operating procedures to (a) publish protocol summaries, results summaries, protocols, clinical study reports, plain language summaries and other study documents of all Clinical Studies conducted by or on behalf of such Party during the Term of this Agreement in any clinical trial register, including any of its own clinical trial registers; (b) publicly disclose results from other Clinical Studies where that Party determines that the results are scientifically important or relevant for patient care; and (c) make any other public disclosures of clinical Development Data that become required by GSK or CureVac due to Applicable Laws.

12 COMPLIANCE, QUALITY, INTEGRITY

12.1 Legal Compliance. Each Party shall procure that it and its personnel performs this Agreement in accordance with Applicable Laws.

12.2 GxP. GSK and CureVac shall undertake the Development activities regarding the COVID Products, in compliance with GxP. With regard to any Clinical Studies conducted by CureVac under this Agreement, GSK may require CureVac to comply with the policies and standards of the GSK regarding the human subject research conducted to its benefit, and shall in this respect allow GSK, at its request, to review and approve at least the protocol and informed consent forms associated with such Clinical Studies.

12.3 Data Integrity. GSK and CureVac shall carry out their respective Development activities under this Agreement, and collect and record any data generated therefrom, in a manner consistent with the following good data management practices: (i) Development Data shall be generated using sound scientific techniques and processes; (ii) Development Data shall be analyzed appropriately, without bias and in accordance with good scientific practices; and (iii) Development Data shall be accurately recorded in accordance with good scientific practices by the individuals performing the research and in accordance with the ALCOA CCEA data integrity principles: (A) Attributable: data are traceable to the originator, (person and/or a computerized system, a device, an instrument), including any changes made to data, i.e. who performed an action and when, so that key decisions made during the conduct of the research, presentations made about the research and conclusions reached in respect of the research can be easily demonstrated and reconstructed; (B) Legible: data are readable and understandable; (C) Contemporaneous: data are recorded at the time they are generated or observed as per regulatory requirements; or in absence of regulatory requirements, local business practices; (D) Original (true copy): data as the file or format in which it was first generated, e.g. first paper record of manual observation, or electronic raw data file from a computerized system as per regulatory requirements; or in absence of regulatory requirements, local business practices; (E) Accurate: data, including error corrections and edits, are correct, truthful and to the appropriate precision; (F) Complete: all expected elements of the data are present (i.e., no unexplained gaps in the data) and the full meaning and context is preserved with the data; (G) Consistent: all elements of the record follow in the expected sequence; (H) Enduring: data are recorded in a permanent medium

(paper or electronic) and continue to be retained in a human readable format for as long as specified in applicable record retention requirements; and (I) Available: data are maintained securely in such a way that they are accessible and retrievable in reasonable times ("**Good Data Management Practices**"). Each Party shall maintain written policies and standards related to Good Data Management Practices and shall ensure appropriate, documented training of its relevant personnel with respect to Good Data Management Practices.

- 12.4 Human Biological Samples.** If the Parties wish to source Human Biological Samples on each other's behalf or exchange Human Biological Samples between them, such exchange shall be recorded in separate addendums to this Agreement setting forth further terms and conditions for the specific purpose. GSK and CureVac undertake that the Human Biological Samples used or collected in connection with the Development have been obtained and will be stored, transferred, used and disposed of in accordance with all Applicable Laws and any generally accepted ethical guidelines regarding the collection, use, transport and disposal of human tissue, including with regard to consents from patients, volunteers and other donors.
- 12.5 Privacy; Information Security.** The Parties shall comply with Data Protection Laws (as defined in **Exhibit 12.5**), including those concerning medical confidentiality and privacy in relation to human subjects of the Development activities regarding the COVID Products. The Parties acknowledge that they do not intend that one Party processes personal information for and on behalf of the other Party. If personal information is transferred between the Parties (as between controllers) pursuant to the performance of this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, the Parties shall comply with **Exhibit 12.5**, which may be amended from time to time by the Parties as is required by Applicable Laws. The Parties will enter into further data protection agreements if required by Applicable Laws.
- 12.6 Ethical Care of Animals.** The Parties shall comply with all Applicable Laws for the care, welfare and ethical treatment of animals in the country where animal testing or animal research is performed. The Parties shall implement the "3Rs" Principles – reducing the number of animals used, replacing animal with non-animal methods whenever possible and refining the research techniques used. All work shall be performed in adherence to the core principles for animals identified below. Local customs, norms, practices or laws may be additive to the core principles, but each Party agrees to comply and shall procure and ensure that those acting for or on behalf of such Party (including its subcontractors) comply, as a minimum, with these core principles: (i) access to species appropriate food and water; (ii) access to species specific housing, including species appropriate temperature and humidity levels; (iii) provision of humane care and a program of veterinary care through guidance of a veterinarian; (iv) animal housing that minimizes the development of abnormal behaviors; (v) adherence to principles of replacement, refinement and reduction in the design of in vivo or ex vivo studies with processes to optimize animal use and to ensure effective population management; (vi) supported by a relevant scientific justification/rationale, approved by an institutional ethical review process and subjected to independent scientific review; (vii) commitment to minimizing pain and distress during in vivo and ex vivo studies; and (viii) work is performed by personnel documented as trained and competent to conduct the procedures for which they are responsible. Each Party agrees that all protocols involving animal research or animal testing for in connection with the COVID Products shall undergo an ethical review, whether or not required by Applicable Law, and that written documentation confirming ethical review shall be maintained by such Party until [*****]
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after the completion of the experiment or test, demonstrating that the review was completed. If a Party is currently accredited by AAALACi, such Party agrees to make commercially reasonable efforts to maintain its AAALACi accreditation during the life of this Agreement. Each Party shall have procedures in place to assess and approve its external suppliers and distributors who supply animals to it to: (i) ascertain and confirm the quality of the animals supplied; (ii) ensure legal requirements for the care and welfare of animals are met; and (iii) ensure that only purpose bred animals are used to perform the animal testing or research. The distance of suppliers from the test facility shall be minimized (where practicable) and transport processes (e.g. stocking densities, carrying crates, food and water) shall ensure minimum stress. On arrival, each Party shall ensure checks are in place to confirm only healthy animals are used. Each Party shall document the approval of its animal suppliers and distributors, which documentation shall be made available to the other Party upon request. GSK shall have the right, but not the obligation, to approve any supplier of non-human primates or other animals, which right may be invoked upon notice to CureVac.

- 12.7** Environment, Health and Safety. CureVac shall: (i) maintain an "EHS" (environment, health and safety) policy and risk-based management system with a commitment to provide a safe and healthy workplace and protect the environment surrounding its operations; (ii) ensure there is at least one senior executive with responsibility for EHS and the organization has access to technical expertise to support the company in meeting EHS obligations; (iii) provide relevant information, education and training to workers on the hazards, risks and controls associated with their job; (iv) provide the physical infrastructure, workplace and engineering controls necessary to ensure safe storage, handling and processing of materials and waste in order to protect people, the environment and local communities from harm; and (v) provide and maintain emergency detection systems and an effective response and healthcare capabilities.
- 12.8** **Sanctions and export controls.** The Parties represent and warrant that they are aware of, and undertake in carrying out their obligations under this Agreement and the agreements referred to within this Agreement that they will not violate and prevent becoming exposed to penalties under, all sanctions, export control, and anti-boycott laws, regulations, orders, directives, designations, licenses, and decisions of the European Union, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and of any other country with jurisdiction over activities undertaken in connection with this Agreement, if applicable ("**Sanctions & Trade Controls**"). Each Party undertakes that, at all times, in the performance of their obligations under this Agreement and the agreements referred to within this Agreement, they will not take any action that causes the other Party to violate or otherwise become exposed to penalties under any Sanctions & Trade Controls. Neither Party shall be required to take or refrain from taking any action, nor shall it be required to furnish any information, that would be prohibited under any Sanctions & Trade Controls (as defined above).
- 12.9** **Anti-bribery and corruption.** Each Party shall comply fully at all times with all Applicable Laws, including but not limited to anti-corruption laws, and represents and warrants that it has not, and covenants that it will not, in connection with the performance of this Agreement, directly or indirectly, make, promise, authorize, ratify or offer to make, or take any act in furtherance of any payment or transfer of anything of value for the purpose of influencing, inducing or rewarding any act, omission or decision to secure an improper advantage; or improperly assisting in obtaining or retaining business, or in any way with the purpose or effect
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of public or commercial bribery, and warrants that it has taken reasonable measures to prevent subcontractors, agents or any other Third Parties, subject to its control or determining influence, from doing so. For the avoidance of doubt this includes facilitating payments, which are unofficial, improper, small payments or gifts offered or made to Government Officials to secure or expedite a routine or necessary action to which a Party is legally entitled. Either Party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement immediately on written notice to the other Party, if the other Party fails to perform its obligations in accordance with this Section 12.9. A Party shall have no claim against the other Party for compensation for any loss of whatever nature by virtue of the termination of this Agreement in accordance with this Section 12.9. Either Party shall inform the other Party in writing, if, during the course of this Agreement, it is convicted of or pleads guilty to a criminal offence involving fraud or corruption, or becomes the subject of any government investigation for such offenses, or is listed by any government agency as debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or otherwise ineligible for government programs. Either Party shall ensure that all transactions under the Agreement are properly and accurately recorded in all material respects on its books and records and each document upon which entries such books and records are based is complete and accurate in all material respects. Either Party must maintain a system of internal accounting controls reasonably designed to ensure that it maintains no off-the-books accounts.

- 12.10 Changes to Compliance Framework.** At any time during the term of this Agreement, either Party may suggest reasonable amendments to this Article 12 and the clauses of this Agreement referencing this Article 12, or any provision of any Ancillary Agreement concerning compliance, quality, safety or integrity, where such Party reasonably believes such changes are required to ensure compliance with Applicable Laws, or such Party's interpretation of Applicable Laws as reflected in the values, quality, integrity, safety or compliance framework of the group to which that Party belongs. The other Party shall not unreasonably refuse or delay its agreement to such amendments. In case of any conflict between the Parties' interpretation of frameworks, the more stringent interpretation or framework shall be reflected in the amendment.
- 12.11 Breaches.** Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party of any significant deficiencies impacting the performance of this Agreement having regard to its compliance with this Article 12 and any corrective actions taken.
- 12.12 Audit.** GSK or its nominee shall have the right to enter the CureVac's manufacturing facilities and any of CureVac's other offices, facilities, records and information systems to carry out an audit to verify and monitor CureVac's compliance with Article 12 [*****] per Calendar Year, save any "For Cause" audits. The scope of the audit may include, but need not be limited to, a tour of the facility, the opportunity to view relevant standard operating procedures (SOPs), training records, building management records, animal health records, ethical review documents, and any other documents reasonably necessary to assess compliance by CureVac. The duration of the inspection shall be at the sole reasonable discretion of GSK. Audits conducted under this Section 12.12 shall require reasonable prior notice of at least [*****], except in case of For Cause audits (as defined below), in which case such limitation a prior notice of [*****] shall suffice. Audits conducted under this Section 12.12 shall be scheduled in such a manner so as not to impact the production schedule or CureVac's normal business activities and shall be conducted during regular business hours. For the purposes of this Section 12.12, a "For Cause" audit shall be an audit conducted based on a substantiated suspicion
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by GSK of a material lack of compliance with Article 12, in respect of which GSK has shared with CureVac documentation substantiating its suspicion prior to the audit. Persons conducting the on-site audits shall be required to comply with reasonable CureVac rules applicable to the site and GSK shall ensure that any person involved in any audit (including a document-only inspection) shall be bound by an obligation of confidentiality. CureVac shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that the same audit rights for GSK as described in this Section 12.12 apply with respect to the premises of any subcontractors authorized in accordance with this Agreement. This Section 12.12 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the extent GSK is Manufacturing COVID Products under this Agreement.

13 INDEMNIFICATION AND REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

- 13.1 Indemnification by GSK.** GSK will defend, indemnify and hold CureVac and its Affiliates and their directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents, permitted sublicensees and contractors (the "**CureVac Indemnified Parties**") harmless from and against any and all losses, liabilities, claims, suits, proceedings, expenses, fees, recoveries and damages, including reasonable and demonstrable legal expenses and costs including attorneys' fees, resulting or arising out of any claim by any Third Party resulting or arising from (i) the negligence or willful misconduct of GSK, any of its Affiliates or Sublicensees, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, agents or contractors; (ii) the Development, Manufacturing and/or Commercialization of the Pathogen Combination Products by or on behalf of GSK (other than as conducted by CureVac), any of its Affiliates or any of their respective Sublicensees; or (iii) any breach of this Agreement by GSK, any of its Affiliates or any of their Sublicensees; except, in each case, to the extent caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of any of the CureVac Indemnified Parties.
- 13.2 Indemnification by CureVac.** CureVac will defend, indemnify and hold GSK and its Affiliates and their directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents, Sublicensees and contractors (the "**GSK Indemnified Parties**") harmless from and against any and all losses, liabilities, claims, suits, proceedings, expenses, fees, recoveries and damages, including reasonable and demonstrable legal expenses and costs including attorneys' fees, resulting or arising out of any claim by any Third Party resulting or arising from (i) the negligence or willful misconduct of CureVac, any of its Affiliates, or any of their respective directors, officers, employees, consultants, agents or contractors (including an approved subcontractor or approved CMO); or (ii) the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of any of the Pathogen Combination Products, if any, by or on behalf of CureVac (other than as conducted by GSK), any of its Affiliates, or their approved subcontractors or approved other CMOs; or (iii) any breach of this Agreement by CureVac, or any of its Affiliates; except, in each case, to the extent caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of any of the GSK Indemnified Parties.
- 13.3 Indemnification Procedures.** The indemnified Party will give the indemnifying Party prompt notice of any such claim or lawsuit. Such notice shall include a reasonable identification of the alleged facts giving rise to such claim for indemnification. The failure to deliver written notice to the indemnifying Party within a reasonable time after the commencement of any action with respect to a claim shall only relieve the indemnifying Party of its indemnification obligations if and to the extent the indemnifying Party is actually and materially prejudiced thereby. The indemnifying Party shall notify the indemnified Party of its intentions as to the defense of the
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claim in writing within [*****] after the indemnifying Party's receipt of notice of the claim from the indemnified Party. If the indemnifying Party assumes defense of the claim, the indemnified Party may participate in, but not control, the defense of such claim using attorneys of its choice and at its sole cost and expense (i.e., with such cost and expense not being covered by the indemnifying Party). The indemnified Party shall reasonably cooperate with the indemnifying Party in its defense of the claim at the indemnifying Party's reasonable, pre- approved expense. The indemnifying Party will have the right to compromise, settle or defend any such claim or lawsuit; provided that (i) no offer of settlement, settlement or compromise by the indemnifying Party shall be binding on the indemnified Party without its prior written consent, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, unless such settlement fully releases the indemnified Party without any liability, loss, cost or obligation incurred by the indemnified Party and in no event shall any settlement or compromise admit or concede that any aspect of any Patent Right owned or Controlled by the indemnified Party is invalid or unenforceable or adversely affect the scope of any Patent Right owned or Controlled by the indemnified Party; and (ii) the indemnifying Party shall not have authority to admit any wrongdoing or misconduct on the part of the indemnified Party except with the indemnified Party's prior written consent. If the indemnifying Party does not agree to assume the defense of the claim asserted against the indemnified Party (or does not give notice that it is assuming such defense), or if the indemnifying Party assumes the defense of the claim in accordance with this Section 13.3, but yet fails to defend or take other reasonable, timely action, in response to such claim asserted against the indemnified Party, the indemnified Party shall have the right to defend or take other reasonable action to defend its interests in such proceedings, and shall have the right to litigate, settle or otherwise dispose of any such claim; *provided, however*, that no Party shall have the right to settle a claim in a manner that would adversely affect the rights granted to the other Party hereunder, or would materially conflict with this Agreement, without the prior written consent of the Party entitled to control the defense of such claim, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned.

13.4 CureVac Representations and Warranties. Subject to the disclosures in the attached **Exhibit 13.4 ("Disclosure Letter")** CureVac represents and warrants to GSK as at the Effective Date, that:

- (i) it is the sole and exclusive owner of the Patent Rights listed in **Exhibit 1.58** or otherwise Controls such Patent Rights;
 - (ii) to CureVac's knowledge, it has the full right, power and authority to grant the rights and licenses it purports to grant hereunder;
 - (iii) neither CureVac nor any of its Affiliates has granted any Third Party any rights or licenses that would interfere or be inconsistent with GSK's rights and licenses hereunder;
 - (iv) CureVac has received no written notice of or any written demand relating to any threatened or pending litigation, and no other matters are within CureVac's knowledge, which would reasonably lead it to believe that GSK's exercise of any rights purported to be granted by CureVac under this Agreement will infringe any Patent Rights or infringe or misappropriate any other intellectual property right of any Third Party;
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- (v) there is no currently pending administrative proceedings or litigation and no administrative proceedings or litigation seeking to invalidate or otherwise challenge any CureVac Patent Right(s) has been threatened in writing;
- (vi) CureVac has not given any written notice to any Third Party asserting infringement by such Third Party of any of the CureVac Technology or LNP Technology and, to CureVac's Knowledge, there is no unauthorized use, infringement or misappropriation of the CureVac Technology;
- (vii) the CureVac Technology is free and clear of all encumbrances, security interests, options, and charges of any kind;
- (viii) to CureVac's knowledge, the In-Licensing Agreements are valid and effective and CureVac has not received a written notice of termination for any of these In-Licensing Agreements;
- (ix) to CureVac's knowledge, there is no ongoing litigation in respect of, litigation reasonably in prospect in connection with, and no reasonable prospect of termination under the In- Licensing Agreements by the respective counterparties under those agreements ahead of the respective expiry dates of such In-Licensing Agreements;
- (x) to CureVac's knowledge, the information and documents set forth in or referred to in the Disclosure Letter are true, complete and accurate in all material respects;
- (xi) to CureVac's knowledge, the information and documents regarding the In-Licensing Agreements, CureVac's portfolio of Patent Rights, toxicology studies, clinical data, process and analytical information, manufacturing process information, material filing and correspondence with Regulatory Authorities, disclosed in the [*****] e-data room prior to the Effective Date as a part of GSK's due diligence, is true, complete and accurate in all material respects;
- (xii) CureVac has disclosed to GSK all redacted drug safety monitoring board meeting minutes, internal safety review committee meeting minutes for the [*****] as of its Initiation, and there are no other material issues identified in any letters or notices to or from Regulatory Authorities (including EMA/Rapporteur meetings) involving these [*****]; and
- (xiii) CureVac has the right to transfer [*****] for the manufacture of COVID Products under this Agreement.

13.5 LNP Warranties. To the extent permitted under the LNP Agreement, CureVac hereby warrants to GSK on a pass-through basis each matter which is the subject of any representation or warranty given by the LNP Provider to CureVac under the LNP Agreement.

13.6 Representations, Warranties of the Parties to Each Other. CureVac and GSK each represents and warrants and covenants with respect to itself only as at the Effective Date that:

- (i) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement have been duly authorized by all necessary action on the part of such Party, its officers and directors, and does not conflict with, violate, or breach any agreement to which such Party is a party, or such Party's corporate charter, bylaws or similar organizational documents;
- (ii) this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Party that is enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be limited by general principles of equity or to applicable competition, bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, liquidation and other similar laws relating to, or affecting generally, the enforcement of applicable creditors' rights and remedies;
- (iii) it is a company or corporation duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated.

13.7 Due Diligence. Prior to the execution of any Ancillary Agreement, other than the Clinical Supply Agreement, GSK shall be entitled to perform further due diligence regarding CureVac's capabilities to perform in accordance with terms defined herein for such agreement. Without prejudice to the Parties' other rights and remedies, the Parties shall in good faith cooperate to address and remedy any issue identified during the due diligence referred to in this Section 13.7. For the avoidance of doubt, if GSK discovers a material issue regarding CureVac's capabilities to comply with such agreement, GSK may in addition to its other rights and remedies suspend the execution of any such agreement until such ground has been remedied by CureVac.

13.8 Disclaimer. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, each Party expressly disclaims, waives, releases, and renounces any representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied either in fact or by operation of law, by statute or otherwise, whether written or oral, or arising from course of performance, course of dealing or usage of trade, including any representation or warranty with respect to non-infringement, value, adequacy, freedom from fault, quality, efficiency, suitability, characteristics or usefulness, or merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

13.9 Limitation of Liability. Except in the case of any breach of Article 11 or in case of willful misconduct or gross negligence, neither Party shall be liable to the other Party for any indirect, punitive or consequential damages, or for damages for loss of profits or loss of business opportunity, whether based on contract or tort, or arising under Applicable Laws or otherwise.

14 TERM AND TERMINATION.

14.1 Term. The term of this Agreement will commence on the Closing Date and end on the expiry of all applicable payment obligations to CureVac under this Agreement, unless terminated earlier according to the terms and conditions of this Agreement ("**Term**").

14.2 Termination at Will by GSK. GSK may terminate this Agreement in its entirety at any time without cause upon [*****] prior written notice to CureVac.

14.3 Opt-out Right of CureVac. On a COVID Product-by COVID Product basis, CureVac may notify GSK of its decision to opt-out of the funding of the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of a COVID Product under this Agreement; that notice shall terminate this



Agreement in part in relation to the relevant COVID Product(s) with immediate effect. CureVac may equally decide to opt-out of the funding of the Development of a COVID Product under this Agreement required specifically for obtaining Regulatory Approval for marketing in a Major Market; that notice shall terminate this Agreement in part in relation to that COVID Product for that Major Market with immediate effect.

- 14.4 Termination for Cause by Either Party before First Commercial Sale.** Before the First Commercial Sale of a COVID Product in a Territory, if either Party ("**Breaching Party**") commits a material breach or default of any of its obligations hereunder, such breach to include a material breach by GSK of its diligence obligations under Section 4.10 with respect to a COVID Product, the other Party hereto ("**Non-Breaching Party**") may give the Breaching Party written notice of such material breach or default, and shall request that such material breach or default be cured as soon as reasonably practicable. If the Breaching Party fails to cure such breach or default within [*****] after the date of the Non-Breaching Party's written notice thereof, the Non-Breaching Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination to the Breaching Party. If the Breaching Party indicates in writing that it will be unable or is unwilling to cure the breach, this Agreement may be terminated by the NonBreaching Party with immediate effect.
- 14.5 Termination for Cause by Either Party after First Commercial Sale.** After the First Commercial Sale of a COVID Product in a Territory, if: (i) GSK fails to pay any amount payable under Article 8 or any Ancillary Agreement; (ii) CureVac fails to pay any amount payable under any Ancillary Agreement; (iii) either Party commits any willful and material breach of the restrictions on any license granted to that Party pursuant to this Agreement; (iv) either Party commits a material breach of the non-compete obligations under Section 2.3; (v) GSK commits a material breach of its diligence obligations under Section 5.5, or (vi) either Party commits any persistent and material breach of Article 11, and the Breaching Party fails to cure such breach or default within [*****] after the date of the written notice thereof from the Non-Breaching Party, the Non-Breaching Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice of termination to the Breaching Party. If the Breaching Party indicates in writing that it will be unable or is unwilling to cure the breach, this Agreement may be terminated by the Non-Breaching Party with immediate effect.
- 14.6 Termination in respect of Anti-bribery and Corruption.** Either Party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement in the circumstances specified in Section 12.9.
- 14.7 Non-exclusive remedy.** Termination of this Agreement in accordance with Sections 14.4, 14.5, or 14.6 shall not affect or impair the Non-Breaching Party's right to pursue any legal remedy, including the right to recover damages, for any harm suffered or incurred by the Non-Breaching Party as a result of such breach or default.
- 15 CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION.**
- 15.1 Opt-Out by CureVac.** GSK shall notify CureVac in writing within [*****] of receipt of notice of an opt-out decision by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.3, if GSK wishes to:
- (i) cease the Development and Commercialization of the relevant COVID Product(s) and decline the transfer of any rights and be released from all obligations under this
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Agreement in relation to the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the relevant COVID Products under this Agreement (the "**GSK COVID Cease Option**"); or

- (ii) continue the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Product(s) (the "**GSK COVID Continue Option**").

15.2 Election by CureVac on Termination by GSK at Will or Termination by CureVac for Cause. CureVac shall notify GSK in writing within [*****] of notice of termination in accordance with Sections 14.2, 14.4, 14.5, or 14.6 if CureVac wishes to:

- (i) cease the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Products and decline the transfer of any rights in relation to the Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products under this Agreement (the "**CureVac Cease Option**"); or
- (ii) continue, itself or with a Third Party, with the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Product(s) (the "**CureVac Continue Option**").

15.3 Election by GSK on Termination by GSK for Cause. GSK shall notify CureVac in writing within [*****] of notice of termination in accordance with Sections 14.4, 14.5, or 14.6 if GSK wishes to:

- (i) cease the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Products and decline the transfer of any rights in relation to Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products under this Agreement, (the "**GSK Cease Option**"); or
- (ii) continue with the Development and Commercialization of the COVID Products (the "**GSK Continue Option**").

15.4 [***] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement.** Upon termination of this Agreement, regardless of any election made by the Parties in accordance with Sections 15.1, 15.2 or 15.3, each Party shall be entitled to, and shall be required to, continue with the Manufacture and Commercialization of any COVID Products in accordance with this Agreement and each applicable Ancillary Agreement, and (except as specified below) neither Party shall be relieved of any obligation under this Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement relating to the Manufacture and Commercialization of any COVID Product, if and to the extent required in accordance with its respective obligations under the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement to fulfill the Parties' commitments under each phase of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, until the later of: (i) the date on which the Parties have satisfied in full their respective commitments under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement; (ii) the effective date of termination of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement; or (iii) the effective date of release of GSK from or replacement of GSK under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement in accordance with section 10.5 of the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement (the "**[*****] PPA End Date**"). The licences granted to GSK under this Agreement (including under Section 2) and any rights associated with such licences shall survive the termination of this Agreement (provided that, in each case, such licences shall be non-exclusive for the purposes of this Section 15.4), if and solely to the extent required to fulfill the Parties' commitments under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement until the [*****] PPA End

Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Section 2.3 shall terminate immediately and have no further effect.

For the avoidance of doubt, the termination of this Agreement shall not affect the Parties' obligations under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement or under the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement. The Parties shall meet, following an election by the relevant Party in accordance with Sections 15.1, 15.2 or 15.3, to discuss whether (and on what terms) either Party may be prepared to assume the rights and obligations of the other Party under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, provided that (i) neither Party shall be required, pursuant to this Section 15.4, to transfer, or to assume, any rights or obligations under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement, (ii) any transfer or assumption must comply with Applicable Law, and (iii) any approval that may be required from [*****] for a transfer or assumption shall be obtained. Nothing in this Section 15.4 shall supersede or limit the Parties' respective rights and responsibilities under section 10.5 of the [*****] PPA Consortium Agreement, and regardless of any election made by the Parties in accordance with Sections 15.1, 15.2 or 15.3, CureVac shall have the right to continue the Manufacture and Commercialization of COVID Products under the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (or any replacement agreement) for the term of the [*****] Pandemic Preparedness Agreement (or any replacement agreement).

15.5 Specific consequences of CureVac Cease Option, the GSK Cease Option and the GSK COVID Cease Option.

If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option or GSK elects the GSK Cease Option or the GSK COVID Cease Option, then, subject to Section 15.4:

- (i) Reversion of Rights: Without prejudice to Section 9.4, at the effective date of termination, all of CureVac's rights to the CureVac Technology and LNP Technology shall automatically revert back to CureVac and all of GSK's rights to the GSK Technology shall automatically revert back to GSK.
 - (ii) Wind-Down (including costs): Each Party shall, at its own cost (subject to Sections 15.5(iii) and 15.5(iv)), wind-down any on-going activities and commitments in connection with this Agreement and the Ancillary Agreements and use all reasonable efforts (*obligation de moyen*) to do so by the effective date of termination. If GSK exercises the GSK COVID Cease Option, the Parties will work towards completion of those activities within [*****] after the date of the GSK COVID Cease Option.
 - (iii) Costs (On Opt-Out by CureVac): If CureVac gives notice of an opt-out decision by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.3 and GSK exercises the GSK COVID Cease Option, neither party shall have any further obligation to reimburse Development Costs, from the date of notice of the opt-out decision by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.3.
 - (iv) Costs (On Termination by GSK at Will): If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option following a termination by GSK in accordance with Section 14.2 while the COVID R&D Plan(s) for a COVID Product has not been completed, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for the Development Costs until the effective date of termination.
 - (v) Costs (On Termination by CureVac for Cause): If CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option following a termination by CureVac for cause in accordance with Section 14.4, 14.5 or 14.6, GSK shall reimburse CureVac for the Development Costs until the effective date of termination and reimburse CureVac for its demonstrable
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stranded costs arising from the early termination of the COVID R&D Plan(s). CureVac shall use reasonable endeavors to mitigate those stranded costs.

15.6 Specific consequences of the CureVac Continue Option. If CureVac elects the CureVac Continue Option, then, subject to Section 15.4, the following shall apply:

- (i) Transition: The JSC shall promptly meet to devise a transition plan, which provides for an orderly and cost-effective transition of, and which sets forth the responsibilities and a timetable for transferring, all Development, Manufacturing and Commercialization responsibilities to CureVac or a Third Party selected by CureVac for this purpose (the "**Transition Plan**"). Each Party will bear its own costs to agree and implement the Transition Plan unless CureVac has terminated this Agreement for cause in accordance with Section 14.4, 14.5 or 14.6, in which case GSK shall reimburse CureVac for its reasonable and demonstrable direct costs incurred to implement the Transition Plan.
 - (ii) Reversion of Rights: Without prejudice to Section 9.4, all of CureVac's rights to the CureVac Technology and LNP Technology shall automatically revert back to CureVac, except that if the date of termination occurs after the First Commercial Sale of a COVID Product, (i) the termination of the rights and obligations of the Parties, and the transfer and/or return of rights pursuant to this Article 15, shall take effect on a country-by-country basis, at time as CureVac is able to take over the Commercialization of the COVID Product in such country where that COVID Product is sold with no adverse impact on the continuous availability of COVID Products in that country (the "**Cut-Over Date**") and (ii) until such date in such country, the licenses granted to GSK under this Agreement (including under Article 2) and any rights and obligations associated with such licenses (including GSK's payment obligations under Article 8) shall survive.
 - (iii) Transfer of Development Data and Regulatory Approvals. CureVac shall have the right to request in writing, as part of the Transition Plan:
 - (a) a complete copy of all Development Data Controlled by GSK to be provided in original form and access to all other Know-How in GSK's possession or under its Control relating to the COVID Products, such Development Data and other Know- How to be provided within [*****] of such request; and
 - (b) the transfer of Regulatory Approvals held by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, and if Regulatory Approvals have not been obtained by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, CureVac may require that GSK transfers to CureVac the status of any application for the Regulatory Approvals and notifies the competent Regulatory Authority thereof and supplies CureVac with all documents and clinical data already prepared by GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees for the filing of applications for Regulatory Approvals (with GSK using its good faith efforts to promptly undertake such actions).
 - (iv) GSK Trademark License: As part of the Transition Plan, on receipt of a written request from CureVac, GSK grants to CureVac an exclusive (even as to GSK), cost-free, perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under the trademarks Controlled by GSK and used for the COVID Products in the relevant
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jurisdiction(s) for the Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products in the Territory, excluding, however, any such trademarks – or such parts of a trademark - that include, in whole or part, any corporate name or logo of GSK, its Affiliates or Sublicensees, and excluding any trademark – or such part of a trademark - which contains the letters "[*****]" as prefix or suffix (in which case GSK will not oppose any application by CureVac to register a trademark which is similar to any trademark owned by GSK but does not use the letters "[*****]" as prefix or suffix).

- (v) GSK Technology License. On a COVID Product-by-COVID Product and country-by- country basis effective from the Cut-Over Date, GSK grants to CureVac (i) an exclusive (even as to GSK), perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under GSK's interest in Joint Patent Rights and the Know-How related to the Inventions claimed in such Joint Patent Rights, and, (ii) upon CureVac's election, to be exercised no later than [*****] after the effective date of termination, a non-exclusive royalty-bearing, perpetual and worldwide license (with the right to sublicense in multiple tiers) under the other GSK Technology which has been used by GSK for the Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of the terminated COVID Products and is required for the further Development, Manufacture and/or Commercialization of such COVID Products, in each case of (i) and (ii) for the continued Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products in the Territory.
 - (vi) Post-Termination Financial Terms (Termination by GSK at Will): If GSK terminates this Agreement in its entirety in accordance with Section 14.2 and CureVac elects the CureVac Continue Option and the license to the GSK Technology under Section 15.6(ii), then, on a COVID Product-by-COVID Product basis, effective from the Cut-Over Date, in consideration of the licenses granted in Section 15.6(ii), CureVac shall pay GSK royalties as forth in **Exhibit 15.6**.
 - (vii) Post-Termination Financial Terms (Termination by CureVac for Cause): If CureVac terminates this Agreement for cause in accordance with Section 14.4, 14.5 or 14.6, CureVac shall pay GSK the fair market value for acquisition by CureVac of the COVID Product(s) and the associated exclusive license rights and benefits pursuant to this Section 15.6, provided that CureVac may, if CureVac claims or seeks to claim damages in relation to breach of this Agreement by GSK, suspend the payment of such fair market value until the amount of damages suffered or incurred by CureVac has been agreed between the Parties or determined by an arbitration panel in accordance with Section 16.5, at which point those damages (if any) shall be set off against such fair market value payment (and any fair market value payment which would remain outstanding after the set off of damages shall become due and payable within [*****] after the agreement or determination of the amount of damages).
 - (viii) Expert Panel. For the purposes of Section 15.4(iv), the "fair market value" shall be agreed by the Parties, or if the Parties are unable to agree within [*****] from the date of election in accordance with Section 15.2, either Party may refer the matter to be determined by a panel of experts in accordance with this Section 15.6. The Parties shall agree on the appointment of the panel of experts, comprising three (3)
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members experienced in the biopharmaceutical sector, in transactions within the biopharmaceutical sector, and the valuation of technology of the biopharmaceutical sector, and shall agree with the experts the terms of their appointment. If the Parties are unable to agree on the identity of the experts within [****] after expiry of the aforementioned term [****] term, or if any of the persons proposed is unable or unwilling to act, then each Party shall nominate one expert, which two experts shall together select the third and final expert, who shall preside the expert panel. The experts shall act on the following basis: (i) on their appointment, the experts shall confirm their neutrality, independence and the absence of conflicts in determining the fair market value for the rights granted pursuant to this Article 15; (ii) the experts shall act as experts and not arbitrators; (iii) the experts' determination shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding on the Parties and not subject to appeal; (iv) the experts shall decide the procedure to be followed in the determination in accordance with this Agreement; (v) the costs of the determination, including the fees and expenses of the experts (but excluding the parties' own costs which shall be borne by the Party incurring those costs), shall be borne by GSK; and (vi) the expert determination and all matters connected with it shall be held in complete confidence by each of the Parties and shall not be disclosed to any other person except as permitted under Article 11.

15.7 Specific Consequences of the GSK Continue Option.

If GSK terminates this Agreement under Sections 14.4, 14.5 or 14.6, the rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall terminate as at the effective date of such termination (or, if later, the Cut-Over Date) and, subject to Section 15.4, the consequences set forth in this Section 15.6 shall apply:

- (i) Survival of licenses: The licenses granted to GSK under this Agreement (including under Article 2) and any rights associated with such licenses shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
 - (ii) Post-Termination Financial Terms: Save as set out in Section 15.7(iii), GSK shall pay CureVac the fair market value for acquisition by GSK of the COVID Product(s) (other than any Pathogen Combination Product) and the associated exclusive license rights and benefits pursuant to this Section 15.7, provided that GSK may, if GSK claims or seeks to claim damages in relation to breach of this Agreement by CureVac, suspend the payment of such fair market value until the amount of damages suffered or incurred by GSK has been agreed between the Parties or determined by an arbitration panel in accordance with Section 16.5, at which point those damages (if any) shall be set off against such fair market value payment (and any fair market value payment which remains outstanding after the set off of damages shall become due and payable within [****] after the agreement or determination of the amount of damages).
 - (iii) Post-Termination Financial Terms (Pathogen Combination Products): In relation to any Pathogen Combination Product, all payment obligations under Article 8 shall remain in effect. With respect to royalties arising after the effective date of termination, GSK may, if GSK also claims or seeks to claim damages in relation to breach of this Agreement by CureVac, suspend the payment of such royalty payments until the amount of damages suffered or incurred by GSK has been agreed between the Parties or determined by an
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arbitration panel in accordance with Section 16.5, at which point those damages (if any) shall be set off against such royalty payments (and royalty payment which would remain outstanding after the set off of damages shall become due and payable within [*****] after the agreement or determination of the amount of damages).

- (iv) Costs (On Termination by GSK for Cause): CureVac shall undertake (at its own cost and without the right to be reimbursed) the transfer of Know-How in accordance with Sections 4.7 and 5.4.1, and shall reimburse all reasonable and demonstrable direct costs and expenses incurred by GSK in connection with those activities.

15.8 Specific Consequences of the GSK COVID Continue Option.

If CureVac gives notice of an opt-out decision by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.3 and GSK exercises the GSK COVID Continue Option, subject to Section 15.4:

- (i) Continuation under 2020 Collaboration Agreement: GSK shall have the right to continue the further Development, Manufacture and Commercialization of the COVID Products pursuant to the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, and each respective COVID Product shall be deemed an "Other Product" under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement, and all provisions of the 2020 Collaboration Agreement applying to Other Products shall apply to the COVID Products, including diligence obligations, decision making in the JSC and milestone and royalty payments to CureVac. For clarity, the Program(s) relating to each COVID Product which is subject to the GSK COVID Continue Option shall not count towards the limit on the number of concurrent Programs under the 2020 Collaboration Agreement.
- (ii) Termination of this Agreement: For the avoidance of doubt, no further payment obligations shall arise under this Agreement (including Article 8).

15.9 General Consequences of Expiry and Termination.

On any termination of this Agreement the rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall terminate as at the effective date of such termination (unless stated otherwise in this Article 15) and the following shall apply:

- (i) Reversion of Rights on Expiry: Upon expiry of this Agreement in a country and provided and to the extent that this Agreement is not terminated after such expiry by CureVac in accordance with Section 14.4, Section 14.5, or Section 14.6, or by GSK pursuant to Section 14.2, the licenses granted to GSK under Article 2 for such country shall become a fully paid-up, perpetual, and non-exclusive license.
 - (ii) Reversion of Rights on Termination: Except as set forth in this Article 15, the rights and obligations of the Parties under this Agreement shall automatically lapse as at the effective date of the termination in question.
 - (iii) Return of Information: No later than [*****] after the effective date of termination, each Party shall return or cause to be returned to the other Party or, at the other Party's option, destroy (and certify in writing the destruction of), all Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party in tangible form received from the other Party and
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all copies in any medium thereof; provided, however, that each Party may retain any Confidential Information reasonably necessary for such Party's continued Development, Manufacture or Commercialization of the COVID Products pursuant to this Article 15, and may retain the Confidential Information solely for the purpose of ensuring its compliance with this Agreement and Applicable Law by electronic files created in the ordinary course of business during automatic system back-up procedures pursuant to its electronic record retention and destruction practices that apply to its own general electronic files and information so long as such electronic files are (i) maintained only on centralized storage servers (and not on personal computers or devices), (ii) not accessible by any of its personnel (other than its information technology specialists), and (iii) are not otherwise accessed subsequently except with the written consent of the other Party or as required by law. Such retained copies of documents and Confidential Information shall remain subject to the confidentiality and non-use obligations set forth in this Agreement.

- (iv) Settlement of Outstanding Sums: Each Party shall pay all amounts then due and owing as at the termination effective date. Except in cases where (i) CureVac exercises its opt-out right pursuant to Section 14.3 or (ii) GSK terminates at will pursuant to Section 14.2 at a time when GSK commercializes a vaccine product in a Major Market targeting SARS- CoV-2 other than a COVID Product and CureVac elects the CureVac Cease Option, CureVac shall be required to pay GSK [*****] of any Development Costs exceeding the cap set out in Section 4.5, to the extent those Development Costs were incurred by GSK and, at the date of termination, CureVac's share of those Development Costs has not been reimbursed by CureVac by way of offset against Net Profits in accordance with Section 4.5; provided that: (i) in cases where GSK has exercised the GSK Continue Option or the GSK COVID Continue Option, CureVac may offset such Development Costs against up to [*****] of the royalty payments to be made by GSK to CureVac under Section 15.7 or Section 15.8 (and the 2020 Collaboration Agreement), as applicable; and (ii) in all other cases, the Parties shall agree in good faith on instalment payments over a period of [*****] as of the effective date of termination.
- (v) Continuation of Ongoing Clinical Trials: In any event of termination, each Party may complete any clinical trial involving a COVID Product it has initiated prior to the termination of this Agreement in accordance with the protocol for such trial, at its cost and such Party shall be granted by the other Party a cost-free, non-exclusive, sublicensable (as set forth in this Agreement), worldwide license under the CureVac Technology and the LNP Technology or respectively the GSK Technology to complete such clinical trials in accordance with their protocols.

15.10 Effect of Expiry or Termination; Survival. Expiry or termination of this Agreement shall not relieve the Parties of any obligation accruing prior to such expiry or termination. Any expiry or termination of this Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of either Party against the other accrued or accruing under this Agreement prior to expiry or termination. The provisions of Sections 1, 2.6, 4.6, 4.8.6, 8.7, 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 11, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.8, 13.9, 15, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.7, 16.8, 16.11 and 16.12 and all other provisions contained in this Agreement that by their explicit terms or from which it is clear from the context survive expiry or termination of this Agreement, and any schedules contained in this Agreement to which reference is made in any

surviving term, shall survive the expiry or termination of this Agreement. In the event of a termination of this Agreement with respect to only one of the COVID Products, and continuation of other COVID Products under this Agreement, the termination and consequences of termination provisions only apply to the terminated COVID Product, and the Agreement will remain in full force and effect with respect to the continuing COVID Products.

16 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

16.1 Assignment. This Agreement may not be assigned or otherwise transferred by either Party without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed; provided, however, each of the Parties may, without such consent, but with notification, assign this Agreement and its rights and obligations hereunder to any of its Affiliates or in connection with the transfer or sale of all or substantially all of the portion of its business to which this Agreement relates or in the event of its merger or consolidation with a Third Party. Any permitted assignee will assume all obligations of its assignor under this Agreement in writing concurrent with the assignment. Any purported assignment in violation of this Section 16.1 will be void. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their successors and permitted assignors under this Section 16.1.

16.2 Force Majeure. If the performance of any part of this Agreement by either Party, or any obligation under this Agreement, is prevented, restricted, interfered with or delayed by reason of any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party liable to perform, unless conclusive evidence to the contrary is provided, the Party so affected shall, upon giving written notice to the other Party, be excused from such performance to the extent of such prevention, restriction, interference or delay, provided that the affected Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non-performance and shall continue performance with the utmost dispatch whenever such causes are removed. When such circumstances arise and persist for a period of at least sixty (60) calendar days, the Parties shall discuss what, if any, modification of the terms of this Agreement may be required in order to arrive at an equitable solution.

16.3 Notices. All notices which are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by e-mail, sent by internationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

(i) if to CureVac, addressed to: CureVac AG

Attention: CEO and General Counsel with copy to: General Counsel

Address: [*****]

Email: [*****]

(ii) if to GSK, addressed to: GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

Attention: President of GSK Vaccines with copy to: Vaccines General Counsel

Address: [*****]

Email: [*****]

or to such other address(es) as the Party to whom notice is to be given may have furnished to the other Party in writing in accordance herewith. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by e-mail on a Business Day (or if delivered or sent on a non-Business Day, then on the next Business Day); (b) on the Business Day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; or (c) on the [*****] following the date of mailing, if sent by mail.

16.4 Governing Law. This Agreement and all disputes arising hereunder, shall be exclusively governed by, and interpreted and enforced in accordance with Belgian law. The United Nations Convention of International Contracts on the Sale of Goods (the Vienna Convention) does not apply to this Agreement.

16.5 Dispute Resolution.

16.5.1 Unless otherwise set forth in this Agreement, in the event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any alleged breach under this Agreement or any dispute relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement, the Parties shall refer such dispute to the CEO (or its C-level delegate) of CureVac and the President of Vaccines (or another member of the global corporate executive team) of GSK. If the dispute has not been settled pursuant to the said rules within [*****] following the reference of the dispute to the senior management representatives of the Parties, either Party may submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration.

16.5.2 Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, including any issue relating to the validity, performance, construction or interpretation of this Agreement, which cannot be resolved amicably between the Parties after following the procedure set forth in Section 16.5.1, shall be submitted to and settled by arbitration in accordance with the arbitration rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization (the "**WIPO**") in effect on the date of the commencement of the arbitration proceedings. The existence, nature and details of any such dispute(s), and all communications between the Parties related thereto, shall be considered Confidential Information of the Parties and shall be treated in accordance with the terms of Article 11 above. Any Confidential Information may be disclosed by either Party to counsel, experts or other advisors on the arbitration under obligations of confidentiality. The decision of the arbitrators shall be final and binding upon the Parties. The location of arbitration will be Zurich, Switzerland. The arbitration will be heard and determined by three (3) arbitrators, with one arbitrator being appointed by each Party and the third arbitrator being appointed by the WIPO. The language of the arbitration proceeding will be English. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 16.5.2, each Party shall have the right to seek interim injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction as such Party deems necessary to preserve its rights and to protect its interests.

16.6 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is determined by any court or administrative tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a replacement provision that is commercially equivalent, to the maximum extent

permitted by Applicable Law, to such invalid or unenforceable provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement. Nor shall the invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in one country or jurisdiction affect the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other country or jurisdiction in which such provision would otherwise be valid or enforceable.

- 16.7 Entire Agreement and Amendments.** This Agreement, together with all Exhibits attached hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties regarding the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings and communications between the Parties, with respect to the subject matter hereof, including the Confidentiality Agreements. The foregoing may not be interpreted as a waiver of any remedies available to either Party as a result of any breach prior to the Effective Date, by the other Party of its obligations under the Confidentiality Agreements. No modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties unless in writing and executed by the duly authorized representative of each of the Parties; this shall also apply to any change of this Section 16.7.
- 16.8 Waivers.** The failure by either Party hereto to assert any of its rights hereunder, including the right to terminate this Agreement due to a breach or default by the other Party hereto, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver by that Party of its right thereafter to enforce each and every provision of this Agreement in accordance with its terms.
- 16.9 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, by original or electronic (including "pdf") signature, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 16.10 Independent Contractors.** The Parties are independent contractors and it is the intention of the Parties that this Agreement does not constitute or give rise to an employer-employee, agency, partnership or joint venture relationship among the Parties, but that each Party's performance hereunder is that of a separate, independent entity.
- 16.11 Third Parties.** Except as set out in this Section 16.11, none of the provisions of this Agreement shall be for the benefit of or enforceable by any Third Party which shall be a Third Party beneficiary to this Agreement.
- 16.12 Costs.** Except as is otherwise expressly set forth herein, each Party shall bear its own expenses in connection with the activities contemplated and performed hereunder.
- 16.13 Insurance.** Each Party will procure and maintain during the Term and for [*****] after termination or expiry of this Agreement, insurance in line with industry standards. GSK will be permitted to satisfy any or all of its obligations under this Section 16.13 through a program of self-insurance. Such insurance policies will be primary and non-contributing with respect to any other similar insurance policies available to the other Party or its Affiliates. Any deductibles for such insurance will be assumed by insured Party. Each Party will provide the other Party with evidence of such insurance upon the other Party's request and prior to expiry of any one coverage. Any insurance will not be construed to create a limit of the insured Party's liability with respect to its indemnification obligations under this Agreement.
-

· · *Signature page follows* · ·



In Witness Whereof, the Parties have executed this Agreement to be effective as at the Closing Date.

Signed on behalf of

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals S.A.

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of

CureVac AG

[*****]

Date Signed:

Signed on behalf of

CureVac AG

[*****]

[*****]

Date Signed:

EXHIBIT 12.5
DATA PROTECTION TERMS

The Parties agree that the processing of Personal Information under or in connection with this Agreement shall be in accordance with this Exhibit, including all Annexes.

1. DEFINITIONS

In this Exhibit:

"**CureVac**" means CureVac as defined in the Agreement and its Affiliates.

"**Data Protection Authority**" means each person having regulatory or supervisory authority over GSK or CureVac in the area of protection of Personal Information;

"**Data Protection Laws**" means: (a) the GDPR; and (b) all other laws concerning the processing of Personal Information;

"**GDPR**" means the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data;

"**GSK**" means GSK as defined in the Agreement and its Affiliates.

"**Party**" or "**Parties**" means CureVac and GSK as defined in this Exhibit.

"**Personal Information**" means information relating to an identified or identifiable individual;

"**Personal Information Breach**" means any actual breach of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, Personal Information transmitted, stored or otherwise processed; and

"**Transferred Personal Information**" means any Personal Information that is transferred pursuant to this Agreement (i) that is transferred to CureVac by GSK operating in the European Union; or (ii) that is transferred to GSK by CureVac operating in the European Union.

2. DATA PROCESSING

a. Status of each Party under Data Protection Laws

GSK and CureVac acknowledge that the status of each Party is a question of fact determined under Data Protection Laws. Without limiting the foregoing, GSK and CureVac each understand that, in relation to the Transferred Personal Information, GSK and CureVac independently determine how and why Transferred Personal Information is processed (and accordingly each acts as a controller) and all processing of Transferred Personal Information shall be undertaken in accordance with Annex 1 (Controller Terms) to this Exhibit 12.5.

b. Description of processing

The Parties will document the following information in writing (including in electronic form)

Duration, nature and purpose of processing	
Duration of processing	[to be documented]
Nature and purpose of processing	[to be documented]
Personal Information	
Individuals may include any of:	[to be documented]
Categories of Personal Information may include any of:	[to be documented]
Special categories of Personal Information may include any of:	[to be documented]

3. TERMINATION OR EXPIRY

On termination or expiry of this Agreement, this Exhibit shall survive and continue in full effect for as long as Transferred Personal Information is processed by the other Party.

4. FURTHER ASSURANCE

- a. If any Data Protection Authority adopts revised standard contractual clauses for the matters addressed in this Exhibit (including any Annex) and one Party notifies the other Party that it wishes to incorporate any element of those standard contractual clauses into this Exhibit, the other Party shall agree to changes (limited only to the extent of the requirement under such revised standard contractual clauses) as reasonably requested by such Party.
- b. Both Parties agree that, upon the request of any Party, they shall execute any specific form of data transfer agreement as reasonably requested by such Party to enable the other Party to comply with applicable Data Protection Laws or the requirements of any Data Protection Authority.

1. General terms

- a. Subject to the remaining provisions of this Annex 1, in relation to the processing of all Transferred Personal Information, each Party:
 - i. shall comply with its obligations under Data Protection Laws; and
 - ii. acknowledges that, except as expressly stated otherwise under this Annex 1 or otherwise in the Agreement, it is (as between the Parties) solely responsible for meeting all of its obligations under Data Protection Law.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND PRIVACY NOTICES

- a. Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, each Party shall be responsible for the lawfulness of the collection and disclosure to the other Party of the Transferred Personal Information, in particular, for obtaining any consent required by law from all individuals to whom the Transferred Personal Information relates in respect of all processing undertaken by that Party (including any disclosure to the other Party).
- b. If the transferring Party obtains consent for the processing of Transferred Personal Information, such consent shall cover the transfer and the further processing of Transferred Personal Information by the other Party for the purposes identified in this Exhibit.
- c. Unless expressly agreed otherwise in writing, each Party shall be responsible for providing privacy notices to all individuals to whom the Transferred Personal Information relates in respect of all processing undertaken by that Party. If either Party expressly agrees in writing to provide a privacy notice on behalf of the other Party, it shall ensure that the relevant privacy notices effectively address all information required to be provided under Data Protection Laws and take account of any reasonable proposals by the other Party.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. If either Party receives any communication from a Data Protection Authority which relates directly or indirectly to:
 - i. the other Party's processing of Transferred Personal Information; or
 - ii. a potential failure to comply with Data Protection Laws in relation to the

processing of Transferred Personal Information,

the receiving Party, shall, to the extent permitted by Applicable Laws, promptly forward the communication to the other Party and provide the other Party with reasonable cooperation and assistance in relation to the same.

4. HANDLING OF TRANSFERRED PERSONAL INFORMATION

- a. Each Party shall ensure that Transferred Personal Information supplied to it by or on behalf of the other Party:
 - i. is only used for the purposes for which it was collected;
 - ii. is not disclosed to any of its staff unless those persons that have committed themselves to confidentiality and have undergone appropriate training in data protection;
 - iii. is transferred to another Party or Third Parties only: in accordance with Applicable Laws; and
 - iv. is kept securely, including by application of the measures set out in Annex 2 (Information Security) to this Exhibit 12.5.

5. RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS

If an individual makes a written request to either Party to exercise any of their rights under Data Protection Laws in respect of Transferred Personal Information, the receiving Party shall respond to that request in accordance with Data Protection Laws. To the extent the request concerns processing of Transferred Personal Information undertaken by the other Party, the receiving Party shall: (i) promptly forward the request to the other Party; and (ii) cooperate and provide reasonable assistance in relation to that request to enable the other Party to respond in accordance with Data Protection Laws.

6. PERSONAL INFORMATION BREACH

- a. Without limiting any provision of Annex 2 (Information Security) to this Exhibit 12.5, if a Party becomes aware of a Personal Information Breach affecting Transferred Personal Information supplied to it by the other Party, the Party shall:
 - i. notify the other Party without undue delay, and provide the other Party with a reasonable description of the Personal Information Breach without undue delay as

such information becomes available; and

not publish any communication concerning the Personal Information Breach without first consulting the other Party, save that it may disclose a breach to the extent required by Applicable Laws (e.g. to Data Protection Authority or to individual(s)).

ANNEX 2 TO EXHIBIT 12.5 – INFORMATION SECURITY

[to be completed as soon as reasonably practicable after the Effective Date]

EXHIBIT 15.6
Post-Termination Royalties

Where this Exhibit 15.5 applies, CureVac shall pay GSK, on a Product-by-Product and country-by- country basis, the royalty payments set forth below for Net Sales by CureVac, its Affiliates, or Sublicensees of such Product, depending in what stage of development that Product finds itself at the effective date of termination. With respect to any payments to be made by CureVac to GSK, the definition of “Net Sales” in Section 1.144 and the provisions of Sections 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7 and 8.9 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

<i>Stage of Product Development at Termination</i>	<i>Rate</i>
From the [*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]
[*****]	[*****]

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [*****], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.

**SECOND AMENDMENT TO
SPONSORED RESEARCH AGREEMENT**

MEE Agreement No. 2019A009504.02

This second amendment to Agreement (the “Second Amendment”), is effective as of July 29, 2021 (“Second Amendment Effective Date”), by and between The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc., a not-for-profit Massachusetts corporation, having a principal place of business at 20 Staniford Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (“SERI”), and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, having a principal place of business at 243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (“MEEI”) (collectively, SERI and MEEI shall be referred to herein as “Hospitals”), and CureVac AG, a German stock corporation, having a principal place of business at Friedrich-Miescher-Straße 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany (“Sponsor”), each herein referred to as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”. Capitalized terms that are not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Agreement (as defined below).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Hospitals and Sponsor are Parties to sponsored research agreement, MEE Agreement No. 2019A009504 (formerly, 2019-0112), effective as of March 15, 2019, as previously amended effective as of May 19, 2020 (the “Agreement”);

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to extend the Term until August 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Sponsor and Hospitals acknowledge that as of [*****], payments (a) through (d) described in Section 5.1 of the Agreement and totaling US [*****] have been paid in full; and

In consideration of the promises made herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Hospitals and Sponsor hereby agree as follows:

1. AMENDMENT

1.1 The Agreement is hereby amended by deleting Section 2 in its entirety and inserting the following language in its place:

“2. Term. The term of this Agreement shall be from the Effective Date until August 31, 2021 (the “Term”), unless earlier terminated by either Party as set forth in Section 11 or extended in a writing signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.”

1.2 Except as herein provided, the Agreement and all of its terms, covenants and conditions are hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects and remain in full force and effect. The Agreement shall, together with this Second Amendment, be read and construed as a single agreement.

1.3 This Second Amendment may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one and the same

instrument. This Second Amendment may be executed electronically/digitally in compliance with the Massachusetts Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (MUETA) Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 110G and/or The Electronic Signatures In Global And National Commerce Act (ESIGN) 15 USC ch. 96. Persons signing this Second Amendment agree that, if used, electronic/digital signatures are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as the use of manual signatures.

The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Second Amendment to Agreement to be executed and delivered by their duly authorized representatives as of the Second Amendment Effective Date.

CUREVAC AG

THE SCHEPENS EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

By: /s/ Heike Wagenaar

Name: Heike Wagenaar
Title: Senior Legal Counsel
Date: August 2, 2021

By: /s/ Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.

Name: Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.
Title: Managing Director, Licensing
Date: July 29, 2021

MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY

By: /s/ Dr. Igor Splawski

Name: Dr. Igor Splawski
Title: Chief Scientific Officer
Date: August 8, 2021

By: /s/ Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.

Name: Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.
Title: Managing Director, Licensing
Date: July 29, 2021

By: /s/ Pierre Kemula

Name: Pierre Kemula
Title: Chief Financial Officer
Date: August 9, 2021

The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.

REDACTED

Certain identified information, indicated by [*****], has been excluded from the exhibit because it is both (i) not material and (ii) would likely cause competitive harm if publicly disclosed.

**THIRD AMENDMENT TO
SPONSORED RESEARCH AGREEMENT**

MEE Agreement No. 2019A009504.03

This third amendment to Agreement (the "Third Amendment"), is effective as of September 1, 2021 ("Third Amendment Effective Date"), by and between The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc., a not-for-profit Massachusetts corporation, having a principal place of business at 20 Staniford Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114 ("SERI"), and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, having a principal place of business at 243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114 ("MEEI") (collectively, SERI and MEEI shall be referred to herein as "Hospitals"), and CureVac AG, a German stock corporation, having a principal place of business at Friedrich-Miescher-Straße 15, 72076 Tübingen, Germany ("Sponsor"), each herein referred to as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties". Capitalized terms that are not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Agreement (as defined below).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Hospitals and Sponsor are Parties to sponsored research agreement, MEE Agreement No. 2019A009504 (formerly, 2019-0112), effective as of March 15, 2019, as previously amended effective as of May 19, 2020 and July 29, 2021 (the "Agreement");

Sponsor and Hospitals acknowledge that as of the Third Amendment Effective Date the Agreement is expired and the Parties desire to reinstate the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to extend the Term until August 31, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to amend the plan of research;

WHEREAS, the Sponsor desires to provide US \$656,788.00 additional funding to Hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Sponsor and Hospitals acknowledge that as of [*****], payments (a) through (d) described in Section 5.1 of the Agreement and totaling US [*****] have been paid in full; and

In consideration of the promises made herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Hospitals and Sponsor hereby agree as follows:

1. AMENDMENT

1.1 The Agreement is hereby amended by deleting Section 2 in its entirety and inserting the following language in its place:

"2. Term. The term of this Agreement shall be from the Effective Date until August 31, 2022 (the "Term"), unless earlier terminated by either Party as set forth in Section 11 or extended in a writing signed by authorized representatives of both Parties."

1.2 The Agreement is hereby amended by deleting Section 5 in its entirety and inserting the following language in its place:

“5. Payments. Sponsor shall pay Institute a total of one million six hundred fifty-six thousand seven hundred eighty-eight United States dollars (US \$1,656,788.00) by check or wire transfer as set forth below in support of the Sponsored Research, as detailed in Budget attached hereto as Appendix B.

5.1 Payments shall be due within [*****]. Payments to the Institute shall reference the Agreement Number as set forth in the heading of this Agreement and shall be made as follows:

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****];

[*****].

1.3 The Agreement is hereby amended by appending Appendix A of the Agreement with Appendix A1 attached hereto as Exhibit I.

1.4 The Agreement is hereby amended by appending Appendix B of the Agreement with Appendix B1 attached hereto as Exhibit II.

1.5 Except as herein provided, the Agreement and all of its terms, covenants and conditions are hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects and remain in full force and effect. The Agreement shall, together with this Third Amendment, be read and construed as a single agreement.

- 1.6 This Third Amendment may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument. This Third Amendment may be executed electronically/digitally in compliance with the Massachusetts Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (MUETA) Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 110G and/or The Electronic Signatures In Global And National Commerce Act (ESIGN) 15 USC ch. 96. Persons signing this Third Amendment agree that, if used, electronic/digital signatures are intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as the use of manual signatures.

The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Third Amendment to Agreement to be executed and delivered by their duly authorized representatives as of the Third Amendment Effective Date.

CUREVAC AG

THE SCHEPENS EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.

By: /s/ Dr. Igor Splawski

By: /s/ Rebecca Listfield

Name: Dr. Igor Splawski

Name: Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.

Title: Chief Scientific Officer

Title: Managing Director, Licensing

Date: September 29, 2021

Date: September 16, 2021

MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY

By: /s/ Dr. Mariola Fotin-Mleczek

By: /s/ Rebecca Listfield

Name: Dr. Mariola Fotin-Mleczek

Name: Rebecca Listfield, Ph.D.

Title: Chief Technology Officer

Title: Managing Director, Licensing

Date: September 30, 2021

Date: September 16, 2021

The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.

AMENDMENT NO. 1
TO THE
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AGREEMENT
BETWEEN CureVac AG
AND
YALE UNIVERSITY

THIS AMENDMENT NO. 1 to the Collaborative Research Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") is made effective this 28th day of June, 2021 (hereinafter "Amendment NO. 1 Effective Date"), by and between CureVac AG, a German stock corporation with offices at Friedrich-Miescher-Strasse 15, 72076 Tuebingen, Germany, and Yale University, a non-profit corporation, organized and existing under the and by virtue of a special charter granted by the General Assembly of the Colony and State of Connecticut (hereinafter "Yale") with an office at 25 Science Park, 150 Munson Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 208327, New Haven, CT 06520-8327.

WHEREAS, CureVac AG and Yale entered into that certain Agreement effective July 1st, 2019.

The parties now desire to amend the terms of the Agreement as more particularly set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, the Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

1. The Term shall be extended to June 30, 2022.
2. Except as provided in this Amendment, all terms used in this Amendment that are not otherwise defined shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms in the Agreement.
3. This Amendment NO. 1 embodies the entire agreement between CureVac AG and Yale with respect to the amendment of the Agreement. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of the Agreement and this Amendment NO. 1, the provisions of this Amendment NO. 1 shall control and govern.
4. Except as specifically modified and amended herein, all of the terms, provisions, requirements and specifications contained in the Agreement remain in full force and effect. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, the parties do not intend to, and the execution of this Amendment NO. 1 shall not, in any manner impair the Agreement, the purpose of this Amendment NO. 1 being simply to amend and ratify the Agreement, as hereby amended and ratified, and to confirm and carry forward the Agreement, as hereby amended, in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Yale and CureVac AG have executed and delivered this Amendment effective as of the Amendment NO. 1 Effective Date.

CureVac AG

Yale University

By: /s/ Daniel Babka

By: /s/ Jennifer Rawlings

Name: Daniel Babka

Name: Jennifer Rawlings

Title: Senior Legal Counsel

Title: Sr.Contract Manager

Date: 6.7.21

Date: 7/6/21

By: /s/ Dr. Ulrich Kruse

Name: Dr. Ulrich Kruse

Title: Senior Director IP Licensing

Date: July 6,2021

**CERTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY
ACT OF 2002**

I, Franz-Werner Haas, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 20-F of CureVac N.V.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the company and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) [Paragraph omitted pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14];
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the annual report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the company's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the company's auditors and the audit committee of the company's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the company's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: April 28, 2022

/s/ Franz-Werner Haas
Franz-Werner Haas

Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY
ACT OF 2002**

I, Pierre Kemula, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 20-F of CureVac N.V.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the company and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) [Paragraph omitted pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14];
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the annual report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the company's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the company's auditors and the audit committee of the company's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the company's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: April 28, 2022

/s/ Pierre Kemula

Pierre Kemula

Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED
PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

The certification set forth below is being submitted in connection with the Annual Report on Form 20-F of CureVac N.V. (the “Report”) for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

I, Franz-Werner Haas, the Chief Executive Officer of CureVac N.V., certify that, to the best of my knowledge:

1. the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
2. the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of CureVac N.V.

Date: April 28, 2022

/s/ Franz-Werner Haas

Name: Franz-Werner Haas
Chief Executive Officer

**CERTIFICATION BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED
PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

The certification set forth below is being submitted in connection with the Annual Report on Form 20-F of CureVac N.V. (the “Report”) for the purpose of complying with Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

I, Pierre Kemula, the Chief Financial Officer of CureVac N.V., certify that, to the best of my knowledge:

1. the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act; and
2. the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of CureVac N.V.

Date: April 28, 2022

/s/ Pierre Kemula
Name: Pierre Kemula
Chief Financial Officer

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the following Registration Statements:

- (1) Registration Statement (Form F-3 No. 333-259613) of CureVac N.V., and
- (2) Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 333-246197) as amended, pertaining to the CureVac N.V. Long-Term Incentive Plan, CureVac Virtual Share Plan, and Employment Agreement between CureVac AG and a Former Employee;

of our reports dated April 28, 2022, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of CureVac N.V. and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of CureVac N.V. included in this Annual Report (Form 20-F) of CureVac N.V. for the year ended December 31, 2021.

/s/ Ernst & Young GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Stuttgart, Germany

April 28, 2022
