



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Bird Flu Vaccine Back on Track

Investigations into the failure of the Avian Influenza Vaccine pilot trial reveal a defect in the initial batch of the vaccine

17 November 2004, Sydney: Imugene (ASX IMU) today announced that analysis of the initial batch of the test vaccine used in the recent Avian Influenza pilot trial (reported in October 2004) revealed a batch defect which is now being corrected. Whilst uncommon, technical defects in early batches can occur with this technology and can be resolved.

"The pilot trial results were unexpected. We now know that it was the batch rather than the actual vaccine that was the problem with the pilot trial," stated Dr Warwick Lamb, Managing Director of Imugene. "The gene used is the correct protective gene and once we get correct expression of this gene, we expect effective protection against the Avian Influenza."

"Reconstruction of a new batch of the vaccine will soon commence and trials are expected to be underway early in 2005. The new batch will be tested at several stages to ensure that the defect has been corrected. This will ensure that the protective gene will express as expected," said Dr Lamb. "With this news and the recent success in gaining a \$250,000 BIF grant to develop the Avian Influenza Vaccine, we remain very optimistic that we can develop an effective vaccine against bird flu."

END

More information:

***Dr Warwick Lamb,
Imugene's Managing Director
+61 2 9870 7330***

***Mr Graham Dowland,
Imugene's Executive Chairman
+61 8 9322 9189***

***Mr Rudi Michelson
Monsoon Communications
+61 3 9620 3333***

ABOUT IMUGENE:

Imugene specialises in commercialising animal health products for production animals and pets.

Imugene's products safely prevent disease and reduce or eliminate antibiotics and harmful chemicals in animals. Animal antibiotics and chemicals in the human food chain have been linked to the emergence of dangerous resistant bacteria in people and food residues.

Imugene owns the worldwide rights to two platform technologies. The **Receptor Mimic Technology** for gastrointestinal diseases of pigs and potentially all other animal species. Secondly, the **Adenoviral Vector Delivery System** for pigs and poultry delivers Imugene's highly effective *poultry productivity enhancer*.

Imugene's poultry and pig portfolio is targeting a worldwide US\$3 billion annual market and replace existing chemical and antibiotic products. Consumer demands for residue free food and health regulatory pressures will bolster Imugene's prospects.

Visit the Imugene Website: www.imugene.com