



**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Avian Influenza Trial**

**18 October 2004, Sydney:** A pilot trial of the first Avian Influenza vaccine candidate did not demonstrate sufficient protection against disease caused by the H5N1 strain of bird flu. A small number of vaccinated chickens survived infection, however the survival percentage was small.

Only preliminary results providing survival statistics have been received and further analyses of laboratory results will take several weeks.

"These are not the results we hoped for but we will now use this experience to develop a second Avian Influenza vaccine candidate," stated Dr Warwick Lamb, Managing Director of Imugene. "Although we only have very early data, we have identified ways to make the next trial vaccine candidate more effective."

"Developing a totally new vaccine against a disease as virulent as this strain of Avian Influenza is a major challenge. Although it would have been a great result to achieve success with the first trial, realistically, vaccine development frequently requires evaluation of several candidates. We will assess all the data and re-construct a new vaccine for our next trial," said Dr Lamb.

**END**

***More information:***

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**ABOUT IMUGENE:**

Imugene Limited (ASX:IMU) is an Australian biopharmaceutical company specialising in the development and commercialisation of animal health products for production animals and companion (pet) animals.

Imugene's products safely prevent disease in animals, reduce or eliminate the use of antibiotics, harmful chemicals and drugs and, in production animals, reduce the level of antibiotic and chemical residue entering the human food chain.

Imugene owns the worldwide rights to two platform technologies. The **Receptor Mimic Technology** for gastrointestinal diseases of pigs is under license from BioMimic Limited including options for the use of this platform technology over all other animal species. The second platform technology is the **Adenoviral Vector Delivery System** for pigs and poultry. It is this Delivery System that is used to deliver Imugene's *poultry productivity enhancer*. Patents have been either granted or are under application in the major pig and poultry markets worldwide.

Imugene's poultry and pig portfolio is tapping into segments worth US\$3 billion of the existing US\$8 billion global spend on existing treatments per year. The majority of the existing treatments are chemical and antibiotic products that are becoming less effective for disease treatment and productivity enhancement. Compounding the problem of diminishing efficacy, governments and health organisations, internationally, are lobbying and legislating against the use of antibiotics in favour of non-chemical treatments.

[www.imugene.com](http://www.imugene.com)