



BAVARIAN NORDIC

Company Announcement

3 March 2011

## **Bavarian Nordic Enters Into New Research Project to Develop New Cancer Vaccines Supported by the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation**

*Kvistgård, Denmark, March 3, 2011* - Bavarian Nordic A/S (OMX: BAVA) announced today that the Company will participate in a new Danish research project, established with the purpose of identifying pathogens (viruses and bacteria) that may cause cancer. The identification of such viruses is an important step towards the development of cancer vaccines. Bavarian Nordic has been elected as partner in this project and will obtain the exclusive rights to commercialize any cancer vaccines that may emerge from the project. Until any viruses, leading to the development of new vaccines is identified; the project carries minimal costs for Bavarian Nordic.

The research project is part of a larger project, which today received a large grant of almost DKK 90 million from the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation. With Bavarian Nordic as collaborative partner, the project is being headed by some of the most reputable scientists from Danish universities, including Eske Willerslev, Professor, Doctor of Science and Head of Centre for GeoGenetics at University of Copenhagen and Lars P. Nielsen, M.D., adjunct professor and infectious diseases specialist at Statens Serum Institut.

### **Background of the project**

Cancer is the cause of 7.4 million deaths worldwide every year, thus representing 13 % of all deaths. In general, the causes of cancer remain unknown, but certain cases can be attributed to viruses, as is the case with cervical cancer, for which an effective vaccine that protects most of the vaccinees has already been developed.

Through the project, the researchers hope to identify yet unknown pathogens, causing other types of cancer, where an estimated 15% of all cases are attributed to pathogens. This could pave the way for the development of new cancer vaccines.

So far it has been difficult to detect new pathogens, but using new and advanced sequencing technology to characterise and classify the DNA, the researchers will look for yet unknown fragments of DNA, which could lead to the identification of new pathogens related to cancer. The researchers are already well-experienced with this technology and have identified unknown viruses in DNA from patients in other diseases.

The project will concentrate its efforts on the major cancers such as breast, prostate and colon cancer and leukaemia, in order to investigate how DNA from these patients differ from the DNA of healthy people.

Anders Hedegaard, President & CEO of Bavarian Nordic said: *"This project is tailored to our business, which is highly specialized in research, development and manufacturing of advanced vaccines. It is obvious that vaccines are the future in cancer treatment and we have already come far in the development of a vaccine for the treatment of advanced prostate cancer; PROSTVAC®. We see great potential in participating in this project on the development of new vaccines that in whole or in part could reduce the incidence of cancer."*

Asger Aamund  
Chairman of the Board

### **Contact**

Anders Hedegaard, President & CEO. Phone +45 23 20 30 64

#### **About Bavarian Nordic**

*Bavarian Nordic is a leading industrial biotechnology company developing and producing novel vaccines for the treatment and prevention of life-threatening diseases with a large unmet medical need. The company's clinical pipeline targets cancer and infectious diseases, and includes seven development programmes. Two programmes under preparation for Phase III: PROSTVAC<sup>®</sup>, a therapeutic vaccine for advanced prostate cancer is being developed under a collaboration agreement with the National Cancer Institute, and IMVAMUNE<sup>®</sup>, a third-generation smallpox vaccine is being developed under a contract with the US government.*

*Bavarian Nordic is listed on NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen under the symbol BAVA.*

*For more information please visit [www.bavarian-nordic.com](http://www.bavarian-nordic.com)*

*PROSTVAC<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark in the U.S.*

#### **Forward-looking statements**

*This announcement includes "forward-looking statements" that involve risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of our control that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements concerning our plans, objectives, goals, future events, performance and/or other information that is not historical information. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances after the date made, except as required by law.*