

To NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen A/S

Translation

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## **ALK and Novozymes enter collaboration on future allergy vaccines**

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Today, ALK and Novozymes have signed an agreement regarding industrially produced allergens, also called recombinant allergens, for use in ALK's future allergy immunotherapy tablets.

Under the agreement, Novozymes will initially develop processes for recombinant production of cat allergen on an industrial scale. An estimated 50 million people in Europe and the USA suffer from cat allergy, which makes it the second most common indoor allergy, after house dust mite allergy.

ALK retains exclusive product rights and will carry out clinical development, registration and subsequent marketing and sales of the future allergy immunotherapy tablets. Novozymes will provide know-how and manage the production of recombinant allergens.

ALK's allergy vaccines treat the actual cause of allergy by exposing the patient's immune system to controlled doses of the same protein substances that trigger the allergic reaction. These proteins are called allergens, and at present they are produced in a complicated process based on natural raw materials.

Conversely, recombinant allergens are produced by the use of genetically engineered microbes. One of the advantages of recombinant production is the possibility of easy up-scaling which makes the production of allergy vaccines less dependent on the supply of natural raw materials.

The agreement does not change ALK's financial outlook for 2009.

**ALK-Abelló A/S**

Jens Bager  
President and CEO

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### **About Novozymes**

Novozymes is the world leader in bioinnovation. Together with customers across a broad array of industries Novozymes creates tomorrow's industrial biosolutions, improving the customers' business and the use of the planet's resources.

With over 700 products used in 130 countries, Novozymes' bioinnovations increase industrial performance and safeguard the world's resources by offering superior and sustainable solutions for tomorrow's ever-changing marketplace. Read more at [www.novozymes.com](http://www.novozymes.com).

### **About ALK**

ALK is a research-driven global pharmaceutical company focusing on allergy treatment, prevention and diagnosis. Our mission is to improve quality of life for people with allergy by developing pharmaceutical products that target the actual cause of allergy. ALK is the world leader in allergy vaccination (immunotherapy) – a unique treatment that induces a protective immune response which reduces and potentially halts the allergic reaction. Allergy vaccination is traditionally administered as subcutaneous injections or sublingual droplets. Our aim is to extend the use of allergy vaccination by introducing convenient, tablet-based vaccines, thereby offering many more patients a causal allergy treatment. Following this strategy, the world's first tablet-based vaccine against grass pollen allergy, GRAZAX<sup>®</sup>, was launched in Europe in 2007, and ALK has entered into a strategic partnership with Schering-Plough regarding the tablet programme in North America. ALK has approximately 1,500 employees with subsidiaries, production facilities and distributors worldwide. The company is headquartered in Hørsholm, Denmark and listed on NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen A/S. 'ALK' is an abbreviation of 'Allergological Laboratory Copenhagen (København)'. Further information is available at [www.alk-abello.com](http://www.alk-abello.com) and [www.GRAZAX.com](http://www.GRAZAX.com).

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