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Live, attenuated vaccines in animal health: VitamFero's products and a few others

Market Overview: The global animal vaccines market was around US\$6 billion in 2016 and progressing at a compound annual growth rate of 5-7%. Although the largest markets are Europe and North America, fastest growth is in Asia-Pacific. About 62% is for livestock and 38% for domestic animal with faster growth is in domestic animal vs. livestock segment. The vaccines segment is most lucrative of all veterinary segments, just ahead of “parasitides”.

Market Drivers: Increased demand in the companion market is due to increased pet ownership and increased discretionary spending by “empty nesters” and growing income in Asia-Pacific. Increased demand among livestock is driven by increasing demand for meat, a movement to organic farming and prevention, and increasing awareness/incidence of zoonotic illnesses (Avian flu, etc.).

Technological Factors: Live, attenuated vaccines based on genetic mutation and engineering is to be the dominant segment due to better targeting/efficiency, long-term immunity and ease of administration.

VitamFero Deploys a Novel Parasite-based Vaccine Platform: VitamFero develops proprietary and unique eukaryote (apicomplexan parasites: *Toxoplasma gondii* or *Neospora caninum*)-based live, attenuated vaccines. The molecular basis of attenuation results from targeted, total gene deletion that is fully mastered and characterized. Further to being highly effective in preventing ovine toxoplasmosis, bovine neosporosis, cryptosporidiosis, etc., without requiring adjuvant, these innovative prophylactic agents eliminate all risk of return to virulence under environmental forces. Conveniently stored at 4°C in a freeze-dried bio-formulation stable for at least 8 months, VitamFero's genetically-modified parasites exhibit a better benefit/risk ratio than currently-marketed vaccines and immunostimulants, and can also be used as vectors for antigen expression.

Biography

Pascal Breton serves as the Chief Executive Officer of VitamFero SA and was the President of VitamFero SA since January 2009. His interest includes biotechnology, R&D, business development, drug development, pharma/clinical development, drug discovery and formulation and vaccines. He has also worked as the Global Key Account Manager at SGS Life Science Services (Belgium), Director Business Development at IDM Pharma (France and USA), Director R&D at Halisol (France) and Project Leader at UPSA (a French BMS subsidiary). He holds a PhD from University of Orléans (France) in 1989.

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