
Positive *in vivo* data show that Creative Antibiotics drug substance can prevent chlamydia infection

The Umeå-based biotech company Creative Antibiotics, which is listed on the AktieTorget equities market place, today presents preliminary results showing that one of the company's patented substances prevents chlamydia infection in mice. The study, which forms part of a larger project relating to sexually transmitted diseases, was performed by researchers at the University of California, Irvine, USA, with which Creative Antibiotics has cooperated closely for several years.

"These results represent a major advance for our priority project on sexually transmitted diseases. Animal models for antibiotic development are more predictive, as it is the same bacterium in the animal experiments as will be treated in us humans," says Creative Antibiotics CEO Ulf Boberg.

The results show that after four days there were fewer infected animals in the group that had received treatment compared with the control group, and the treated mice that showed symptoms of infection had a smaller number of bacteria.

Independent clinical studies indicate that chlamydia infections also increase the risk of HIV, probably as a result of the infection breaking down the mucous membrane in the female genitalia. This makes it easier for HIV infection to develop. Reducing the spread of chlamydia could therefore also reduce the spread of HIV.

The goal of the cooperation project funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA, is to identify new potential drug candidates from the Creative Antibiotics group of virulence-blocking substances that prevent sexually transmitted diseases, including chlamydia and HIV infections.

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Notes for editors

About chlamydia

Chlamydia is nowadays by far the most commonly reported sexually transmitted disease in Sweden, with about 40,000 cases annually. Many people who are infected with chlamydia are unaware that they have the disease, as the infection often does not produce any symptoms at all. Any symptoms that do occur are principally manifested as a burning sensation or itching on passing water, due to inflammation in the urethra. Women who are left untreated may suffer permanent damage to the fallopian tubes with a risk of sterility, and men may be affected by inflammation in the epididymides. Babies may be infected during birth and develop eye infection or pneumonia if the mother has chlamydia. The infection is easy to treat with antibiotics, and if this is done soon after the time of infection the risk of consequential diseases is low. The diagnosis is principally made by detecting the infective agent in the urine, urethra, cervix, throat or rectum.

About Creative Antibiotics Sweden AB

Creative Antibiotics Sweden AB is a drug development company formed in 2000 to commercialise world-leading research, principally at Umeå University and Karolinska Institutet. The company's substances have a unique ability to prevent the disease-causing properties of certain bacteria, even multiresistant strains, without disrupting the normal bacterial flora. The development of resistance is minimised as a result. There is a great medical need for such drugs. Creative Antibiotics has three preclinical projects: infections in severe burns, an in-house project; diarrhoeal diseases, licensed to Syngene International, India; sexually transmitted diseases, in cooperation with academic researchers. The company is listed on the AktieTorget equities market place.