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GARDP supports Bugworks in assessing safety of new antibiotic compound

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Supporting the cardiac safety assessment studies of Bugworks' lead molecule BWC0977, currently going through Phase 1 studies in Adelaide Australia



The Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) and Bengaluru-based Bugworks, a key player in the global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) innovation ecosystem, are collaborating on a study to assess the safety and tolerability of a new class of broad-spectrum antibiotic compounds aimed at treating serious infections caused by multidrug-resistant bacteria.

Bugworks is currently conducting a First-in-Human (Phase 1) study in Adelaide, Australia, to determine the safety and tolerability of BWC0977, a novel antibiotic compound. It is aimed at treating patients with serious bacterial infections in both critical care and community settings. The Phase 1 study is being supported by CARB-X, a global non-profit partnership accelerating antibacterial products to address drug-resistant bacteria.

GARDP is providing support for a cardiac safety study embedded in the ongoing Phase 1 study that will provide a robust assessment of the cardiovascular risk of the compound. The study will provide a more precise indicator for the molecule's propensity to cause arrhythmia (an irregular heartbeat), which is a side effect of some classes of antibiotics. This will help with decision-making and acceleration of clinical development of this compound.

The support of the cardiac safety study follows a memorandum of understanding signed by GARDP and Bugworks in August 2020 to accelerate the development and availability of antibiotic treatments.

Bugworks has joined the Australian AMR Network (AAMRNet), consolidating the presence of both GARDP and Bugworks in the Australian AMR research ecosystem.