

## **Avesthagen Pharma signs pact with Elpen Pharmaceuticals**

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AVDESP is a biosimilar for Darbepoetin alfa Aranesp, which is used for treating anaemia resulting from chronic kidney disorders and cancer chemotherapy.

According to the company's press release, as per the agreement, the distribution will happen in the following countries, namely, Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Serbia, Bosnia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Albania, Montenegro and Kosovo, with a collective population base of over 70 million.

"We are excited about this alliance as we start our marketing in some of the most interesting countries, which will give us an opportunity to know these markets and interact with its people. The company is committed to deliver affordable healthcare for humanity," said Dr Viloo Morawala Patell, chairperson, APAG.

APAG is currently engaged with many other opportunities for a number of its 'biosimilars' and 'biobetters'.

APAG is working with different outsourcing organizations to bring out products to the market.

So far it has identified Syngene International for fill and finish, and Kemwell Biopharma as a CMO (Contract Manufacturing Organization), and PRA International to conduct Phase I clinical trials in the Netherlands, followed by phase III in India.