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## **GSK strengthens vaccines business with acquisition of Okairos**

### **- GSK to further expand its vaccines platform technology expertise through strategic acquisition**

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GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) today announced that it has acquired Okairos AG (Okairos), a specialist developer of vaccine platform technologies for €250 million (approximately £215 million/\$325 million) in cash.

Swiss-based Okairos, a private company, has developed a novel vaccine platform technology which is expected to play an important role in GSK's development of new prophylactic vaccines (designed to prevent infection) as well as new classes of therapeutic vaccines (designed to treat infection or disease). Okairos' technology complements GSK's existing vaccine technology and expertise, and will enable GSK to continue its work developing the next generation of vaccines. The deal also includes a small number of early stage assets.

The acquisition reinforces GSK's commitment to investment in innovative science. GSK's vaccines business sits alongside pharmaceuticals and consumer healthcare as part of a balanced business and product portfolio capable of delivering sustainable sales growth.

**Christophe Weber, President, GSK Vaccines said:** "This is a fantastic opportunity for patients and our research organisation as it is expected to contribute to the development efforts for an exciting new generation of vaccines, building on the excellent science and expertise of both companies."

**Riccardo Cortese, Chief Executive Officer and founder, Okairos, said:** "I am extremely pleased with this agreement, which will enable GSK to build on the hard work we have put into developing our vaccines and platforms to the stage that they are at today. With its considerable resources and know-how, I am confident that GSK is best-placed to maximise this opportunity to potentially transform the vaccines landscape."

Under the terms of the transaction, GSK will take full ownership of the company and thus assume ownership of early stage assets for diseases such as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), malaria, tuberculosis, ebola and HIV, supplementing the company's existing vaccines pipeline. GSK and the Okairos management team are committed to an innovative collaboration and will work together over the next few months to develop ways of working that will maintain the autonomy, spirit and agility of this unique small biotech firm which will be strengthened by the support and advantages that GSK can provide.

Okairos was supported by investments from the following life science venture capital firms: BioMedInvest, the Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund, LSP, Novartis Venture Funds and Versant Ventures.

**GlaxoSmithKline** – one of the world's leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies – is committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer. For further information please visit [www.gsk.com](http://www.gsk.com)

**Okairos** - is a non-listed clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, developing genetic vaccines for major infectious diseases - including malaria, hepatitis C, HIV, respiratory syncytial virus and cancer - using a novel proprietary technology. The company is also pursuing therapeutic vaccines to treat cancer. For more information, visit [www.okairos.com](http://www.okairos.com)

**Platform technology:**

Okairos' platform technology is based on novel viral vectors (mechanisms which deliver genetic material into cells) that are designed to help stimulate immune responses, (in particular T-cells) and aim to protect against and treat infectious diseases and cancer.. The potential of this technology has been tested in clinical studies in which over 700 subjects have been vaccinated, including Phase II programmes in hepatitis C and malaria.

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**Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements**

GSK cautions investors that any forward-looking statements or projections made by GSK, including those made in this announcement, are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Factors that may affect GSK' s operations are described under Item 3.D 'Risk factors' in the company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for 2012.

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