



CaroGen Corporation
Farmington, CT

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CaroGen Strengthens its Board and Discovery Team

CaroGen Corp, a developer of immunotherapies for HBV as well as other infectious diseases and cancer, announced today an important addition to its Board of Directors and two key senior executive level scientists to its immunotherapy discovery and development team. Bijan Almassian, Ph.D., CaroGen's CEO stated that, "The addition of these three impressive and experienced individuals, greatly strengthens the CaroGen team and positions the company well with respect to executing on its immunotherapy plans".

The three new CaroGen additions are:

Jo Viney, Ph.D. – Dr. Viney is CaroGen's newest Board member and is an entrepreneurial scientist and experienced biotech executive with extensive knowledge in autoimmune and inflammatory disease area. A self-described "drug-hunter", she has successfully advanced a number of small molecule and biologics programs into the clinic. According to Jo, *"I was impressed by cutting-edge science developed by world class scientists at Yale University, and by the extensive expertise of its management team."* Previously, Jo worked at Biogen in Cambridge, MA where she began as *Vice President, Immunology Research* and was responsible for building and advancing the company's immunology portfolio before moving on to become *Senior Vice President, Drug Discovery* and a member of the senior R&D leadership team. Prior to Biogen, Jo worked at Genentech, Immunex and Amgen with increasing scope of drug discovery responsibilities. Jo received her PhD in Immunology from St. Bartholomew's Hospital, University of London in the U.K.

Stephen Mason, Ph.D. – Dr. Mason has been involved in drug discovery research for the past 18 years. Since 2015, he has been a consultant in various capacities for small biotech and potential start-up companies. For almost six years, Steve was Director of Discovery Virology at Bristol-Myers Squibb, leading research efforts toward remission/eradication of HIV and HBV, as well as projects on HPV and HCV. Previously, he worked for twelve years at Boehringer-Ingelheim as Director of research leading all exploratory research activities in HIV. Steve

received his PhD in 1993 in Dr. Jack Greenblatt's laboratory at the University of Toronto (Canada). Dr. Mason is joining CaroGen as Executive Director, Virology and Leader of the HBV Immunotherapy program.

Timur Yarovinsky, M.D., Ph.D. – Dr. Yarovinsky has extensive training in immunology and more than 16 years of research experience in the field of immunology and microbial pathogenesis. He obtained both his MD and PhD (Allergy and Immunology) degrees from Russia State Medical University (Moscow, Russia) and undertook his postdoctoral fellowship at The University of Iowa, Iowa City. In 2007 he joined the Department of Immunobiology, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, as Associate Research Scientist. Dr. Yarovinsky had been CaroGen's Immunology Group Leader and has promoted to Director of Immunology.

CaroGen Corporation is an emerging immunotherapy company employing a transformative virus-like vesicle (VLV) platform technology developed at Yale University School of Medicine and exclusively licensed by CaroGen for the development and commercialization of immunotherapies worldwide. The company is developing a portfolio of immunotherapies with a lead program in chronic hepatitis B viral infection in collaboration with Professor John Rose, from Yale University School of Medicine and Dr. Michael Robek from Albany Medical College. CaroGen is also working on the development of VLV immunotherapies against *C. difficile*, a bacterial infection in collaboration with Dr. Kamal Khanna, and a vaccine against colon cancer in collaboration with Drs. Anthony Vella and Kepeng Wang at University of Connecticut Health Center.

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