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InViragen Receives \$2.7 Million Grant for its Dengue Vaccine

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InViragen has received a multi-million dollar grant from the National Institutes of Health to partially support its efforts to develop a safe and effective dengue vaccine. The four year, \$2.7 million grant will fund a collaborative effort led by InViragen and involving scientists at the Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the University of Wisconsin. The supported work will include complete characterization of InViragen's dengue vaccine prior to initiating human clinical trials.

"We are excited to receive this funding from the NIH for support of our dengue vaccine research and development," said Dr. Dan Stinchcomb, InViragen's Chief Executive Officer. "Recent dengue fever outbreaks in India, Pakistan and Cuba have emphasized the need for this vaccine. These funds will allow us to accelerate our dengue vaccine development plans."

Dengue viruses threaten over 2.5 billion people worldwide and cause an estimated 100 – 150 million cases of dengue fever every year. Dengue fever is caused by infection with one of four different RNA viruses: DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 or DEN-4. To be safe and

effective, a dengue vaccine must be capable of neutralizing all four of the dengue viruses. InViragen's dengue vaccine technology, developed by researchers at the CDC, is based on a safe virus backbone that generates long-lasting anti-dengue immune responses. Using this technology, InViragen is developing a four-way vaccine to protect against all four of the different viruses that cause dengue fever.

"In collaboration with scientists at the CDC and University of Wisconsin, InViragen will conduct a complete molecular and biological characterization of our dengue vaccine," said Dr. Jorge Osorio, InViragen's Chief Scientific Officer and Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin. "With this funding we will optimize the vaccine formulation, develop the manufacturing processes and test InViragen's dengue vaccine for safety and efficacy in animal models."

Dengue fever is a major public health problem in Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, the Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America and parts of Africa. If successful in these preclinical studies and in human clinical trials, InViragen's dengue vaccine may be used to protect children and adults in these endemic countries and to protect travelers to those regions from this debilitating and dangerous disease.

About InViragen

Co-founded by Dr. Jorge Osorio and Dr. Dan Stinchcomb, InViragen is developing life-saving vaccines to protect against emerging infectious diseases worldwide. InViragen's lead vaccine is designed to protect against dengue fever. Additionally, InViragen is developing vaccines to protect against West Nile disease, avian influenza, plague and smallpox. InViragen has offices in Fort Collins, Colorado and Madison, Wisconsin. Please see www.inviragen.com for more details.