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ASIA EDITION

Evolve BioSystems launches Evivo in Hong Kong, Singapore

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Launch of activated form of critical bacteria B. Infantis in Asia fulfills Li Ka Shing Foundation's vision



Evolve BioSystems, makers of Evivo® baby probiotic, announced that its flagship consumer product Evivo is available in Hong Kong and Singapore.

The introduction of Evivo into these markets fulfills a major goal of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Horizons Ventures, the investment arm of the Li Ka Shing Foundation. These two world-renowned public-health organizations led Evolve's most recent round of funding based on the company's science, which has shown that B. infantis reduces the abundance of pathogens, such as Clostridium and E. coli, that have been associated with autoimmune conditions common in developed nations, including asthma, allergies, colic, eczema and type-1 diabetes.

"The dramatic spike of autoimmune health challenges over the past several decades has spread in Asia, correlating with the rise of formula feeding, C-sections and antibiotic abuse. Evivo baby probiotic, the essential beneficial bacterium for babies, is critical in laying the foundation for a strong immune system," said Patrick Zhang at Horizons Ventures. "We were particularly eager to make Evivo available in Asia because we believe that B. infantis is critical for laying the foundation for a strong immune system."

Evivo is intended specifically for newborns, and provides a crucial strain of Bifidobacterium that was historically present in the infant gut, but has nearly been eliminated over the past century. When Evivo is consumed in combination with breast milk, the B. infantis crowds out pathogens.

Evolve, Zhejiang University Kick Off Study Aimed at Eliminating Antibiotic Usage in Pigs

B. infantis will also be playing a major role in the health of livestock in Asia. The Li Ka Shing Foundation is funding a joint Evolve-Zhejiang University study that will assess whether the company's product GlycoGuard, which introduces B. infantisinto the microbiomes of livestock, could potentially replace antibiotic usage in pigs, thereby drastically reducing incidence of associated antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

In this planned study of 4,000 pigs, Evolve and Zhejiang University seek to uncover how to use probiotics to reduce the region's porcine mortality rate and aid weight gain, for which pork farmers currently turn to antibiotics to achieve.