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ASIA EDITION

Korean firm Celltrion developing solution to treat COVID-19 patients at home

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Partners with US-based Inhalon Biopharma



Inhalon Biopharma, Inc., a US-based clinical-stage immunotherapy company developing an inhaled "muco-trapping" antibody platform for treating a variety of acute respiratory infections, has announced that it is partnering with South Korea-based Celltrion, Inc. to develop IN-006, an inhaled form of regdanvimab, for treating patients with COVID-19.

"Working with Inhalon to develop an inhaled form of regdanvimab will allow us to more directly reach the virus in the airways where the infection begins," said SungHyun Kim, Head of Medical Science Division at Celltrion. "Regdanvimab will be the first antibody to be nebulized and inhaled against COVID-19 that has already demonstrated efficacy in a previous phase 3 study. This route of administration will diversify our delivery options and allow patients to self-administer treatment in the convenience of their own home."

Inhalon's muco-trapping antibody platform directly traps the virus in airway mucus, preventing the local spread of the infection, and quickly eliminating the virus from the lungs through the body's natural ability to clear mucus.

Inhaled therapy can be readily self-administered by patients, extend critical drug supplies to more patients by reducing the dosage needed, and does not place excessive demands on healthcare staff and infusion clinic space that intravenous (IV) drugs do.