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Apriori Bio and A*STAR ink strategic partnership to advance next generation influenza vaccines

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To focus on improved H5 influenza vaccines that anticipate infection in humans



US-based Apriori Bio and Singapore's Agency for Science, Technology and Research Infectious Diseases Labs (A*STAR IDL) have announced a strategic research partnership to co-develop and evaluate next generation self-amplifying RNA (saRNA) vaccines targeting seasonal and pandemic influenza.

The collaboration brings together Apriori's Octavia™ platform for intelligent, prospective antigen design with A*STAR IDL's saRNA delivery technology, and will initially focus on improved H5 influenza vaccines that anticipate infection in humans.

"This collaboration is an important step for Apriori as we unite complementary strengths in vaccine design and delivery to drive lasting immunity against one of the world's most challenging viruses," said Craig Williams, MBA, Chief Executive Officer of Apriori Bio and CEO-Partner at Flagship Pioneering. "Apriori has redefined what's possible in vaccine development by harnessing the power of AI to predict viral evolution and protect people against pathogens that outpace traditional approaches, such as influenza. Together, with A*STAR IDL's next generation RNA delivery capabilities, we aim to change the standard of protection for patients worldwide."

Professor Lisa Ng, Executive Director of A*STAR IDL, said, "This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to translating research into real-world impact. By combining A*STAR IDL's strengths in RNA and infectious disease expertise with Apriori's AI-guided antigen design, we aim to accelerate vaccine development and strengthen preparedness for future outbreaks in Singapore and globally."

The collaboration takes place under Flagship Pioneering's ongoing institutional partnership with A*STAR, which aims to jointly advance breakthrough solutions for the advancement of human health, as well as to advance Singapore's position as a global hub for biotechnological innovations.