# EligoChem awarded up to $4.8M from CARB-X to select and develop antimicrobial peptides as Gram-negative antibiotics.

*Sandwich, 25 July 2017.* EligoChem Ltd, a biopharmaceutical company developing novel antibacterial treatments in areas of highest unmet needs, announced today that it has been awarded up to $4.8 million non-dilutive funding from CARB-X, the world's largest public-private partnership devoted to antibacterial R&D. The award provides immediate funding of up to $1.5 million with options for up to $3.3 million upon achievement of milestones.

The CARB-X funded project focuses on candidate selection from a series of helical antimicrobial peptides with potent Gram-negative antibiotic action and low frequency of resistance potential. These peptides have significantly reduced toxicity potential compared to other known antimicrobial peptides

"This award enables EligoChem to optimise a new and exciting series of helical antimicrobial peptides with the potential to treat serious bacterial infections" said Graham Maw, COO of EligoChem.

"We are delighted to collaborate with CARB-X on our antimicrobial peptides which have clear potential for broad spectrum of activity and low frequency of resistance" said Andy McElroy, CEO of EligoChem. "As a company powered by CARB-X, EligoChem will benefit from access to world-class expertise including NIAID pre-clinical services and technical consulting from RTI International.".

CARB-X, which stands for Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator, is backed by the US Government – through the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) - and the UK charity Wellcome Trust. It was launched in July 2016 to address the gap in antibiotic research and development and innovations to improve diagnosis and treatment of drug-resistant infections.

Kevin Outterson, Executive Director of CARB-X and Professor of Law at Boston University said: "Drug-resistant infections are complex and developing new antibiotics challenging, timely and costly. But restoring the R&D pipeline is vital to address the seriously increasing threat of superbugs which have become resistant to existing drugs. This is a global problem and CARB-X is a critical part of the global solution. We are looking to support the best potential new treatments and diagnostics across the world. We are especially pleased that today's awards mean we are now supporting scientists in 6 countries. The projects offer exciting potential. But we need greater global support from governments, industry and civil society to get the new treatments the world urgently needs."

## About CARB-X

CARB-X is the world's largest public-private partnership devoted to antibacterial R&D. Funded by BARDA and Wellcome Trust, with in-kind support from NIAID, we will spend $450 million from 2017-

2021 to support innovative products moving towards human clinical trials. CARB-X focuses on high priority drug-resistant bacteria, especially Gram-negatives. CARB-X is a charitable global public-private partnership led by Boston University School of Law. Other partners include the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, MassBio, the California Life Sciences Institute and RTI International. For more information, please visit www.carb-x.org and follow us on Twitter @CARB_X.

## About EligoChem

EligoChem Ltd is a private biopharmaceutical company that are pioneering a new drug design technology that enables the discovery of safer drugs. EligoChem has a portfolio of antibacterial targets to treat drug resistant infections in areas of highest unmet medical need. The company's lead antimicrobial peptide product supported by CARB-X is expected to enter the clinic in 2019. EligoChem is also applying their design technology to the optimisation of leads targeting novel mechanisms with low resistance potential. The technology is based on the property of some drugs whereby they can display different physical properties in solution and in biological membranes through internalisation of hydrogen bonding and polar surfaces. Drug discovery requires a balance of properties, such that compounds are polar and so soluble enough in water, but also lipophilic and so soluble in oil (body tissues and membranes). Please visit www.eligochem.com and follow us on Twitter @eligochem

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