BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

Fosun Pharma inks agreement with BioNTech for COVID-19 vaccine supply in China

December 16, 2020 | News

Initial supply will be delivered from BioNTech's production facilities in Germany



BioNTech and Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical (Group) Co, Ltd have announced an agreement to supply Mainland China with 100 million doses initially of their BNT162 mRNA-based vaccine candidate against COVID-19 in 2021, subject to regulatory approval. Initial supply will be delivered from BioNTech’s production facilities in Germany.

“We would like to thank the Chinese government and National Medical Products Administration for their commitment and trust in our vaccine development efforts to help address this global pandemic threat,” said Ugur Sahin, MD, CEO and Co-Founder, BioNTech. “This joint development effort with Fosun Pharma is a testament to the importance of global cooperation and reflects our strategy toÃ¢â?¬Â¯supplyÃ¢â?¬Â¯our vaccineÃ¢â?¬Â¯globally. This agreement is an important step toward our shared goal of bringing a safe and efficacious vaccine to people worldwide.”

"Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, we have been working closely with BioNTech. With the support of the Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of The State Council, especially the National Medical Products Administration, the National Health Commission, the Ministry of Science and Technology and other relevant authorities, the R&D and clinical trial of our COVID-19 mRNA vaccine in China has been promoted rapidly. On the premise of ensuring the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, we actively promote the marketing of the vaccine in China. The BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine is a successful model of international R&D collaboration," Wu Yifang, Chairman, CEO, Fosun Pharma said. “We are pleased to reach the supply agreement with BioNTech, which is an important step in Fosun Pharma and BioNTech's efforts to achieve vaccine accessibility and affordability in China.”

In March 2020, BioNTech and Fosun Pharma announced their strategic collaboration to work jointly on the development and commercialisation of a potential COVID-19 vaccine based on BioNTech’s mRNA technology platform.

On November 24, 2020, the companies initiated a Phase 2 clinical trial of vaccine candidate BNT162b2 in Jiangsu Province, China. The trial commenced with the recruitment of 960 healthy participants, between 18 to 85 years old, to assess the safety and immunogenicity of the vaccine candidate and to support future Biologic License Application (BLA) in China.