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IVI, ST Pharm exchange MoU on clinical development of COVID-19 vaccine

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Promotion of Global Training Hub for biomanufacturing for LMICs



The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) and ST Pharm have exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a strategic partnership and facilitate collaboration for clinical development of a pan-coronavirus mRNA vaccine.

Under the MoU, IVI and ST Pharm have agreed to collaborate in clinical development of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine as well as in efforts to promote Korea's WHO Global Training Hub for Biomanufacturing (GTH-B) strategy.

Specifically, IVI and ST Pharm will work together in defining a Clinical Development Plan (CDP) and regulatory strategy for ST Pharm's pan-coronavirus vaccine candidate. IVI will act as a collaborative partner for Phase 1/2a clinical trials of the vaccine candidate to be conducted in Korea and a country in Africa. ST Pharm won a grant from KmVAC (Korea mRNA Vaccine Initiative) launched and funded by the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Disease Control and Prevention Agency.

The two sides will seek opportunities for multinational clinical trials of mRNA vaccine candidates by utilising their experiences in clinical trials and development and IVI's international network.

The two organisations have also agreed to cooperate in training of biomanufacturing workforce in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Image caption- Dr Jerome Kim (left), Director General, International Vaccine Institute and Dr Kyungjin Peter Kim, CEO, ST Pharm