

# Ackermans & van Haaren invests in Vico Therapeutics

Vico Therapeutics is a Dutch biotech company developing novel Antisense-Oligonucleotide (ASO) therapies for rare diseases.

The company is trialing its lead program VO659 in a multicenter clinical trial across Europe in several types of Spinocerebellar Ataxia's and in Huntington's Disease, for which it both received FDA's Orphan Drug Designation.

The 54 million euro Series-B fundraising will allow the company to continue the clinical development of this important program and several other preclinical ASO therapies. The Series-B is led by Ackermans & van Haaren (AvH) with existing co-leads Droia Ventures, EQT Life Sciences and Kurma Partners along with prior investors Polaris Partners, Pureos Bioventures and Eurazeo. AvH initially holds 3,8% of the shares of Vico Therapeutics, with its shareholding further increasing when the full amount of AvH's 7,5 million euro commitment is called by the company after achieving certain milestones.

AvH has, over the past year, built a good working relationship with the experienced management of the company and is looking forward to accompanying them in the next chapter of their already impressive journey. Furthermore, AvH will be represented on the Board of Directors of the company.

"This financing positions us to accelerate our efforts to advance our lead program VO659, currently in a Phase 1/2a clinical study of patients with spinocerebellar ataxia types 3 & 1, and Huntington's disease," said Micah Mackison, chief executive officer at Vico. "We are pleased that a team of highly sophisticated investors led by new investor AvH, have joined in this financing round, further validating our research progress and the significant potential of VO659 to transform the lives of patients living with these devastating neurodegenerative diseases for which there are currently no disease-modifying treatments available."

Piet Dejonghe, co-CEO of AvH commented further: "With this investment AvH further builds out its Life Science portfolio within its Growth Capital activities. Our strategy focusses on clinical stage platform companies with experienced management teams that want to provide breakthrough new therapies in diseases with high unmet medical needs. Clearly Vico Therapeutics scores well on all these aspects and as such we hope to be able to contribute to a therapy for these debilitating diseases."

#### Ackermans & van Haaren

Ackermans & van Haaren positions itself as the long-term partner of choice of family businesses and management teams to help build high-performing market leaders and contribute to a more sustainable world.

Ackermans & van Haaren is a diversified group operating in 4 core sectors: Marine Engineering & Contracting (DEME, one of the largest dredging companies in the world - CFE, a construction group with headquarters in Belgium), Private Banking (Delen Private Bank, one of the largest independent private asset managers in Belgium, and asset manager JM Finn in the UK - Bank Van Breda, niche bank for entrepreneurs and the liberal

professions in Belgium), Real Estate (Nextensa, a listed integrated real estate group) and Energy & Resources (SIPEF, an agroindustrial group in tropical agriculture). In its Growth Capital segment, AvH also provides growth capital to sustainable companies in different sectors.

At an economic level, the AvH group represented in 2022 a turnover of 5.7 billion euros and employed 21,453 people through its share in the participations. AvH is listed on Euronext Brussels and is included in the BEL20 index, the BEL ESG index and the European DJ Stoxx 600 index.

## Website

All press releases issued by AvH and its most important group companies as well as the 'Investor Presentation' can also be consulted on the AvH website: www.avh.be. Anyone who is interested to receive the press releases via email has to register to this website.

## Contact

For further information please contact:

John-Eric Bertrand

co-CEO-co-Chairman executive committee-Tel. + 32.3.897.92.08

Piet Dejonghe

co-CEO - co-Chairman executive committee - Tel. +32.3.897.92.36

Tom Bamelis

CFO - Member executive committee - Tel. +32.3.897.92.35

e-mail: dirsec@avh.be

## Financial calendar

- February 29, 2024.....Annual results 2023
- May 23, 2024.....Interim statement Q1 2024





