

ASX Release

28 August 2025

US PATENT TO BE GRANTED FOR AROVELLA'S iNKT CELL THERAPY PLATFORM

Highlights:

- **US patent application for Arovella's CAR-iNKT cell platform to proceed to grant.**

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 28 August 2025: Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform, is pleased to announce that the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued a Notice of Allowance on 15 August 2025 indicating their intention to grant a patent from US patent application no. 16/977,346 directed to Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform, which is under licence to Arovella from Imperial College Innovations Limited.

The patent application, which covers the manufacturing of CAR-iNKT cells, is expected to proceed to grant in 2025 following completion of the grant formalities. Once granted, the patent will have a term of protection to at least 28 February 2039, subject to any patent term adjustment.

The US Patent Application No. 16/977,346 is titled "TRANSDUCTION AND EXPANSION OF CELLS".

The allowance of US 16/977,346 accompanies granted patents in Europe, Canada and Hong Kong, an accepted patent application in Australia, and additional corresponding applications, including divisional patent applications, in Canada, China, Europe and Hong Kong.

Arovella's CEO and MD, Dr Michael Baker, commented: "Receiving notice that this US patent application will proceed to grant is an excellent milestone for the technology, particularly as we move closer to taking our lead product, ALA-101, into first-in-human clinical trials. We are very excited by the prospect of demonstrating the value of our platform and to having a positive impact on the lives of many cancer patients. Despite the current environment in the US, the US remains an important target market for Arovella, so having granted patent claims to support our strategy is excellent."

The completed pre-clinical studies demonstrate that CAR19-iNKT cells are a robust therapeutic option for eliminating haematological malignancies (blood cancers) that produce CD19, with further enhanced activity against cancers that also produce CD1d.

Arovella has also licensed a novel armouring strategy, IL-12-TM, from the University of North Carolina, from the laboratory of Professor Gianpietro Dotti, and a novel Claudin 18.2-targeting CAR that Arovella intends to develop to target gastric cancer and potentially pancreatic cancer. The manufacturing process covered by the allowed claims of US 16/977,346 will also be used for these new products.

Release authorised by the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Arovella Therapeutics Limited.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:**About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella's lead product is ALA-101. ALA-101 consists of CAR19-iNKT cells that have been modified to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) that targets CD19. CD19 is an antigen found on the surface of numerous cancer types. iNKT cells also contain an invariant T cell receptor (iTCR) that targets glycolipid bound CD1d, another antigen found on the surface of several cancer types. ALA-101 is being developed as an allogeneic cell therapy, which means it can be given from a healthy donor to a patient. Arovella is also expanding into solid tumour treatment through its CLDN18.2-targeting technology licensed from Sparx Group. Arovella will also incorporate its IL-12-TM technology into its solid tumour programs.

Glossary: **iNKT cell** – invariant Natural Killer T cells; **CAR** – Chimeric Antigen Receptor that can be introduced into immune cells to target cancer cells; **TCR** – T cell receptors are a group of proteins found on immune cells that recognise fragments of antigens as peptides bound to MHC complexes; **B-cell lymphoma** – A type of cancer that forms in B cells (a type of immune system cell); **CD1d** – Cluster of differentiation 1, which is expressed on some immune cells and cancer cells; **αGalCer** – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

For more information, visit www.arovella.com

This announcement contains certain statements which may constitute forward-looking statements or information ("forward-looking statements"), including statements regarding negotiations with third parties and regulatory approvals. These forward-looking statements are based on certain key expectations and assumptions, including assumptions regarding the actions of third parties and financial terms. These factors and assumptions are based upon currently available information, and the forward-looking statements herein speak only of the date hereof. Although the expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable in the view of the Company's directors and management, reliance should not be placed on such statements as there is no assurance that they will prove correct. This is because forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could influence actual results or events and cause actual results or events to differ materially from those stated, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. These risks include but are not limited to: uncertainties and other factors that are beyond the control of the Company; global economic conditions; the risk associated with foreign currencies; and risk associated with securities market volatility. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements, except as required by Australian securities laws and ASX Listing Rules.