**ASX: ALA** Arovella Therapeutics Limited ACN 090 987 250



**ASX Release** 

2 January 2024

## **AROVELLA COMPLETES KEY MANUFACTURING STEP TO PROGRESS ALA-101 TO CLINIC**

Highlights:

- GMP-grade lentiviral vector manufactured and passed quality control release testing
- GMP lentiviral vector is a critical component for clinical manufacturing of ALA-101
- ALA-101 vector is manufactured by Lentigen Technology, Inc, a world-leading manufacturer of lentiviral vectors for cell and gene therapies

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 2 January 2024:** Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform, is pleased to announce its Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)-grade lentiviral vector for its lead product, ALA-101, has been successfully manufactured and passed quality release testing.

Arovella is developing ALA-101 to treat CD19+ lymphomas and leukemias. A key requirement for the development of an iNKT cell therapy product is the establishment of the manufacturing process under GMP conditions. A critical component for this manufacturing is the GMP-grade lentiviral vector, which carries the genetic material to program iNKT cells to target and eliminate cancer cells. The ALA-101 vector is a 3rd-generation lentiviral vector manufactured by Lentigen Technology, Inc, a world-leading manufacturer of lentiviral vectors for cell and gene therapies.

Arovella's CEO and MD, Dr. Michael Baker, commented: "This is a tremendous step forward for the ALA-101 program and for Arovella. Producing GMP lentiviral vector is essential to developing ALA-101 and we are delighted this major step was completed on schedule."

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 is also expanding into solid tumour treatment through its CLDN18.2-targeting technology licensed



from Sparx Group. Additional tumour targeting technologies are anticipated to be used in conjunction with Arovella's iNKT cell therapy platform. 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  $\alpha$ -GalCer 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.

**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; **aGalCer** – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

The Company is also commercialising ZolpiMist<sup>™</sup> to treat short-term insomnia.

## For more information, visit <u>www.arovella.com</u>

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