



PRESS RELEASE

MaxiVAX appoints T. Scott Johnson, M.D., as new Chairman

- **Bernard Mach, co-founder, steps down as Chairman and stays on Board**
- **Board strengthened as MaxiVAX prepares for next growth phase**
- **Johnson brings strong background in medicine and company management**

Geneva, Switzerland – 17 July 2018 – MaxiVAX SA, a private Swiss clinical-stage biotech company developing novel anti-cancer vaccines, today announces the appointment of T. Scott Johnson, M.D., as Chairman, following his joining of the Board of Directors in December 2017. Dr Johnson takes over as Chairman from Dr Bernard Mach, co-founder of MaxiVAX, who remains on the Board. Dr Johnson was a Founder of The Medicines Company where he is currently Chief Medical Advisor and Vice President of Business Development. He is also a Founder and General Partner of JSB Partners, L.P., providing specialized investment banking and advisory services to biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

Dr Bernard Mach, MaxiVAX co-founder, commented: “I am pleased to hand over the Chairman’s role to Scott Johnson, who brings a new dimension to MaxiVAX with his extensive experience in medicine, company management and capital formation. This is the right time for me to step down as Chairman and is in the best interests of the company’s dynamic development for the coming years.”

Dr Scott Johnson said: “I am honored and delighted to accept the challenge of becoming Chairman of MaxiVAX at this exciting point in its growth. The past few months have enabled me to appreciate the quality of this highly talented team led by CEO Dimitri Goundis and CSO Dr Nicolas Mach. As a physician, I am keenly interested in the company’s novel approach to immuno-oncology, a very promising therapeutic field in the battle against cancer. I look forward to helping the company achieve its ambitious growth plans.”

Other Board members include Clarence Peter, partner in the Swiss law firm Python, and Jack Barbut, the former Chief Executive of Novimmune.

The company’s MVX-ONCO-1 product triggers a patient’s own natural immune response mechanism using the patient’s own irradiated cancer cells as vaccine antigens, combined with an immune boosting agent. MaxiVAX received the 2017 CTI Swiss Medtech Award for its ground-breaking work with MVX-ONCO-1, which is in Phase 2 development for Head & Neck cancer in Switzerland.

T. Scott Johnson, M.D.

Dr Johnson brings 40 years of experience in medicine, venture capital and investment banking. He was a Founder of The Medicines Company in 1996, where he is currently Chief Medical Advisor and Vice President of Business Development. Since 1999 he has been a Founder and General Partner of JSB Partners, L.P. Prior to this, he was President and Managing Director of MPM Capital Advisors and Founder and Senior Managing Director of Medical Portfolio Management, Inc. His medical career includes serving as an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine and Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, in connection with the Boston-based Brigham and Women's and Beth Israel Hospitals. He also served as Resident in Internal Medicine and as Chief Resident in Medicine at Beth Israel, and as a Fellow in Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Colorado Medical Center. Dr. Johnson earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry at the University of Alabama. He went on to the University of Alabama College of Medicine, where he earned his medical degree and received the Dean's Award for Most Outstanding Graduate of his class. He has the Board of Medical Examiners Certification for Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Diseases and Critical Care Medicine and is registered to practice medicine in Massachusetts.

Bernard Mach, M.D., Ph.D.

A Swiss citizen, Bernard Mach obtained his MD degree from the University of Geneva Medical School (1957) and, following internship and residency in Medicine at the Mass. General Hospital (Harvard Medical School) in Boston (1958-60), obtained a PhD in molecular genetics from the Rockefeller University in New York, under Nobel laureate Ed. Tatum (1965). He was then research fellow at the University of Geneva until he became Chairman of the Dept. of Microbiology (1977). He remained at the University of Geneva Medical School until 1998, where he was the Louis Jeantet Professor of Molecular Genetics, Chairman of the Department of Genetics and Microbiology and Founder and Chairman of the Graduate Program in Molecular and Cell biology. An important achievement from B. Mach (with colleagues François Rougeon and Philippe Kourilsky) was the 1975 discovery of the Cloning of Genes from their mRNA and cDNA, a novel technology that made possible gene cloning in all eukaryotes and that provided the basis for modern Biotechnology, for the production of Recombinant Proteins and for the exploration of the Genome. He was elected a foreign Member of the French Academy of Sciences in 1995.

Although he has spent most of his professional life in academia, B. Mach has also been active as an advisor and consultant in the Life Sciences area and as an entrepreneur. B. Mach was a member of the Swiss Science Council (1969-1980), was president of the Union of Swiss Societies for Experimental Biology and was a member of the French National Science Council (1998-2002). B. Mach was a founder, SAB member and director of Biogen (from 1977 to 1991), then a member of the Board of Serono (Geneva), of Lonza Group (Basel) and was on the board of several Biotech companies. Since 1995, B. Mach has also been active in the field of investment in Life Sciences, first as founder and Chairman of the Lombard Odier Immunology Fund and then as partner in Aravis Venture Fund.

B. Mach is the founder and honorary chairman of NovImmune, a Geneva-based private biotech company developing "best in class" therapeutic monoclonal antibodies in the field of inflammation and immune related diseases and with several products in clinical development. In 2006 he co-founded with his son Nicolas Mach M.D., the oncology company MaxiVAX, dedicated to primary immunotherapy of various types of cancer, with a novel and effective procedure that allows the boosting of the patient's own immune response against his/her cancer cells. B. Mach is also on the board of FIND, a Geneva-based non-profit foundation developing novel innovative diagnostics for developing countries, bringing high-tech robust and affordable diagnostics to low tech and poor areas of the world.

About MVX-ONCO-1

MVX-ONCO-1 is a biological product made up of two components. The first consists of complete tumor cells taken from each individual patient and represents the best repertoire of antigens, i.e., cancer-specific targets against which a coordinated immune response can be directed. The cancer cells are lethally irradiated before being implanted subcutaneously in the patient.

The second component consists of the adjuvant, or booster. Adding a strong adjuvant is essential for triggering an efficient immune response. The release of the potent adjuvant GM-CSF, a white blood cell growth factor, is obtained by the implantation of a biocompatible capsule that contains a cell line genetically modified to produce the strong adjuvant. The encapsulation of the GM-CSF-producing cells allows the continuous, in-situ delivery of the immune boosting agent over seven days at the site of immunization. This is a critical parameter for the successful and sustained immunization against the cancer cells.

A recently completed Phase 1 clinical trial demonstrated that MVX-ONCO-1 was safe and well tolerated, with encouraging efficacy results. MVX-ONCO-1 is the company's first compound, for which there is IP protection in both the United States and the European Union.

About MaxiVAX www.maxivax.ch

MaxiVAX is a private Swiss clinical-stage biotech company with a novel, patient-specific and personalized active immunotherapy treatment for cancer. The company received the 2017 CTI Swiss Medtech Award for its ground-breaking work, and its lead product MVX-ONCO-1, which is in Phase 2 development for Head & Neck cancer in Switzerland.

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