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Ezrin Peptide Immune-Amplification Bio-Defense against Infectious Pathogens of Viral, Bacterial and Fungal origin**Rupert D Holms***CEO NewalR&D Ltd and inventor of ezrin peptide therapeutics, London*

There is an urgent need for broad spectrum therapy & prophylaxis for novel infectious agents of viral, bacterial and fungal origin. COVID-19 and the new 2022 lethal hepatitis in children emerged suddenly and initially lack any therapeutic solution. Generally, there is a growing risk world wide of biowar gain-of-function infectious agents. Dr Holms is the inventor of Human Ezrin Peptide One (HEP-1) and ezrin peptide therapeutics. HEP-1 is a 14 amino acid synthetic peptide invented in London (1993), after the discovery that HIV mimics part of human ezrin protein, which plays key roles in cell-signalling and immunity. HEP-1 was developed in Moscow, then launched as an Over-The-Counter pharmaceutical product called "Gepon" in the Russian Federation in 2001, as a broad spectrum treatment and prophylaxis for Opportunistic Infection of viral, bacterial and fungal origin, and for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), based on its T cell & B cell adaptive immune amplification activity. HEP-1 was originally developed as an HIV therapy but it was discovered early in clinical trials to have general broad spectrum activity against Opportunistic Infections. During clinical development, HEP-1 was discovered to have additional biological activities: anti-inflammatory, tissue regeneration and anti-cancer. HEP-1 is applied to mucous membranes, or given orally, or injected, as an aqueous peptide solution. Human ezrin peptides have an excellent safety profile. During post-registration clinical work, it was established that HEP-1 is an effective treatment for ulcers of the gut: from recurrent oral ulcers, to stomach and duodenal ulcers, to ulcerative colitis & other inflammatory bowel diseases. Ezrin peptide therapy is an effective treatment for hepatitis: HCV, HepB and HepA. In addition, HEP-1 was demonstrated to be effective therapy for acute viral respiratory diseases with inflammatory complications caused by influenza A, parainfluenza and RSV. Over the previous two years in Russia and Germany, HEP-1 was demonstrated to be an effective anti-COVID therapy. HEP-1 went off patent in 2015 and the generic business was sold to Avexima in Moscow (www.avexima.ru). In 2008, Dr Holms invented RepG3, a 14 amino acid synthetic derivative peptide of HEP-1 and patents were filed in 2015. NewalR&D Ltd in London is the owner of 2 granted patents for RepG3 and related peptides, in all major pharmaceutical markets of the world. RepG3 has double the anti-inflammatory and B & T cell immune amplification activity of HEP-1 and has also been demonstrated to be an effective anti-COVID therapy in human volunteers. Generally, broad-spectrum ezrin-peptide therapeutics are treatment solutions for gain-of-function infectious pathogens (viral, bacterial & fungal) with pandemic potential, like SARS-CoV-2. With the growing risk of international conflicts and the release of biowar agents, stocks of reliable broad-spectrum bio-defensive therapies are needed. Ezrin peptides have been successfully shown to be an effective defense in Russian viral and bacterial lethal infection animal models.

Biography

Dr Holms obtained his Ph.D. in the Department of Molecular Biology in the University of Edinburgh in 1984. In 1985, Dr Holms founded, financed and managed HIVER Ltd a non-conventional HIV vaccine development company that was a joint venture between UCL, MRC, ICRF in London and Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio TX USA. This was the origin of ezrin peptide therapeutics. In 1989, Dr Holms founded and managed Retroscreen: (renamed hVIVO PLC), an antiviral drug screening company at The London Hospital Medical College, which evolved into the successful COVID therapy testing company hVIVO PLC, which was acquired by Open Orphan PLC. In 1989 Dr Holms also founded, financed and managed Nearmedic Group, a new bio pharmaceutical company at The Gamaleya Institute Moscow, which grew into a Euro 100 million turnover profitable business in Russia with holding companies in Cyprus. In 2014, Dr Holms formed, financed and manages NewalR&D Ltd.