Aravax forms Scientific Advisory Board

– Five distinguished food allergy researchers and clinicians form Scientific Advisory Board-

9th January 2018, California, United States of America – Aravax, an Australian biotechnology company revolutionising peanut allergy treatment, today held the first meeting of its newly appointed Scientific Advisory Board, at the Gordon's Research Conference on Food Allergy at Ventura Beach in California.

Aravax is delighted to welcome 5 members to the Scientific Advisory Board.

Mark Larché, PhD, is Professor of Medicine at McMaster University, Canada. He is also Chair in Lung Immunology at St. Joseph's Healthcare, and the Canada Research Chair in Allergy & Immune Tolerance. Professor Larché brings world leading expertise in translational medicine and the development of peptide-based vaccines for chronic immunological diseases including allergy.

Wesley Burks, M.D, FAAAAI, is the Curnen Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics at the UNC School of Medicine, United States of America. He is also Executive Dean for the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina and Executive Director of the UNC Food Allergy Initiative. Professor Burks brings over 30 years of experience undertaking and leading clinical food allergy research, including clinical presentations of food allergy, immunotherapy for food allergy and the properties of food contributing to allergenicity.

Katrina (Katie) Allen, MBBS, BMedSc., FRACP, PhD, FAAAAI, FAHMS, is Professor of Pediatric Food Allergy at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, Australia. She is also Theme Director of Population Health and Director of the NHMRC funded Australian Centre of Food and Allergy Research. Professor Allen brings extensive experience in translating research findings into clinical practice and public health policy to ensure the best outcomes for children with food allergy.

Gideon Lack, MA, MBBCH, FRCP CH, MD, is Professor of Paediatric Allergy at King's College London, U.K. He is also Head of the Clinical Academic Paediatric Allergy Service, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust. Professor Lack brings over 20 years' experience of research into severe childhood asthma, peanut allergy and new strategies to prevent and treat food allergies, eczema, asthma, and hay fever in children and adults.

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Kari C. Nadeau, MD, PhD, is Professor of Pediatric Food Allergy at the Stanford School of Medicine, United States of America. She is also Director of the Sean N. Parker Centre for Allergy and Asthma Research, a Section Chief of Allergy and Asthma at the Stanford School of Medicine, and an endowed Professor under the Naddisy Family Foundation. Professor Nadeau brings commercial, clinical and research expertise in understanding the factors responsible for the increased prevalence of allergies and asthma, improving diagnostics, developing new treatments and understanding the immunological mechanisms underlying these diseases.

Pascal Hickey, CEO of Aravax, said *"we are extremely pleased to have attracted such a distinguished panel of researchers to Aravax's Scientific Advisory Board. We look forward to working closely with the Board members as we develop plans for phase 2 studies of PVX108 novel immunotherapy for the treatment of peanut allergy."*

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About Aravax

Aravax is a clinical stage biotechnology company focused on developing the first safe and rapidly effective treatment for peanut allergy. The treatment will use highly targeted technology that can reset the immune system to tolerate peanut without evoking allergic reactions during treatment.

Aravax's technology is underpinned by over a decade of research led by Professor Robyn O'Hehir and her team at Alfred Health and Monash University, which has been supported by the Australian Food Allergy Foundation, the Alfred Hospital Trust, and the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The novel technology uses carefully selected fragments of peanut proteins to switch off allergic reactions. These fragments do not contain the parts of the nut proteins that cause the life-threatening anaphylactic reactions that can make other proposed peanut allergy therapeutics unsafe.

Aravax is headquartered in Melbourne, Australia.

For more information visit: www.aravax.com.au

About the Australian Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF)

The MRCF collaboration is managed by the venture capital firm Brandon Capital Partners, and provides seed and venture capital investment to support the development and growth of Australian life science companies.
Established in late 2007, the MRCF is a unique collaboration between major Australian superannuation funds, over 50 leading medical research institutes and research hospitals in Australia and New Zealand. The MRCF supports the development and commercialisation of very early-stage biomedical discoveries originating from these member research organisations, providing both capital and expertise to guide the successful development of new therapies. The MRCF acknowledges the support of the Australian and New Zealand governments, as well as the state governments of Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory.

For more information visit: www.mrcf.com.au

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