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Sigma-Aldrich® to launch Austrianova's Cell-in-a-Box® Kit for Research Use

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Sigma-Aldrich Corporation (NASDAQ: SIAL), a leading Life Science and High Technology company recently named to the "Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World", will shortly be releasing one of its latest research products for sale: a kit for hand-driven, self-encapsulation of cells which was designed by the Singapore based biotech company Austrianova and uses their proprietary Cell-in-a-Box® technology.

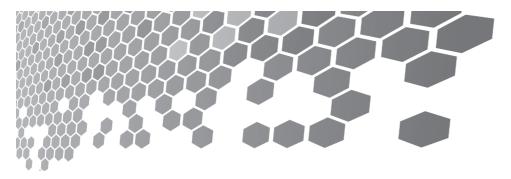
Austrianova conceptualized this novel approach for lab-scale encapsulation of any kind of living cells which is the first product of its kind to be available on the market. Brian Salmons, CEO of Austrianova commented, "The idea behind the kit was to leverage on the global distribution network of Sigma-Aldrich® to provide researchers and companies alike with the ability to undertake early stage tests at low cost and without the need for specialized equipment and training."

John Dangerfield, COO of Austrianova, responsible for development of the kit with his team at Austrianova's R&D facility in Singapore, added that, "The Sigma-Aldrich® Kit allows Cell-in-a-Box® technology to be used in the lab to look at cell viability, cell growth and release of biomolecules from the capsules as well as more practical aspects such as cryopreservation for storage and transport". Austrianova should be contacted directly concerning manufacturing for downstream preclinical and clinical applications.

About Austrianova:

Austrianova, part of the SG Austria Group, is a biotech company with a global footprint and headquarters in Singapore. Austrianova utilizes a novel and proprietary technology for the encapsulation of living mammalian (Cell-in-a-Box®) and bacterial (Bac-in-a-Box®) cells. Cell-in-a-Box® protects the encapsulated cells from rejection by the immune system, allows cells to be easily transported, stored and implanted at specific sites in patients. The technology, which has been proven safe and efficacious in clinical trials carried out in Europe, allows companies to develop any kind of cells as a one-for-all living pharmaceutical. Bac-in-a-Box® is a similar protective device adapted for encapsulation of probiotic bacteria where it has human food and animal feed applications due to its ability for extending storage under lyophilized conditions and protection in stomach acid.

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