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Biofabri and Bharat Biotech ink technology transfer agreement to advance global access to MTBVAC

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MTBVAC is the only live, attenuated Mycobacterium TB vaccine in the pipeline



Biofabri, a global human vaccine development company that is part of the Zendal group, and Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL), a global leader in vaccine innovation and manufacturing, have announced the signing of a Technology Transfer Agreement.

The agreement represents a significant milestone in advancing global efforts to expand equitable access to tuberculosis vaccines in line with World Health Organization (WHO) priorities.

Following the signature of the Licensing Agreement in 2022, this new Technology Transfer Agreement reinforces the collaboration and partnership between the two companies. The Technology Transfer process has already begun to ensure BBIL's manufacturing readiness by the time of MTBVAC licensure in India.

BBIL will guarantee the production and supply of MTBVAC in more than 70 countries across Africa and Southeast Asia, regions with a high disease burden.

MTBVAC has undergone Phase I and II clinical trials in India. The vaccine candidate has demonstrated safety and immunogenicity. Based on these initial results, BBIL is preparing for a pivotal Phase III vaccine efficacy study, which is expected to begin recruiting participants in the first quarter of 2026. Considering the significant disease burden in India, MTBVAC is poised to be a leading candidate in the TB Mukt Bharat initiative championed by th Prime Minister of India.

MTBVAC is the only live, attenuated Mycobacterium TB vaccine in the pipeline and the only vaccine that contains the full complement of the original pathogen's antigenic targets.

MTBVAC is being developed by Biofabri, in close collaboration with BBIL, IAVI, Fundação Ataulpho de Paiva (FAP), TB Vaccine Initiative (TBVI) and UNIZAR. MTBVAC is being targeted for two key populations: newborns, adolescents and adults—groups for whom there is currently no effective prophylactic vaccine against TB disease.