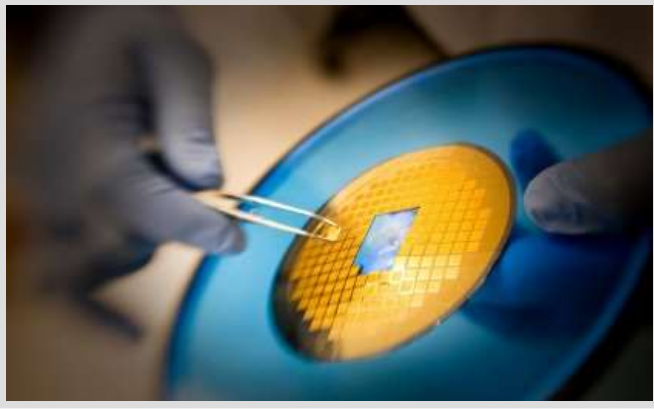


UQ congratulates Vaxxas on \$30m partnership



14 October 2020

A startup company developing technology based on **University of Queensland** (<https://www.uq.edu.au/>) research will partner with the US Government to test its needle-free vaccine delivery technology.

Vaxxas (<http://vaxxas.com/>), founded by UQ commercialisation company **UniQuest** (<https://uniquet.com.au/>) in 2011, will receive \$A30 million (US\$22 million) through the **Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority** (<https://www.phe.gov/about/barda/Pages/default.aspx>) (BARDA) to support pandemic deployment of their high-density micro-array patch (HD-MAP).

The initial focus will be on a pandemic influenza vaccine but Vaxxas will also investigate opportunities to **improve the performance** of other pandemic vaccines including against COVID-19.

The patches, developed from research originating from UQ's **Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology** (<https://aibn.uq.edu.au/>), use thousands of **tiny projections** to deliver a vaccine to the immune cells just beneath the skin's surface.

The approach could significantly reduce the need for vaccine refrigeration and storage and result in the production of more doses from limited quantities of vaccine.

UniQuest CEO Dr Dean Moss said the company's ongoing success was testament to the expertise and commitment of its team, and the quality of research behind it.

"The Vaxxas technology is poised to have a significant humanitarian impact across the globe, and I'm delighted to see their ongoing success," Dr Moss said.

"The company continues to show what can be achieved through the sustained support and championing of research and innovation.

"Vaxxas is at the cutting edge; a problem solver and an exciting prospect, and I congratulate all who have worked hard to achieve this tremendous outcome."

AIBN Director Professor Alan Rowan said Vaxxas was proof that investment in research improved the prospects of local and global communities.

"The success of Vaxxas is creating jobs as part of the innovation economy, and could improve the distribution and safety of vaccines globally," Professor Rowan said.

"The attraction of international funding for this Queensland company demonstrates the benefits of investing in capabilities and an environment that fosters the translation of scientific excellence.

"I look forward to seeing the next steps that Vaxxas takes in its journey from an idea in an AIBN laboratory to the market."

The Queensland Government announced on **4 October** that it will partner with Vaxxas to establish a facility at Brisbane's Northshore Hamilton for the manufacture of products for late stage (Phase II and III) clinical studies.

The company is partnering with global biotechnology company Merck (MSD) and German pharmaceutical manufacturer Harro Höfliger to support further development of the vaccine patch.

The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** (<https://www.gatesfoundation.org/>) and the **World Health Organization** (<https://www.who.int/>) are supporting the investigation of the vaccine patch for use with measles and rubella, and polio vaccines in low to middle income countries.

Media: Esther Haskell, UniQuest, e.haskell@uniquet.com.au, +61 409 767 199; Bronwyn Adams, AIBN, b.adams@uq.edu.au, +61 405 661 856.

Share link:

<https://tinyurl.com/y24fxwjw>

Subscribe to the UQ News weekly newsletter



Health + Medicine, Research



TikTok's troubling health bomb 27 July 2021



Dealing with pain in the neck 22 July 2021

Health + Medicine, Research, Research Grants



Increasing the accuracy of early ovarian cancer detection 26 July 2021

Agriculture + Food, Indigenous Australia, Research, Science



Portable chemistry kit sweetens native bush food production 22 July 2021

Research, Awards and Achievements, Uni news



Award for UQ's budding science communicators 22 July 2021

Agriculture + Food, Environment + Sustainability, Research, Science



The climate impact of wild pigs greater than a million cars 20 July 2021

Agriculture + Food, Research, Science

(https://twitter.com/qs)

text=UQ=https://tiny

congratulates

Vaxxas Vaxxas

on on

\$30m \$30m

partnership

&url=https://tiny



[No horsing around: super-fast Hendra test developed](#) 20 July 2021

Health + Medicine, Industry Collaboration



[Healthy partnership extended for further two years](#) 19 July 2021

Health + Medicine, Research, Science



[Repairing hearts with deadly spider venom](#) 16 July 2021

Recent Headlines



[Increasing the accuracy of early ovarian cancer detection](#) 26 July 2021



[TikTok's troubling health bomb](#) 27 July 2021



[Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games - UQ experts available](#) 21 July 2021



[Portable chemistry kit sweetens native bush food production](#) 22 July 2021

[More headlines](#)

If I could go anywhere: Greek cake shops, the Athenian countryside and the sanctuary of Artemis at Brauron

27 July 2021

Los jabalíes, una de las especies invasoras más dañinas, liberan cada año las mismas emisiones que un millón de automoviles

24 July 2021

'One of the most damaging invasive species on Earth': wild pigs release the same emissions as 1 million cars each year

20 July 2021

Friday essay: Satan is back (again) — the Devil in 5 dark details

16 July 2021

India's wicked problem: how to loosen its grip on coal while not abandoning the millions who depend on it

15 July 2021

[Read more](#) UQ articles on The Conversation