



PureTech Founded Entity Vedanta Biosciences Announces First Patient Dosed in Phase 2 Clinical Trial of VE202 for the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis and Receives Fast Track Designation

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VE202 is an orally administered, rationally-defined bacterial consortium candidate for the treatment of ulcerative colitis

Vedanta's pipeline also includes VE303, its Phase 3 ready therapeutic candidate designed for the prevention of recurrent Clostridioides difficile infection as well as additional candidates being evaluated for inflammatory bowel diseases and Gram-negative infections

[PureTech Health plc](#) (Nasdaq: PRTC, LSE: PRTC) ("PureTech" or the "Company"), a clinical-stage biotherapeutics company, noted today that its Founded Entity, [Vedanta Biosciences](#), a clinical-stage company that is developing a potential new category of oral therapies based on defined bacterial consortia, announced that the first patient in the Phase 2 COLLECTIVE202 clinical study of VE202 was dosed.

Vedanta also announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted Fast Track designation to Vedanta's defined bacterial consortium candidate, VE202, for the treatment of ulcerative colitis. Fast Track designation is a process designed to facilitate the development and expedite the review of drugs that treat serious conditions and fill an unmet medical need.

The full text of the announcement from Vedanta is as follows:

Vedanta Biosciences Announces First Patient Dosed in Phase 2 Clinical Trial of VE202 for the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis and Receives Fast Track Designation

VE202 is an orally administered, rationally-defined bacterial consortium candidate for the treatment of ulcerative colitis

First patient dosed in the global Phase 2 COLLECTIVE202 study

CAMBRIDGE, MA, October 4, 2023 - [Vedanta Biosciences](#), a clinical-stage company that is developing a potential new category of oral therapies based on defined bacterial consortia, today announced that the first patient in the Phase 2 COLLECTIVE202 clinical study of VE202 was dosed. Vedanta also announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted Fast Track designation to Vedanta's defined bacterial consortium candidate, VE202, for the treatment of ulcerative colitis (UC). Fast Track designation is a process designed to facilitate the development and expedite the review of drugs that treat serious conditions and fill an unmet medical need.

"Despite the fact that up to half of all patients with inflammatory bowel disease may be in remission at any given time, long-term follow-up data

demonstrate that most will relapse at some point. Although new therapies for ulcerative colitis are efficacious for many, they are often accompanied by potential safety concerns, including risk of infection," said Jeffrey Silber, M.D., Chief Medical Officer of Vedanta Biosciences. "We are pleased that the FDA has granted Fast Track designation for VE202. We believe this candidate could offer patients with ulcerative colitis an alternative approach to treatment, with a favorable safety profile. We look forward to advancing this program as we work to address an important unmet medical need."

In a [Phase 1 study](#) in healthy volunteers, VE202 strains colonized robustly and durably following vancomycin pretreatment, in both a dose- and duration-dependent manner. In addition, VE202 accelerated the conversion of primary bile acids to immunomodulating secondary bile acids that protect against intestinal inflammation compared to placebo. VE202 was also well tolerated, with no treatment-related serious adverse effects.

COLLECTiVE202 is a double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized clinical trial that is being conducted at sites in the United States and Europe. The study is enrolling 100 patients with mild-to-moderate UC between the ages of 18 and 75 years. Either VE202 or placebo is added to background therapy and Vedanta will assess two different regimens, enabling all study participants to have an opportunity to receive VE202. Primary endpoints are safety and endoscopic response; secondary endpoints include clinical response and remission, along with additional endoscopic, histologic, colonization, inflammatory and immune biomarkers, and quality-of-life measures.

About VE202

VE202 is a first-in-class, orally administered, investigational live biotherapeutic product (LBP) consortium consisting of 16 strains of bacteria, which were rationally selected to induce immune tolerance in the gut, reverse the gut microbiota abnormalities that are common in patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), and strengthen the epithelial barrier. Results describing the biology and candidate selection of VE202 were previously published in *Science* and *Nature* (multiple). VE202 was granted Fast Track designation in 2023 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of UC.

About Vedanta Biosciences

[Vedanta Biosciences](#) is leading the development of a potential new category of oral therapies based on defined consortia of bacteria isolated from the human microbiome and grown from pure clonal cell banks. The company's pipeline includes clinical-stage product candidates being evaluated for the prevention of recurrent *C. difficile* infection and inflammatory bowel diseases and a preclinical candidate for the prevention of Gram-negative infections. In addition, the company supports investigator-sponsored studies in various diseases. These investigational therapies are grounded in our team's pioneering research - published in leading journals including [Science](#), [Nature](#), [Cell](#), and [JAMA](#) - to identify beneficial bacteria that live symbiotically within the healthy human gut, fight pathogens, and induce a range of potent immune responses. Vedanta Biosciences controls a foundational portfolio of more than 70 patents and has built what it believes is the industry-leading platform for development of defined bacterial consortia drugs. This platform includes one of the largest libraries of bacteria derived from the human microbiome, vast datasets from human interventional studies, proprietary capabilities in consortium design, and end-to-end capabilities for CGMP-compliant manufacturing of oral drug candidates spanning cell banking, fermentation, lyophilization, and fill finish.

About PureTech Health

PureTech is a clinical-stage biotherapeutics company dedicated to giving life to new classes of medicine to change the lives of patients with devastating diseases. The Company has created a broad and deep pipeline through its experienced research and development team and its extensive network of scientists, clinicians and industry leaders that is being advanced both internally and through its Founded Entities. PureTech's R&D engine has resulted in the development of 27 therapeutics and therapeutic candidates, including two (Plenity® and EndeavorRx®) that have received both US FDA clearance and European marketing authorization and a third (KarXT) that has been filed for FDA approval. A number of these programs are being advanced by PureTech or its Founded Entities in various indications and stages of clinical development, including registration enabling studies. All of the underlying programs and platforms that resulted in this pipeline of therapeutic candidates were initially identified or discovered and then advanced by the PureTech team through key validation points.

For more information, visit www.puretechhealth.com or connect with us on X (formerly Twitter) @puretechh.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains statements that are or may be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements contained in this press release that do not relate to matters of historical fact should be considered forward-looking statements, including without limitation those related to VE202's Fast Track Designation by the FDA, timing of the Phase 2 COLLECTiVE202 study of VE202 and Vedanta's and PureTech's future prospects, developments and strategies. The forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause actual results, performance and achievements to differ materially from current expectations, including, but not limited to, those risks, uncertainties and other important factors described under the caption "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2022 filed with the SEC and in our other regulatory filings. These forward-looking statements are based on assumptions regarding the present and future business strategies of the Company and the environment in which it will operate in the future. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as at the date of this press release. Except as required by law and regulatory requirements, we disclaim any obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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