

For Immediate Release

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Dr. Ghania Chikh Named Senior Director, Vaccine Development at Acuitas Therapeutics

Vancouver, B.C. – Dr. Ghania Chikh has joined Acuitas Therapeutics, Inc. as Senior Director, Vaccine Development, Chief Scientific Officer Dr. Ying Tam recently announced.

In this senior leadership role, Dr. Chikh will oversee the vaccine development program, working with Acuitas' global partners. She will also lead internal programs focused on identifying, developing and optimizing the proprietary Acuitas lipid nanoparticle (LNP) delivery technology to support next-generation mRNA LNP vaccines.

"Dr. Chikh brings decades of experience in drug development, with a specialty in vaccine development and immunotherapeutics, to her new role at Acuitas," said Dr. Tam. "Dr. Chikh's expertise and leadership skills are invaluable as we grow to meet the increased demand for our clinically validated LNP technology. We are thrilled to have her join the team."

Dr. Chikh has extensive experience with vaccines and LNP delivery technology. In fact, she completed her PhD thesis on developing a cancer vaccine using LNP. Prior to joining Acuitas, Dr. Chikh's career included serving as a Senior Director of Pre-Clinical Research at EnGene Inc., managing the development of non-viral gene therapy for localized expression of immunomodulatory proteins in mucosal tissues for inflammatory diseases and cancer treatments. She was also a senior member of the R&D team for Pfizer Inc., developing vaccines against infections, allergies, addictions and cancers.

Dr. Chikh looks forward to dividing her time, working from her home office in Ottawa, Ont. and onsite at Acuitas in B.C., where she will also resume her love of hiking.

About Acuitas

Vancouver-based Acuitas Therapeutics is a private biotechnology company specializing in the development of delivery systems for nucleic acid therapeutics based on lipid nanoparticles. Acuitas partners with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as non-governmental organizations and academic institutes, to advance nucleic acid therapeutics into clinical trials and the marketplace. The team works with global partners to develop new therapies to address unmet clinical needs based on the internationally recognized capabilities of its proprietary delivery technology. Acuitas Therapeutics' lipid nanoparticle technology is used in the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine COMIRNATY®. The Acuitas team is currently working on therapeutics focused on addressing cancer, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other serious diseases.