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### **Colorado Institute for Drug, Device and Diagnostic Development Awards Funding to AktiVax**

*The Colorado Institute for Drug, Device and Diagnostic Development (CID4) has selected Aurora, CO-based AktiVax, Inc. to receive funding and management assistance.*

**Aurora, CO February 25, 2013** – The Colorado Institute for Drug, Device and Diagnostic Development (CID4), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit entity focused on advancing the Colorado life science ecosystem through company creation and job growth, has selected Aurora, Colorado-based AktiVax, Inc. to receive funding and management assistance. CID4 syndicated the investment with Boulder-based venture capital firm, High Country Venture. AktiVax is a development-stage medical device company, advancing development of their proprietary prefilled drug delivery devices for pharmaceutical markets. AktiVax is a tenant of the Bioscience Park Center at Fitzsimons which is also home to CID4.

“We are extremely excited about our investment in AktiVax which also gave us the opportunity to invest in a Fitzsimons’ company and to co-invest with High Country Venture,” said Richard Duke, Ph.D., Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of CID4. “AktiVax has novel technology that addresses a large unmet need for the pharmaceutical and biotech industries. People are excited when they see the product and understand immediately the potential benefit that it offers to the patient, physician and drug developer. We fully expect AktiVax to create high-tech manufacturing jobs here in Colorado,” continued Duke, who will serve on the AktiVax board.

AktiVax™ is looking to establish itself as a leading global provider of prefilled drug, vaccine, and biologic delivery devices. Pharmaceutical companies are trying to transition away from the problematic vials and syringe system, and as a result the \$2.5B prefilled syringe market has experienced double-digit growth in recent years. The AktiVax™ drug delivery platform has several key advantages over currently available prefilled syringes, including stability of drug in the packaging, simplicity and user acceptance, and manufacturing feasibility and cost.

The basis of the AktiVax™ product portfolio is ARCH (Aseptic Reconstitution Package Hybrid), a pre-fillable, flexible package made from high barrier material that resists moisture loss and oxygen ingress, and features a single, safe drug contact material during storage. ARCH can be configured to integrate with a variety of syringe types to form prefilled delivery systems at a much lower cost than currently available prefilled syringes. The company will seek to get its own products approved in the ARCH delivery system as well as partner with pharmaceutical and

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biotechnology companies to allow multiple therapeutics and vaccines to enter the market in ARCH delivery systems.

“We are very pleased that such a high quality investor as CID4 has shown confidence in our future prospects,” said Amir Genosar, President and CEO of AktiVax. “The money and resources provided by CID4 will enable us to move forward with the development of our cutting edge ARCH technology.”

Steve VanNurden, President and CEO of the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority added, “It’s great to see one of our tenants secure funding from two of Colorado’s premier early stage life science investors. This is a strong statement that the investment community recognizes the Fitzsimons Life Science District as the centerpiece of emerging life science companies in Colorado.”

### **About AktiVax**

Founded in 2008, Aurora, CO-based AktiVax, Inc. is a medical device company developing a portfolio of prefilled delivery devices that address many of the shortfalls of vials and syringes. The Company’s products offer improved user and caregiver safety, and superior drug stability at lower costs, making products attractive to both developed and developing world markets. For more information visit <http://www.aktivax.com>.

### **About the Colorado Institute for Drug, Device and Diagnostic Development**

Founded in 2009, the Colorado Institute for Drug, Device and Diagnostic Development (CID4) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization whose mission is to advance the Colorado bioscience ecosystem through company creation and job growth. Active business management and capital work in tandem to help bridge the gap between discovery and product development. CID4 works to identify, fund and actively manage emerging life science technologies. This aim is achieved via an ongoing technology solicitation process augmented by additional deal flow sourcing through networked relationships. Active due diligence is provided by CID4 management in consultation with members of the CID4 Technical and Business Advisory Committee. For more information visit <http://CID4.com>.

### **About High Country Venture**

Founded in 2005, High Country Venture invests in the most promising and innovative early stage companies in Colorado, working with passionate entrepreneurs to foster growth, transform markets and create long-term value. HCV manages approximately \$50mm in venture funds and invests primarily in the areas of life sciences (including biotechnology, diagnostics and medical devices) and internet technology. We frequently work with founders to develop the initial business plan, even prior to funding. We also tend to take an active role in our investments, particularly in the early stages when a low level of funding precludes extensive hiring of senior management or a large staff. Because of our own experience and background in starting and

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managing small companies, we feel comfortable in these roles. For more information, visit [www.highcountryventure.com](http://www.highcountryventure.com)

**About the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority**

In 1996, the City of Aurora and University of Colorado worked together to create a special-purpose governmental entity, giving it a single mission: to imagine and govern the evolution of a historic army medical center into one of the world's most forward-looking bioscience districts. In partnership with the University of Colorado and the City of Aurora, the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority (FRA) acquired much of the former army site and began to implement an ambitious redevelopment plan that now comprises the growing and thriving Fitzsimons Life Science District that includes the Colorado Science + Technology Park adjacent to the Anschutz Medical Campus and the new V.A. hospital campus. The FRA is dedicated to providing life science companies: an environment where they can thrive; success-enhancing resources like the District's incubator facilities; and services that help form connections between private industry and the University of Colorado. For more information, visit: <http://www.fitzscience.com>.

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