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**PRESS RELEASE**

## **DEFENCE THERAPEUTICS PREPARES FOR PHASE I TRIAL TO TEST ITS DC CANCER VACCINE, ACCUVAC-D002, AGAINST MELANOMA**

**Vancouver, BC, Canada, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021** - Defence Therapeutics Inc. (“**Defence**” or the “**Company**”), a biotechnology company working on cancer therapeutics and infectious disease vaccines is finalizing all required steps in preparation to a pre-IND meeting to initiate a phase I trial against melanoma using its DC cancer vaccine candidate AccuVAC-D002.

Defence has successfully exploited the use of its Accum<sup>TM</sup> technology platform to develop a large pipeline of products in immune-oncology and infectious diseases. Amongst its lead products is AccuVAC-D002, a DC-based cancer vaccine engineered to treat melanoma. The Accum<sup>TM</sup> technology platform is very efficient at enhancing intracellular delivery of proteins of pharmacological interests such as ADCs or vaccine antigens. Defence’s scientific team recently identified a novel function for the use of “free” Accum<sup>TM</sup> and its recently developed variants as anti-cancer molecules.

“We have successfully moved our product pipeline forward and developed various cancer vaccines including AccuVAC-D002. With the synopsis in hand, we are actively working with a large established CRO in the USA to identify and set-up the site for our Phase I against melanoma in the first half of 2022”, says Mr. Plouffe, CEO of Defence Therapeutics.

Defence Therapeutics has antibody-drug conjugates and vaccines in late-stage pre-clinical development and/or undergoing GLP studies. With two DC cancer vaccines (AccuVAC-D001 and D002) undergoing manufacturing in clean rooms, Defence is most likely to initiate its Phase I trials in Q1/Q2 of 2022.

Skin Cancer Treatment Market to reach USD 14.55 Billion with a 7.5% CAGR by 2027, according to a report by Fortune Business Insights<sup>TM</sup>.

### **About Defence:**

Defence Therapeutics is a publicly-traded biotechnology company working on engineering the next generation vaccines and ADC products using its proprietary platform. The core of Defence Therapeutics platform is the ACCUM<sup>TM</sup> technology, which enables precision delivery of vaccine

antigens or ADCs in their intact form to target cells. As a result, increased efficacy and potency can be reached against catastrophic illness such as cancer and infectious diseases.

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