

# HEPACIVAC

**New preventative and therapeutic Hepatitis C vaccines from pre-clinical to phase 1**

**FP6 Contract no.: LSHB-CT-2007-037435**

**With this project two vaccine companies in Europe, OKAIROS (a Biotech company created as a spin-off from Merck Inc.) & Novartis Vaccines & Diagnostics (ex-Chiron), join their efforts with several European groups & one institution from Egypt (Egyblood, VACSERA) to develop efficacious preventative and therapeutic Hepatitis C virus (HCV) vaccines.**



SIXTH FRAMEWORK  
PROGRAMME

[www.altaweb.it/hepacivac](http://www.altaweb.it/hepacivac)



# HEPACIVAC

Preventive & Therapeutic HCV Vaccines



**Live**

**without  
HCV**

## List of Participants:

● **CeInge Biotecnologie avanzat, Italy.**

*Prof. Riccardo Cortese*  
www.ceinge.unina.it



● **Novartis Vaccines & Diagnostic, (ex-Chiron) ,Germany.**

*Prof. Sergio Abrignami*  
www.novartis.com



● **Fondazione IRCCS Ospedale Maggiore Mangiagalli e Regina Elena, Italy.**

*Prof. Ferruccio Bonino*  
www.policlinico.mi.it



● **Erasmus Medical Centre, The Netherland.**

*Prof. Albert D.M.E. Osterhaus*  
www.erasmusmc.nl



● **University of Ghent, Belgium.**

*Prof. Geert Leroux Roels*  
www.ugent.be



● **University of Birmingham, UK.**

*Prof. Jane A. McKeating*  
www.bham.ac.uk



● **University of Gdansk, Poland.**

*Prof. Krystina Bienkowska-Szewczyk*  
www.ug.gda.pl/en



● **The Egyptian Company for Blood Transfusion Services, Egyblood, VACSERA, Egypt.**

*Prof. Sayed F. Abdelwahab*  
www.vacsera.com



● **ALTA SRL, Italy.**

*Prof. Cristiana Tozzi*  
www.altasrl.com



● **University of Oxford, UK.**

*Prof. Adrian Hill*  
www.ox.ac.uk



● **Klinikum der Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universitaet, Frankfurth, Germany.**

*Prof. Stefan Zeuzem*  
www.klinik.uni-frankfurt.de



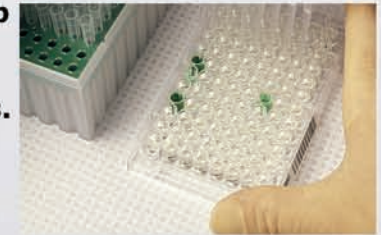
● **Okairòs S.r.l., Italy.**

*Prof. Alfredo Nicosia*  
www.okairos.it



## The Egyptian Company for Blood Transfusion Services (EgyBlood)

EgyBlood, the Egyptian Partner on the HEPACIVAC project, is located on the compound of VACSERA (Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population's Facility for Vaccine and Sera production). VACSERA is a government owned holding company that works under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health. VACSERA has three affiliated companies: EGYBLOOD, EGYVAC and EGYVET. It has a large number of laboratories that operate equally to the international standards. Egyblood has a state of the art research lab that has extensive immunochemistry, hybridoma, tissue culture, flow cytometry and molecular biology lab-based capacities.



## Role and main tasks of Egyblood in the HEPACIVAC Project

The specific Egyblood contribution to this project will include:

1. Determine the base-line prevalence of prior exposure to and current infection with HCV among the Healthcare workers (HCW) at the National Liver Institute (NLI).
2. Determine incidence of HCV due to needle-stick injury and other means in the HCW at the NLI.
3. Evaluate protective immunity in subjects who seroconvert by conducting immunological studies by ELISPOT assays and flow cytometry on lymphocytes stimulated with HCV antigens.
4. Collect data to use in planning a clinical trial evaluating putative HCV vaccines in HCW working at the NLI and other hospitals in Egypt and prove the concept that HCW at the NLI and other hospitals in the Nile Delta are ideal subjects for evaluating safety and efficacy of HCV vaccine candidates.
5. Several students and technicians will participate to the training activities.