

## **ASX Release**

10 January 2025

# **AROVELLA FULLY FUNDED TO COMPLETE PHASE 1 WITH \$20M PLACEMENT**

### Highlights:

- Firm commitments received for a \$20 million Placement at \$0.17 per share, representing a 2.9% discount to last trade
- Single cornerstone commitment of \$15.0 million from an Australian-based private investor
- Additional commitments received from new and existing Australian institutional and sophisticated investors, including from Pengana Capital Group
- Post completion of the placement, the Company will hold approximately \$30.6 million in cash and cash equivalents<sup>1</sup>
- The capital raised fully funds the completion and reporting of a phase 1, first-in-human clinical trial for ALA-101 in patients with CD19-positive blood cancers
- In addition, Placement proceeds will support the continued development of Arovella's solid tumour programs and pipeline expansion

**MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA 10 January 2025:** Arovella Therapeutics Limited (ASX: ALA) (**Arovella** or the **Company**), a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant Natural Killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform, is pleased to announce that it has received firm commitments from institutional and sophisticated investors, to raise approximately \$20 million (before costs) under a placement of 117.6 million new fully paid ordinary shares in the Company (**Shares**) at \$0.17 per Share (**Placement**). The pricing of the Placement represents a 2.9% discount to the last traded market price (7 January 2025).

Arovella's Chairman, Dr Thomas Duthy, said: "This is a pivotal time for Arovella, which is a global pioneer in developing CAR-iNKT cell therapeutics. The level of support for the Placement, driven by a substantial cornerstone commitment from an Australian-based private investor, along with new and existing institutional and sophisticated investors, highlights the potential of our highly differentiated cell therapy platform and our significant progress to date. It provides us with the necessary capital to execute our goals, notably to assess the clinical benefit of our proprietary CAR-iNKT cells in cancer patients."

Arovella Managing Director and CEO Dr Michael Baker said: "I am delighted with the level of support that we have received from new and existing investors. We are excited to take ALA-101 into the clinic and assess its impact on patients with CD19+ blood cancers. The Company is well positioned, and we look forward to building on our success and creating value for our shareholders."

Over the remainder of CY2025, Arovella expects to achieve several critical milestones, including:

- Securing IND approval through the US FDA to conduct a phase 1 clinical trial in CD19-positive non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and leukemia;
- Commencing a phase 1 clinical trial;
- Obtaining clinical data from initial patients dosed with ALA-101; and
- Securing proof-of-concept data for its solid tumour programs directed toward gastric and/or pancreatic cancer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on cash position as at 31 December 2024 of \$11.8 million (December 2024 Appendix 4C to be released prior 31 January 2025)



Funds raised under the Placement will be used to complete and report data from the planned phase 1, first-inhuman clinical trial for Arovella's lead product, ALA-101. The phase 1 clinical trial is for patients with CD19positive non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and leukemia. Funds raised under the placement will also be used to strengthen Arovella's iNKT cell therapy pipeline and advance Arovella's solid tumour products, and for general working capital purposes.

## Placement

Under the Placement, the Company will issue 117,647,059 Shares to Placement subscribers at \$0.17 per Share.

The offer price under the Placement represents a 2.9% discount to the last closing price of Shares traded on the ASX on Tuesday 7 January 2025, being \$0.175.

The 117,647,059 new Shares under the Placement will be issued under Arovella's existing placement capacity pursuant to ASX Listing Rule 7.1. Settlement of the Placement is expected to occur on Tuesday 28 January 2025, with allotment to occur on Wednesday 29 January 2025.

The new Shares issued under the Placement will rank equally with the Company's existing fully paid ordinary shares. The Company will apply for quotation of the Placement Shares on ASX.

### **Key Dates for Placement**

Event	Date (AEST)
Trading halt	Wednesday, 8 January 2025
Placement bookbuild	Wednesday, 8 January 2025
Announcement of Placement outcome; trading halt lifted	Friday, 10 January 2025
Settlement of Placement	Tuesday, 28 January 2025
Allotment and normal trading of Shares issued under the Placement	Wednesday, 29 January 2025

Note: The timetable above is indicative only and subject to variation. The Company reserves the right to alter the timetable as its absolute discretion and without notice, subject to the ASX Listing Rules and Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

Taylor Collison and Blue Ocean Equities were Joint Lead Managers to the Placement.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Company's Board of Directors.

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#### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

#### **About Arovella Therapeutics Ltd**

Arovella Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ALA) is a biotechnology company focused on developing its invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell therapy platform from Imperial College London to treat blood cancers and solid tumours. Arovella's lead product is ALA-101. ALA-101 consists of CAR19-iNKT cells that have been modified to produce a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) that targets CD19. CD19 is an antigen found on the surface of numerous cancer types. Arovella is also expanding into solid tumour treatment through its CLDN18.2-targeting technology licensed from Sparx Group. iNKT cells also contain an invariant T cell receptor (iTCR) that targets  $\alpha$ -GalCer bound CD1d, another antigen found on the surface of several cancer types. ALA-101 is being developed as an allogeneic cell therapy, which means it can be given from a healthy donor to a patient.

**Glossary: iNKT cell** – invariant Natural Killer T cells; **CAR** – Chimeric Antigen Receptor that can be introduced into immune cells to target cancer cells; **TCR** – T cell receptors are a group of proteins found on immune cells that recognise fragments of antigens as peptides bound to MHC complexes; **B-cell lymphoma** – A type of cancer that forms in B cells (a type of immune system cell); **CD1d** – Cluster of differentiation 1, which is expressed on some immune cells and cancer cells; **aGalCer** – alpha-galactosylceramide is a specific ligand for human and mouse natural killer T cells. It is a synthetic glycolipid.

For more information, visit <u>www.arovella.com</u>

This announcement contains certain statements which may constitute forward-looking statements or information ("forward-looking statements"), including statements regarding negotiations with third parties and regulatory approvals. These forward-looking statements are based on certain key expectations and assumptions, including assumptions regarding the actions of third parties and financial terms. These factors and assumptions are based upon currently available information, and the forward-looking statements herein speak only of the date hereof. Although the expectations and assumptions reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable in the view of the Company's directors and management, reliance should not be placed on such statements as there is no assurance that they will prove correct. This is because forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could influence actual results or events and cause actual results or events to differ materially from those stated, anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements. These risks include but are not limited to: uncertainties and other factors that are beyond the control of the Company; global economic conditions; the risk associated with foreign currencies; and risk associated with securities market volatility. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, except as required by Australian securities laws and ASX Listing Rules.

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