

BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.

(BVXV-NASDAQ)

BVXV: Phase 3 Trial of M-001 Underway...

Based on our probability adjusted DCF model that takes into account potential future revenues from M-001 as a universal flu vaccine, BVXV is valued at \$37/share. This model is highly dependent upon continued clinical success of M-001 and will be adjusted accordingly based upon future clinical results.

Current Price (09/04/18) \$6.00
Valuation \$37.00

OUTLOOK

BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. is a biopharmaceutical company developing a universal influenza vaccine (M-001) designed to protect individuals from all strains of influenza. The company recently announced that the first subject has been enrolled in the Phase 3 trial of M-001 as a standalone immunization. The trial will be conducted over the next two flu seasons.

In the past three months, the company has received two tranches of €6 million each from the European Investment Bank, which are part of a previously announced €20 million co-financing agreement signed in June 2017 to help fund the Phase 3 trial and the construction of a manufacturing facility, which the company recently moved into.

SUMMARY DATA

52-Week High \$8.25
52-Week Low \$4.73
One-Year Return (%) -27.27
Beta 1.00
Average Daily Volume (sh) 8,193

Shares Outstanding (mil) 7
Market Capitalization (\$mil) \$39
Short Interest Ratio (days) N/A
Institutional Ownership (%) 7
Insider Ownership (%) 6

Annual Cash Dividend \$0.00
Dividend Yield (%) 0.00

5-Yr. Historical Growth Rates
Sales (%) N/A
Earnings Per Share (%) N/A
Dividend (%) N/A

P/E using TTM EPS N/A
P/E using 2018 Estimate N/A
P/E using 2019 Estimate N/A

Risk Level

Type of Stock
Industry

Average
Small-Growth
Med-Biomed/Gene

ZACKS ESTIMATES

Revenue

(in millions of \$)

	Q1 (Mar)	Q2 (Jun)	Q3 (Sep)	Q4 (Dec)	Year (Dec)
2017	0.0 A	0.0 A	0.0 A	0.0 A	0.0 A
2018	0.0 A	0.0 A	0.0 E	0.0 E	0.0 E
2019					0.0 E
2020					0.0 E

Earnings Per Share

	Q1 (Mar)	Q2 (Jun)	Q3 (Sep)	Q4 (Dec)	Year (Dec)
2017	-\$0.02 A	-\$0.02 A	\$0.00 A	-\$0.00 A	-\$0.03 A
2018	-\$0.02 A	-\$0.03 A	-\$0.01 E	-\$0.01 E	-\$0.05 E
2019					-\$0.04 E
2020					-\$0.04 E

WHAT'S NEW

Business Update

First Subject Enrolled in Phase 3 Trial of M-001

BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. (BVXV) is a biopharmaceutical company developing a universal influenza vaccine (M-001) designed to protect individuals from all strains of influenza. The company's strategy for commercializing M-001 involves testing it in a pivotal Phase 3 program as a standalone influenza vaccine to assess its clinical efficacy. The first Phase 3 trial will be conducted in Europe and the company has received feedback about the trial design and approval to conduct it from the European Medicines Agency (EMA). The EMA also stated that "a single pivotal efficacy trial that provides a robust demonstration of efficacy against laboratory-proven influenza like illness (ILI) could suffice for an approval". In addition, the company is working to align the Phase 3 plan with FDA requirements.

On August 8, 2018, the company [announced](#) that the first subject was enrolled in the trial. It is being conducted in Eastern Europe due to the fact that there are either no recommendations for getting the yearly influenza vaccine or it is an out of pocket expense, thus influenza vaccination rates are low and it is much easier to enroll sufficient numbers of subjects who have not been previously immunized with the yearly influenza vaccine. Enrollment is going well so far and we anticipate all subjects in Cohort One will be enrolled by the end of November 2018.

The general outline for the Phase 3 trial is shown below. The company is planning to enroll 9,630 patients and will focus on patients over the age of 50, with half of the patients being 65 years or older. The study is being conducted in two cohorts over the next two influenza seasons. There is a flexible design to allow for adjustment in subject enrollment based on the overall rate of influenza infection (the study will remain blinded). If this year is a mild influenza season then additional subjects may be necessary in Cohort Two to properly power the study. Unblinding of the study following Season 2 will only occur if there are a sufficient number of total influenza cases in both Cohort One and Two. The primary outcome of the trial will be safety and clinical efficacy of M-001, defined as a reduction in illness rate and severity.

Trial Design	Season 1			Season 2	Season 3 (optional)
	Day 1	Day 21	Day 202	Follow up	Follow up
Experimental	1mg M-001	1mg M-001	Safety, PCR and culture on any ILI (flu season)	PCR and culture on any ILI (flu season)	PCR and culture on any ILI (flu season)
Control	Placebo	Placebo			

Source: BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.

New Manufacturing Facility

On August 20, 2018, BiondVax [announced](#) the company has relocated to the newly constructed mid-size commercial scale manufacturing facility in Jerusalem, Israel. The facility is located in Jerusalem Bio-Park on the Hadassah Medical Center Hebrew University Ein Kerem campus. It is approximately 20,000 square feet that includes offices, laboratories, and GMP manufacturing suites that could potentially produce up to 40 million doses of M-001 in bulk and up to 20 million single dose syringes. The facility was constructed with funds from the company, the loan agreement with the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the Israeli Ministry of Economy.

Mark Germain Joins Board of Directors

On June 28, 2018, BiondVax [announced](#) Mr. Mark Germain has joined the company's Board of Directors as Vice Chairman. Mr. Germain is currently Managing Director at the Aentib Group and is also a director on the board of Pluristem Therapeutics, Inc. His many years of experience in the biotech sector include founding, serving on the Board of Directors, and/or investing in over 20 companies and he has been involved in arranging partnerships, acquisitions, and financings, experience that should prove quite valuable to BiondVax as it embarks on the Phase 3 program for M-001.

Financial Update

On August 22, 2018, BiondVax [announced](#) financial results for the second quarter of 2018. As expected, the company did not report any revenues during the quarter. The company had operating expenses of \$8.4 million in the second quarter of 2018, which was comprised of \$8.0 million in R&D expenses and \$0.4 million in G&A expenses. R&D expenditures increased approximately \$7.3 million compared to the same time period in 2017 due to payments made to the contract research organization conducting the Phase 3 trial and for the manufacturing facility. Nearly all of the manufacturing facility costs have now been paid. We anticipate expenses returning to a lower level for the remainder of 2018.

As of June 30, 2018, BiondVax had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$10.2 million, which does not include one of the two tranches of €6 million that was received from the €20 million loan agreement with the EIB. As a reminder, the non-dilutive financing agreement with the EIB is structured as a 0% fixed interest rate loan. We estimate that BiondVax currently has enough capital to fund operations through the end of 2019. The company will need additional funding to get through the end of 2020 and the end of the Phase 3 trial, however there are plenty of dilutive and non-dilutive options available and with a number of strong, long-term investors (including Marius Nacht's aMoon fund) we don't foresee the company having a problem raising the necessary capital at attractive terms.

Background on M-001

BiondVax is developing the M-001 vaccine, a synthetic peptide-based protein that targets both existing and future seasonal and pandemic strains of the influenza virus. The vaccine targets conserved regions of Type A and B influenza viruses such that M-001 could be considered a "universal" influenza vaccine, capable of offering immunological protection against all strains of the influenza virus.

M-001 is composed of nine peptides that are believed to be common to most known influenza strains in existence, in part because these peptides seem to be critical for the virus' ability to infect a host cell. They are derived from hemagglutinin (HA), matrix 1 (M1) and nucleoprotein (NP) viral proteins and are arranged as triplicates into a single recombinant protein easily manufactured in bacteria. HA is an antigenic glycoprotein found on the surface of influenza viruses and is also the main constituent for a number of seasonal influenza vaccines. However, the peptides from HA in M-001 are derived from the inner parts of the protein where little to no variability between strains exists. M1 is a matrix protein that forms a layer under the patches of the viral cell membrane that contain HA, NA, and M2 proteins, and is responsible for mediating the encapsulation of RNA-nucleoprotein complexes into the membrane envelope ([Sha et al., 1997](#)). NP is a structural protein that encapsidates the viral RNA inside the virus. The sequence of each of the peptides is shown below, along with the order in which the peptides are arranged in the full-length recombinant protein.

Peptide	Amino Acids Sequence
Hemagglutinin (HA) epitope 1	PKYVKQNTLKLAT
Hemagglutinin (HA) epitope 2	SKAYSNCYPYDVPDYASL
Hemagglutinin (HA) epitope 3	WLTGKNGLYP
Hemagglutinin (HA) epitope 4	WTGVTQN
Hemagglutinin (HA) epitope 5	PAKLLKERGFFGAIGFLE
Nucleoprotein (NP) epitope 6	FWRGENGRKTRSAYERMCNILKGG
Nucleoprotein (NP) epitope 7	SAAFEDLRVLSFIRGY
Nucleoprotein (NP) epitope 8	ELRSRYWAIRTRSG
Matrix (M) epitope 9	SLLTEVETYVP

(HA epitope 1) - (HA epitope 2) - (M1 epitope 9) - (HA epitope 3) - (HA epitope 4) - (NP epitope 6) - (HA epitope 5) - (NP epitope 7) - (NP epitope 8).

Source: Atsmon et al., 2012

The peptides were selected based upon their ability to elicit either a B- or T-cell immune response and each of them has the ability to bind to a wide array of human leukocyte antigen (HLA) proteins (both Class I and Class II), which are responsible for presenting peptides to the immune system. Some may question the use of peptides from proteins located inside the virus, however there is a strong rationale for their use. It has long been known that a mild influenza infection in animals provides protection against a subsequent, more severe challenge with a virus harboring different HA and NA ([Yetter et al., 1980](#)). This effect appears to be mediated by both CD4+ and CD8+ T-cells that recognize conserved regions on viral proteins ([Furuya et al., 2010](#)). The CD4+ T-cells that are specific for

conserved internal viral antigens also potentiate antibody responses to the HA of subsequently encountered viruses ([Scherle et al., 1986](#)). The end result is that immunizing with conserved internal viral antigens results in an increased immunological response to infection following subsequent exposure to influenza viruses.

Previous Clinical Trial Results

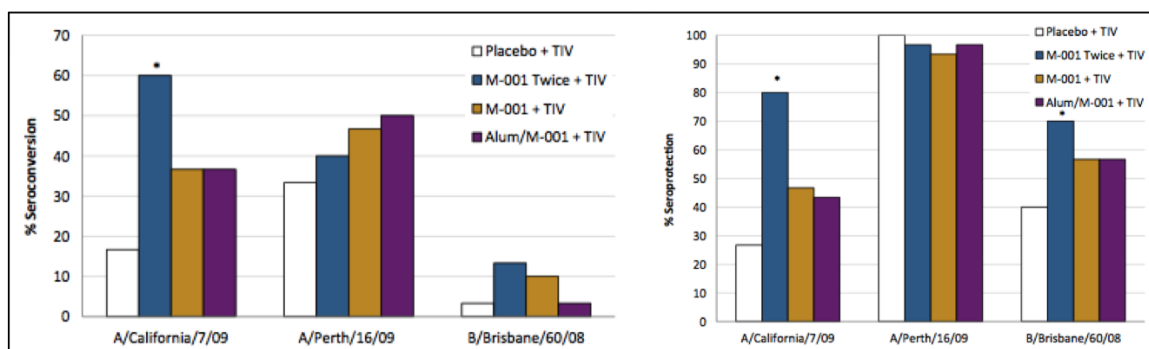
M-001 had been tested in 698 participants through six different clinical trials, with the details presented in the following chart. In each of the trials, the vaccine was shown to be safe and able to induce a robust immune response.

Phase	Trial	Year	Population (age)	Total Participants	Status	Results
1/2	BVX-002	2009	Younger Adults (18-49)	63	Completed	M-001 was well tolerated and a cellular (CMI) and humoral (priming effect) immune response was observed
1/2	BVX-003	2010	Older Adults (55-75)	60	Completed	
2	BVX-004	2011	Younger Adults (18-49)	200	Completed	
2	BVX-005	2012	Elderly (65+)	120	Completed	
2	BVX-006	2015	Older Adults (50-65)	36	Completed	
2b	BVX-007*	2015-16	EU Adults (18-60)	219	Completed	

Source: BiondVax Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

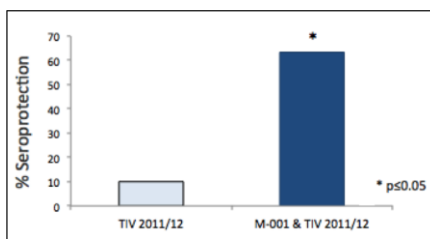
BVX-002 ([Atsmon et al., 2012](#)): This was a single-center, randomized, placebo controlled, single blind first-in-human study to examine the safety and immunological response to M-001 in healthy adults age 18-49. For safety purposes, three subjects were dosed once with 0.125 mg of M-001 and monitored for 7-9 days before the rest of the patients were administered the planned doses. There were four dosing cohorts, and within each cohort subjects were randomized in a 2:1 fashion to receive either 0.25 mg or 0.5 mg M-001 (n=10) or placebo (n=5), with or without adjuvant. The results showed that M-001 was well tolerated with only mild and moderate adverse events (AEs), with no significant difference between vaccine and placebo recipients for AEs. A robust humoral (antibodies to M-001) and cellular (PBMC proliferation to viral peptides) immune response was noted for participants immunized with M-001, and while there were greater humoral responses in patients immunized with M-001 plus adjuvant, there did not appear to be a difference in cellular response between subjects dosed with adjuvant and those without.

BVX-005 ([Atsmon et al., 2014](#)): This was a two-center, randomized, placebo controlled study in a total of 120 elderly volunteers (age 65+). The subjects were randomized 1:1:1:1 into four parallel groups to receive either 1) two sequential non-adjuvanted 0.5 mg M-001, or 2) a single non-adjuvanted 0.5 mg M-001, or 3) a single adjuvanted IM injection of 0.5 mg M-001, or 4) one placebo injection. All participants subsequently received the seasonal trivalent influenza vaccine (TIV) three weeks following the last M-001 or placebo injection. The primary outcome measures were safety, tolerability, and tolerance of M-001 with secondary outcomes being humoral and cellular immune responses. The results showed that priming with M-001 enhanced seroconversion towards all three strains in that season's influenza vaccine (denoted on the y-axis in the figure below). The following figure shows the percentage of patients that tested positive for seroconversion (defined as a mean fold increase in anti-HA antibody levels of \geq four-fold from levels detected in sera collected on day 0, and reaching a level of \geq 1:40 post-immunization) and seroprotection (defined as the number of participants per cohort expressing anti-HA antibody levels of \geq 1:40 post-immunization). Addition of an adjuvant did not appear to offer any additional immunostimulatory effect.



Source: Atsmon et al., 2014

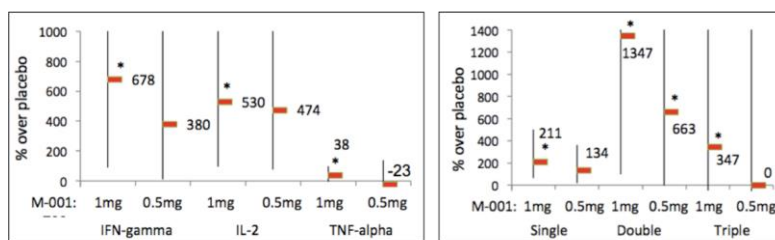
In 2015, a new ‘Swiss’ epidemic influenza strain (H3N2: A/Switzerland/9715293/13) emerged that did not exist in 2011, which was when the BVX-005 trial took place and the participants in the trial were immunized with M-001. Blood serum samples from the participants in the BVX-005 trial were exposed to the ‘Swiss’ influenza strain, with results showing that greater than 60% of the M-001 vaccinated group had seroprotection against this new Swiss strain, compared to only 10% of those immunized with just the seasonal vaccine. This suggests that M-001 may offer a broader, long-lasting immune response not just to strains currently in existence, but to future strains that do not even exist yet!



Source: BiondVax Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.

BVX-007: In 2017, BiondVax announced results from the company’s Phase 2b clinical trial of M-001. The trial, which was funded through a grant from the European Union and was conducted in conjunction with the [European UNISEC Consortium](#), enrolled a total of 219 participants aged 18 to 60 years. Each participant received two injections of 0.5 mg M-001, 1.0 mg M-001, or placebo prior to a partial dose of avian H5N1 pandemic vaccine.

The trial hit both primary endpoints for safety and immunological response. To test for immunological response, T cell activation was measured in *in vitro* assays through the release of the cytokines interleukin (IL)-2, interferon (INF)- γ , and tumor necrosis factor (TNF)- α . The following figure on the left shows that statistically significant T cell activation was found in participants that received 1.0 mg M-001 when compared to the placebo group. The following figure on the right shows that there was a significant increase in T cells that expressed two cytokines, which have been shown to be functionally superior to single-cytokine producing T cells ([Kannanganat et al., 2007](#)).



Source: BiondVax Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Source: BiondVax Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

The study’s secondary endpoint evaluated antibody response to avian H5N1 pandemic vaccination. In one of the four H5N1 strains tested there was a statistically significant increase in antibody response in those receiving M-001.

Valuation

As a stand-alone universal vaccine, we model for M-001 to have peak market share of 25% in the U.S., which leads to peak revenues of approximately \$750 million, and peak revenues of approximately \$300 million overseas. We believe peak revenue forecasts for >\$1 billion are justified based upon the clear advantages that M-001 has over the seasonal influenza vaccines, particularly in regard to efficacy without any limitations brought about by whichever influenza strain happens to be circulating. With a 16% discount rate and a 50% probability of approval, we value M-001 as a standalone vaccine at approximately \$229 million.

Our model also includes the stockpiling of M-001 as a pandemic influenza vaccine. The critical workforce in the U.S. is approximately 15% of the population (20 million people), and 1/3rd of the stockpile is replaced annually (given a shelf-life of three years). At \$12 per dose that represents a \$240 million annual opportunity. We apply a 16% discount rate and a 50% probability of approval to arrive at a net present value for M-001 as a primer for a pandemic vaccine of \$100 million.

Combining the net present value for M-001 as a stockpiled and standalone vaccine along with the company’s current cash position and expected operating burn of leads to a valuation of \$37 per share.

PROJECTED FINANCIALS

BiondVax Therapeutics, Ltd.	2017 A	Q1 A	Q2 A	Q3 E	Q4 E	2018 E	2019 E	2020 E
M-001 (Elderly Primer)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>YOY Growth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M-001 (Pandemic Primer)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>YOY Growth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M-001 (Universal Vaccine)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>YOY Growth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants & Collaborative Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>YOY Growth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>YOY Growth</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Product Gross Margin</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Research & Development	\$5.4	\$3.3	\$7.9	\$1.0	\$1.2	\$13.4	\$10.0	\$12.0
General & Administrative	\$1.4	\$0.3	\$0.4	\$0.5	\$0.5	\$1.6	\$1.9	\$2.0
Other Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Income	(\$6.8)	(\$3.6)	(\$8.3)	(\$1.5)	(\$1.7)	(\$15.1)	(\$11.9)	(\$14.0)
<i>Operating Margin</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Operating Expenses (Net)	(\$3.1)	(\$0.4)	\$1.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
Pre-Tax Income	(\$10.0)	(\$4.0)	(\$7.3)	(\$1.5)	(\$1.7)	(\$14.5)	(\$11.9)	(\$14.0)
Income Taxes Paid	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Tax Rate</i>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Net Income	(\$10.0)	(\$4.0)	(\$7.3)	(\$1.5)	(\$1.7)	(\$14.5)	(\$11.9)	(\$14.0)
<i>Net Margin</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reported EPS	(\$0.05)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.03)	(\$0.01)	(\$0.01)	(\$0.05)	(\$0.04)	(\$0.04)
Basic ADS Outstanding	5.0	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.6	7.5	8.0

Source: Zacks Investment Research, Inc. David Bautz, PhD

HISTORICAL STOCK PRICE



DISCLOSURES

The following disclosures relate to relationships between Zacks Small-Cap Research ("Zacks SCR"), a division of Zacks Investment Research ("ZIR"), and the issuers covered by the Zacks SCR Analysts in the Small-Cap Universe.

ANALYST DISCLOSURES

I, David Bautz, PhD, hereby certify that the view expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the recommendations or views expressed in this research report. I believe the information used for the creation of this report has been obtained from sources I considered to be reliable, but I can neither guarantee nor represent the completeness or accuracy of the information herewith. Such information and the opinions expressed are subject to change without notice.

INVESTMENT BANKING AND FEES FOR SERVICES

Zacks SCR does not provide investment banking services nor has it received compensation for investment banking services from the issuers of the securities covered in this report or article. Zacks SCR has received compensation from the issuer directly or from an investor relations consulting firm engaged by the issuer for providing non-investment banking services to this issuer and expects to receive additional compensation for such non-investment banking services provided to this issuer. The non-investment banking services provided to the issuer includes the preparation of this report, investor relations services, investment software, financial database analysis, organization of non-deal road shows, and attendance fees for conferences sponsored or co-sponsored by Zacks SCR. The fees for these services vary on a per-client basis and are subject to the number and types of services contracted. Fees typically range between ten thousand and fifty thousand dollars per annum. Details of fees paid by this issuer are available upon request.

POLICY DISCLOSURES

This report provides an objective valuation of the issuer today and expected valuations of the issuer at various future dates based on applying standard investment valuation methodologies to the revenue and EPS forecasts made by the SCR Analyst of the issuer's business. SCR Analysts are restricted from holding or trading securities in the issuers that they cover. ZIR and Zacks SCR do not make a market in any security followed by SCR nor do they act as dealers in these securities. Each Zacks SCR Analyst has full discretion over the valuation of the issuer included in this report based on his or her own due diligence. SCR Analysts are paid based on the number of companies they cover. SCR Analyst compensation is not, was not, nor will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific valuations or views expressed in any report or article.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information is available upon request. Zacks SCR reports and articles are based on data obtained from sources that it believes to be reliable, but are not guaranteed to be accurate nor do they purport to be complete. Because of individual financial or investment objectives and/or financial circumstances, this report or article should not be construed as advice designed to meet the particular investment needs of any investor. Investing involves risk. Any opinions expressed by Zacks SCR Analysts are subject to change without notice. Reports or articles or tweets are not to be construed as an offer or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell the securities herein mentioned.