Press release PExA AB
Gothenburg November 18, 2026

PExA strengthens its position in vaccine development – patent application based on research highlighted in a Lancet journal

PExA has filed a European patent application covering new methods for measuring and monitoring immune responses in the lower airways of the lungs. The application is based on research and method development conducted in collaboration with Professor Charlotte Thålin at Karolinska Institutet and Associate Professor Mikael Åberg at SciLifeLab, Uppsala University. The research findings were recently published in the scientific journal eBioMedicine, part of The Lancet Discovery Science.

The study demonstrates that antibody responses can differ between the upper and lower airways. Using PExA's technology, researchers can, for the first time, non-invasively monitor local antibody responses in the lungs' small airways over time and compare them with measurements from the upper airways. This opens new opportunities to investigate how immunity develops and changes following vaccination or infection, with potentially significant implications for future vaccine and drug development.

Part of a broader patent strategy

The patent application represents another step in PExA's strategy to build a broader intellectual property portfolio covering the company's technology and its applications. In recent years, PExA has also filed patent applications covering methods for RNA analysis, including microRNA and RNA fragmentomics, as well as biomarkers with potential applications in the early detection of lung cancer.

A common theme across these initiatives is how new scientific findings and analytical capabilities create opportunities for additional applications of PExA's research platform. By seeking patent protection for such applications, the company aims to strengthen its long-term position in research, diagnostic development and drug development.

- *We are seeing how new scientific findings continue to open up additional opportunities for our technology. Vaccine research is a particularly exciting area, where the ability to monitor immune responses directly in the lungs' small airways could be highly valuable for pharmaceutical companies developing and evaluating new vaccines. By also seeking patent protection for new methods and applications, we aim to position ourselves to capture part of the commercial value that these advances may generate. This is an important element of our long-term strategy to expand PExA's addressable market and build value around our technology,* says Tomas Gustafsson, CEO of PExA.

The patent application, entitled "Non-Invasive Determination of Antibody Response in the Lower Airway", was filed with the European Patent Office (EPO) on August 21, 2026. The application is based on research and method development, the results of which were recently published in eBioMedicine, part of The Lancet Discovery Science.

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About PExA AB:

PExA AB *(corporate registration number 556956-9246) has developed PExA 2.1, a patented research instrument enabling non-invasive small airway liquid biopsy. The technology allows researchers to collect biological samples from the small airways of the lungs, providing molecular insights directly from the site of action and supporting biomarker discovery, pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic (PK/PD) studies, immunology research and future diagnostic applications.*

PExA's technology is used by leading research groups internationally and has contributed to more than 60 peer-reviewed scientific publications. Recent research comparing PExA with bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) has demonstrated substantial overlap in detected proteins, further strengthening the scientific evidence supporting the technology. PExA has also established Small Airway Atlas™, a growing molecular database designed to support research and biomarker discovery.

PExA aims to expand the use of its technology in pharmaceutical development and research into respiratory diseases, including lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), while pursuing long-term opportunities in clinical diagnostics.

PExA's B share is listed on Spotlight Stock Market.

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