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Follicum is developing pharmaceuticals from endogenous proteins (proteins found naturally in the human body), the founders of Follicum discovered that modifications to these proteins had the potential to control the activity of hair follicles. Follicum is developing these into pharmaceutical drugs and as such they will go through the same rigorous process of clinical trials as other regulated products. This means there will be regulated, independent double blind clinical trials that prove the products really work.

Follicum’s lead drug candidate for hair growth stimulation, FOL-S-005, is based on a large human protein which has been manipulated and modified. It is believed that because FOL-S-005 is based on a protein occurring naturally in the human body the risk of side effects are minimal, and to date no adverse effects have been seen in any of the preclinical studies.

The potential of Follicum’s drug candidates to both stimulate and inhibit hair growth have clearly been demonstrated in preclinical efficacy studies. The effect of FOL-S-005 has on the hair follicle is complex and dependent on a number of factors including dose, administration and the type of hair follicle treated. Follicum is at an early stage of development and planned studies will help to clarify the mechanism of action behind the effects demonstrated so far.

*In-vivo* studies at a contract research laboratory, which previously performed similar studies with minoxidil (the active ingredient in Rogaine®), showed that in comparable studies FOL-S-005 stimulated hair growth much faster and produced hair growth over a much larger area than minoxidil.

Today Follicum is carrying out preclinical studies, in animal models and on isolated live human tissue and even at low doses FOL-S-005 showed significant stimulation of hair growth on mice.

The preclinical results to date are a significant step towards beginning clinical Phase I/II studies. Follicum is developing plans for these clinical trials together with a number of national European medical agencies. This includes the Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices in Germany, BfArM, which did not have any major questions or objections to the material presented by Follicum, which really supports further development of FOL-S-005 into a pharmaceutical drug.

Follicum’s patents include a number of molecules that both stimulate and inhibit hair growth and the company intends to investigate these in the future for other potentially interesting indications.

Today Follicum is also working to develop a drug for inhibition of hair growth and independent *in-vitro* studies at a leading German university showed effective inhibition of hair growth on living human skin tissue with a Follicum drug candidate.

The founders of Follicum, Anna Hultgårdh Nilsson and Pontus Dunér, both hold a PhD and have published nearly 50 peer reviewed scientific papers between them.

Follicum will attend the NAHRS (North American Hair Research Society) conference 18-21 November 2015 in Florida where the CEO Jan Alenfall will be available to answer questions about the company’s progress.

More information about the conference can be found on their home page: [www.hair2015.org/](http://www.hair2015.org/)