## Annandale, VA; July 21, 2023

## CARE-ID Joins the Fight Against One of the Top Ten Causes of Death in Older Adults

The leaders and researchers at the Clinical Alliance for Research and Education-Infectious Diseases (CARE-ID) are pleased to address our first clinical trial collaboration with Johnson and Johnson. The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson is a global leader in medicines development, and it is taking a major step in fighting a very serious infectious disease, **Invasive Extraintestinal Pathogenic Escherichia Coli** (ExPEC) **Disease** (IED).

Mention of E. coli (Escherichia coli) often brings to mind foodborne illnesses. Most types of E. coli are harmless or cause relatively brief diarrhea. A few particular types can cause more severe stomach cramps, serious diarrhea and vomiting. But there is an even more serious type of E. coli that concerns infectious diseases specialist.

"Bacteremia and sepsis caused by ExPEC bacteria are among the top 10 causes of death in older adults, and the number of cases is rising as the population ages," says Jan Poolman, Ph.D., Head of Bacterial Vaccines Discovery and Early Development and Disease Area Stronghold Leader Bacterial Vaccines at the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson. "At Janssen, we want to help people live longer, healthier lives and enjoy their grandchildren for years to come. Our fight to tackle and limit the burden of ExPEC is one of the ways we hope to realize this vision."

ExPEC disease is defined as an acute illness consistent with an invasive bacterial infection. The disease is confirmed by the identification of E. coli from blood, or from urine in a patient with urosepsis and no other identifiable source of infection.

"ExPEC is a particularly worrisome type of infection. It is especially dangerous, and even fatal, particularly if you're an older adult," says David Wheeler, MD, FACP, FIDSA, principal study investigator, managing partner of Infectious Diseases Physicians, Inc. (IDP), the private clinical practice partner of CARE-ID. "And due to rising antimicrobial resistance, the antibiotic medicines used to fight dangerous infections caused by ExPEC, like bacteremia, which occurs when bacteria enter the blood, and sepsis, the body's extreme and dangerous reaction to infection, are becoming less effective."

Scientific evidence has shown the prevention of infectious diseases is both better medicine and more cost effective than treating a condition after the fact. As such, vaccines have become a very important tool in today's battle against mounting antimicrobial resistance.

"Our clinical studies covering various vaccines over the past three years really energizes us for this trial, our first study with Johnson and Johnson and Janssen," says Stephen Poretz, RN, MSHA, MBA, CARE-ID Chief Operating Officer. "This study is assessing the effectiveness and safety of the Janssen investigational vaccine for the prevention of blood infections in adults 60 years of age or older. For CARE-ID's efforts, we will focus on individuals who have experienced a Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) that has the potential to cause a blood infection. We are continuing to welcome qualified participants into the study and are encouraging them to call our office."

Enrollment for this study is straight forward and the ongoing follow up process is fast and easy. The majority of the follow ups over this 3-year study will be done through a specialized app on the participant's phone. This is a first for CARE-ID and will significantly enhance convenience. However, there is a need to visit the office about 3 times over the course of the study.

Adults 60 years old and older qualify for this study. Additionally, a participant should not be in treatment for an active UTI and should not be undergoing treatment for a long-term medical condition with antibiotics or steroids.

Individuals interested in enrolling in this study should visit the <u>CARE-ID website</u> or call the CARE-ID office at 703-560-4821 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday.

**CARE-ID is located and can be contacted at:** 3289 Woodburn Rd. Suite 250

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## About CARE-ID

The Clinical Alliance for Research and Education-Infectious Diseases, CARE-ID, conducts clinical research trials in the field of infectious diseases with particular focus on the safety and confidentiality of study participants, quality of data, and integrity of results. It partners with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to develop experimental therapies for both the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

## **About** Janssen Pharmaceutical

**The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson** is a leading pharmaceutical company in the United States focusing on innovations covering some of the most devastating diseases and the most complex medical challenges across the following therapeutic areas: cardiovascular and metabolism, immunology, infectious diseases and vaccines, oncology and pulmonary hypertension.

Headquartered in Titusville, New Jersey, Janssen is named after Dr. Paul Janssen, a leading pharmaceutical researcher, pharmacologist and general practitioner. His company, Janssen Pharmaceutica, joined the Johnson & Johnson family of companies in 1961. The company has grown over the years to serve the changing needs of patients and the healthcare industry yet continues to be guided by Dr. Janssen's values of excellence and innovation.