The development of a clinical grade vaccine against SARS\* will begin following the expansion of an existing agreement between GenVec and the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, US. Under the contract amendment GenVec will receive \$US420 000 and will be responsible for constructing and producing clinical grade adenovectorbased vaccine candidates against SARS. The Vaccine Research Center will then test the vaccines in preclinical models to assess safety and efficacy. Notably, the recent sequencing of the SARS coronavirus genome will be used in the development of the vaccine candidates.

\* severe acute respiratory syndrome

GenVec Inc. GenVec and National Institutes of Health Begin Work on SARS Vaccine. Media Release : 24 Apr 2003. Available from: URL: http:// www.genvec.com 809020419