

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **VaRi Bioscience GmbH announces the start of VR103, an innovative program for a new approach to the long-term treatment of endometriosis**

Berlin, Germany, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 - VaRi Bioscience GmbH (“VaRi”), an innovative German biotech company focusing on novel drug delivery approaches in Female Health, announced today that it had started the development of VR103, an innovative approach to the long-term treatment of endometriosis.

“We are extremely excited to start our second vaginal ring project VR103, in an area of high unmet medical need with a new approach to first- and second-line treatments of endometriosis. VR103 is designed not only to reduce the pain aspect of endometriosis but actually will address the basic disease characteristics. Helping especially young girls and women with this disease to live a normal pain-free life and preserve their fertility is an enormously important task for drug development in the female health area” explains Kerstin Bode-Greuel, MD, PhD, Co-founder of VaRi Bioscience responsible for corporate development. “Our goal is to investigate various first- and second-line therapeutic settings as well as novel strategies. From a purely medical and scientific point of view, efficacy, safety and tolerability should be deemed the primary endpoints when contemplating different treatment strategies.”

#### **About Endometriosis**

Endometriosis, a systemic progressive inflammatory disease that is often painful and chronic, affects about 10% of women of reproductive age. The disease can have a negative impact on a patient’s physical and emotional well-being, quality of life and productivity.

Endometriosis also places significant economic and social burden on patients, their families, and society as a whole. Despite its high prevalence and costs, endometriosis remains underfunded and under researched, greatly limiting our understanding of the disease and slowing down much-needed innovation in diagnostic and treatment options. Due to the societal normalization of women’s pain and stigma around menstrual issues, there is also a lack of disease awareness among patients, health care providers and the public.

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Endometriosis is characterized by endometrial tissue growing outside the uterus. Deep infiltrating endometriosis may penetrate into adjacent organs (ovaries, gut, bladder) and eventually leads to infertility. Proliferation and growth of endometrial lesions is fueled by estrogens which cause the inflammation and pain.

Comprehensive and interdisciplinary approaches to disease awareness, management and education are needed to remove stigma, increase timely and accurate diagnosis and treatment and allow for new advancements.

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### **About VaRi Bioscience GmbH**

VaRi Bioscience is an innovative German biotech company pioneering novel approaches to serve high unmet medical needs in various therapeutic areas of Female Health. The company focuses on the discovery, development and commercialization of innovative products centered around its unique, IP-protected approach of novel drug delivery concepts.