**SAVE SIGHT NOW EUROPE**

**RESEARCH GRANT AGREEMENT**

**CONDITIONS OF FUNDING**

This Research Grant Agreement ("Agreement") is effective as of 1st of June 2025 (the "Effective Date") between Save Sight Now Europe, a Swiss non-profit organization with its registered address at chemin. de l'Armoise 10, 1224 Chêne-Bougeries Geneva, Switzerland (hereinafter referred to as the "SSNEU") and Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics CAS, v. v. i., a legal entity existing under Czech law, with its business address at Rumburska 89, 277 21 Libechov, Czech Republic, registered with the register of public research institution under number 67985904 (hereinafter "IAPG").

1. Administrative overhead is permitted up to a maximum of 10% of the total grant budget. This overhead allowance should be explicitly included in the project budget proposal.

2. SSNEU may terminate funding in the event that a grant with similar aims is funded by another organization. If alternate funding is obtained after the award of an SSNEU grant for this project, the grantee and SSNEU will negotiate if and how much SSNEU will continue to support the project.

3. The maximum grant total budget cannot exceed 20 409 Eur for the project duration of 6 months for "**Gene Therapy for Usher Syndrome 1B: Testing Gene Supplementation and Gene Activation in Wild-Type Minipigs**". Personnel salaries for the duration of project cannot be increased above the 3% rate cap. However, other budget line items such as services, supplies, or animal costs can exceed the 3% rate cap if reviewed and approved by SSNEU. Travel expenses directly related to the accomplishment of the defined research goals of the project will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A financial summary of expenses relative to the disbursement of this grant must be submitted within 90 days after the end of the grant period. Report may be submitted electronically, provided it includes signatures of the Principal Investigator (PI) and the responsible institutional business official/official grant administrator. Please use the accrual method of accounting.

Payment terms:

50% at the beginning of the project

50% upon report delivery

General conditions of payment: payment by credit transfer within maximum 30 days after the invoicing date in CZK.

Payment details:

BANK details

IBAN: CZ 5301000000198264720227

SWIFT: KOMBCZPPXXX

Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics AS CR, v. v. i.

Rumburska 89

277 21 LIBECHOV

VAT Registration No. CZ67985904

4. Unexpended funds that exceed €200 are to be returned to SSNEU together with a financial report. Funds up to 30% of the total individual grant may be moved to any budget category except travel. Re-allocation of approved budget line items greater than 30% of the total grant requires prior SSNEU authorization. Given the short duration of this project, requests for carryover are not anticipated, but if necessary, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and must be approved in advance by SSNEU. A justification citing how the carryover was incurred and how the funds are expected to be spent MUST accompany all carryover requests. Requests for re-allocation of budget items over 30% of the total grant or requests for carryover may be sent from the PI by email to arnau@savesightnoweurope.org

5. The SSNEU Agreement form must be signed by the responsible institutional official and returned to SSNEU before this grant is considered binding.

6. A comprehensive written Scientific Progress Report (SPR) on the activities of this project must be submitted at the completion of the project as specified in the project timeline. Additionally, an informal project progress update must be provided at a midpoint to be determined by the PI in consultation with SSNEU. The PI should propose appropriate reporting dates in the project proposal. These reports should detail progress on each of the defined milestones in the project proposal.

7. Please send to SSNEU the names of all key personnel involved in this project, including researchers, technicians, veterinary staff, and other professionals who will participate in the research activities.

8. Acceptance of a grant from SSNEU requires that all publications resulting either in whole or in part from SSNEU's support must acknowledge support from "Save Sight Now Europe." This acknowledgment requirement extends to presentations at scientific conferences and other public communications about the research. A copy of each publication reprint should be submitted to SSNEU as soon as it is available. In addition, if there is to be a press release from your institution or the publisher about the SSNEU-supported research, please inform SSNEU before it is released and provide contact information regarding the press release so that we can also coordinate an SSNEU release.

9. It is required that resources (e.g., AAV vectors, protocols, transgenic animals, etc.), developed with full or partial support of SSNEU and reported in a scientific publication, be shared upon request with legitimate investigators in a generous and timely fashion in order to advance the research goals of SSNEU and the broader USH1B research community.

10. Save Sight Now Europe is not responsible for any claim, judgment, grant, damages, settlement, negligence or malpractice arising from the research or investigation related to this grant. The investigator's institution must acknowledge responsibility for the conduct of research or investigations related to this grant, and release SSNEU from all claims of liability that may arise from the conduct of research or investigations related to this grant resulting from any act or omission on the part of the institution, its employees, agents, or representatives.

11. Under certain conditions, SSNEU may provide funding for the purchase of legitimate scientific equipment for use in active SSNEU-supported research grants. Investigators must request prior approval for the purchase of such equipment, which are considered on a case-by-case basis. SSNEU maintains property ownership of all equipment purchased with SSNEU funds. Following the termination of an SSNEU grant, SSNEU retains the right to transfer the property to another SSNEU grantee or institution. Equipment purchased with SSNEU funds is to remain under the control of the SSNEU grantee, when such individual transfers to another academic institution.

12. Animal Welfare and Ethics: All research involving animal subjects must comply with relevant institutional, national, and international guidelines for animal welfare. Documentation of appropriate animal ethics approvals must be provided to SSNEU before any animal procedures commence. The grantee must comply with the highest standards of humane and ethical treatment of the animal subjects, including appropriate pain management, housing, care, and experimental procedures.

13. Data Management and Sharing: The grantee shall maintain a data management plan throughout the project. Research data collected during this project must be properly stored, backed up, and made accessible to SSNEU upon request. At the conclusion of the project, arrangements for long-term data preservation and accessibility should be documented in the final report. When appropriate and feasible, de-identified data should be made available to the broader research community to maximize the impact of the research.

14. International Collaboration: The grantee acknowledges that this project involves international collaboration and agrees to comply with all relevant laws, regulations, and policies governing international research collaborations, including but not limited to those related to material transfer, data sharing across borders, and ethical standards. The grantee is responsible for obtaining any necessary permits, licenses, or approvals required for the cross-border aspects of the research.

15. Confidentiality: Each party shall maintain in confidence any confidential information disclosed by the other party in connection with this project for a period of three (3) years following the termination of this Agreement. This obligation shall not apply to information that is publicly available, already known to the receiving party, or independently developed.

16. The following specific milestones are to be proposed by the PI for this project:

**- Milestone 1:** [September 2025] –

 a) Noninvasive evaluation 6 weeks after treatment with *MYO7A* supplementation – OCT and Fundus camera data

b) Noninvasive evaluation 6 weeks after treatment with activation of *the porcine Myo7b* gene – OCT and Fundus camera data

**- Milestone 2:** [December 2025] –

a) Evaluation of gene supplementation (transcript and protein expression of /MYO7A, immune response) on isolated retinal samples (retinal lysates and retinal cryosections)

b) Evaluation of gene activation (transcript and protein expression of */*MYO7B, immune response) on isolated retinal samples (retinal lysates and retinal cryosections).

 **- Final Completion:** [January 2026] – Filing a final report

 Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics (IAPG), CAS, Libechov, Czech Republic

Date: 29. 4. 2025

Signed:

Ing. Michal Kubelka, CSc.

Director of IAPG

Date: 18. 4. 2025, Geneva, Switzerland.

Signed:

Berta Adell

President & Co-Founder Save Sight Now Europe