

Press release

LABOMAR: THE FIRST EUROPEAN PATENT FOR CHOLESTEROL CONTROL AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO RED YEAST RICE

At Vitafoods Europe, the company presents ChoLnext 25™, an innovative, effective and clinically validated solution developed in response to European restrictions on monacolins. An exclusive debut opening new perspectives in the nutraceutical market.

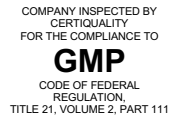
Istrana (TV), April 29 – In a regulatory landscape that is reshaping the future of cardiovascular health supplements, Labomar – an internationally active nutraceutical company specialized in research, development and contract manufacturing of food supplements, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, foods for special medical purposes and cosmetics – is further accelerating its innovation strategy and announces its **new proprietary patent ChoLnext 25™ designed as a concrete alternative to red yeast rice for cholesterol control**, whose use is subject to significant restrictions within the European Union.

Previewed at Vitafoods Europe, one of the leading international events dedicated to nutraceuticals, ChoLnext 25™ is the latest solution entirely developed and produced in Europe. Based on the combination of two plant extracts of Mediterranean origin, it brings together efficacy, safety and ease of use. A study conducted on over 100 subjects showed a **10% reduction in total cholesterol and a 23% reduction in LDL cholesterol**, along with a **15% increase in HDL cholesterol**. This result is particularly significant when compared to red yeast rice, which primarily acts on total cholesterol and LDL without affecting HDL.

The trial, carried out in collaboration with a leading Italian clinical center, also confirmed the absence of hepatic and renal toxicity, further strengthening the safety profile of the formulation.

This project was developed in response to an increasingly stringent and rapidly evolving regulatory environment. Monacolins from red yeast rice, traditionally used to control LDL cholesterol, have long been under evaluation by European authorities due to potential side effects similar to those of statins, opening the way to progressively stricter limitations on their use.

Walter Bertin, Founder and CEO of Labomar, commented: *"We launched the ChoLnext 25™ project when the first signs of regulatory changes began to emerge, with the aim of anticipating a shift that has now become a reality for the entire sector. The progressive tightening of regulations on certain key ingredients requires deep reflection and calls for new solutions that are already validated and immediately applicable. With this patent, we provide our partners with an effective and safe alternative, developed to*



ensure continuity and support the evolution of their formulations in a rapidly changing scenario. This achievement is the result of the joint efforts of a cross-functional internal team, involving expertise from Research & Development, Regulatory Affairs and Labomar Scientific Service, once again confirming the value of integrating scientific know-how with industrial vision."

The study, launched in 2022, involved a cross-functional team of around 20 professionals within the Labomar Group, integrating expertise in Research & Development, Regulatory Affairs and Labomar Scientific Service, the department dedicated to in vitro pre-clinical testing and laboratory analysis. The entire supply chain is European, with raw material production in Italy, ensuring quality and standardization of the extracts. *ChoLnext 25™* also stands out for its simplified dosage, overcoming one of the main limitations of currently available alternatives and improving the user experience for consumers.

The patent, filed in February 2025, represents a coherent milestone in the Group's growth path, which in recent years has strengthened its positioning through continuous investments in Research & Development and an acceleration in high-value proprietary technologies.

Labomar Profile

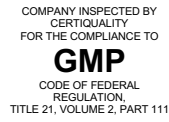
Founded by Walter Bertin in 1998 in Istrana, in the province of Treviso, Labomar is a company specialized in the development and contract manufacturing of food supplements, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, foods for special medical purposes and cosmetics. Over more than 25 years, Labomar has built a business model that differentiates it from competitors in the sector and is capable of generating value for all stakeholders, offering a 360-degree service with high standards of quality and productivity.

The company boasts a structured and cutting-edge Research & Development department with a strong focus on innovation, a commercial team able to promptly respond to market demands, and a high level of product differentiation, also thanks to proprietary patents and formulations.

Following the acquisitions of Labomar Canada, the Welcare Group, Labiotre Srl, Laboratorios Entema and Pharmia Holding Oy, as well as the investment in Sphera, Labomar has focused on maximizing synergies among its companies, leveraging shared resources and expertise to expand its product portfolio, enter new markets and improve process efficiency, also through the dissemination of best practices across the Group.

After its listing on the EGM segment, which concluded in September 2023, Labomar now includes Charterhouse—one of the oldest private equity firms operating in Europe—among its shareholders, further demonstrating its strong focus on market positioning and growth planning.

Labomar strongly believes in a business system based on sustainability, with attention to people, the environment and the community. For this reason, it adopted the legal status of a Benefit Corporation as early as 2020 and subsequently obtained B



Corp™ Certification, confirming its commitment to being part of a global movement of companies that meet high standards of social and environmental impact.

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