

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE [October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020] CONTACT: Farah El-zarkout Business Development <u>farah.elzarkout@mediphage.ca</u>

## Mediphage Bioceuticals Appoints Alvaro Amorrortu as Chief Executive Officer and President

**Toronto, Ontario** – Mediphage Bioceuticals, a non-viral gene therapy company, developing effective, and highly-scalable therapeutics to unlock the power of safe and redosable genetic medicines, announced the appointment of Alvaro Amorrortu (MBA, MS Eng.) as its Chief Executive Officer and President.

Amorrortu has been building and leading high performing teams for the past 20 years. He acquired a wealth of experience and knowledge during his tenure at Solid Biosciences. In his role as Chief Operating Officer, he led and managed the infrastructure build-up to support a gene therapy clinical trial in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Prior to Solid Biosciences, Amorrortu was a strategy consultant for bio-pharma companies. He was at The Monitor Group (now Monitor Deloitte) for a decade and then became Vice President in the Boston office of Campbell Alliance (the consulting arm of Syneos Health).

"It is an exciting time to be joining Mediphage. Adapting the ministring DNA platform technology to develop gene therapy treatments brings hope to those affected by diseases with unmet needs. Being part of this innovative journey motivates me and all of us at Mediphage" said Alvaro Amorrortu.

Amorrortu holds degrees from the The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (MBA) and Instituto Tecnologico de Buenos Aires (MS Engineering).

## **About Mediphage**

Mediphage Bioceuticals is developing next-generation non-viral gene therapies with a mission to eradicate suffering from a wide range of diseases. The Toronto-based company, founded in 2016 as a spin-off from the University of Waterloo, uses proprietary *E. Coli*-based manufacturing platforms to generate safe, effective and redosable gene delivery vectors called ministring DNA or msDNA. Mediphage's proprietary msDNA platform is an efficient, customizable, durable, and highly scalable, gene delivery vector which confers application to *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gene or cell therapies. Mediphage is focusing its internal efforts on developing a therapeutic for Stargardt Disease, an ocular inherited condition caused by a mutation of the large *ABCA4* gene, and more recently, initiated a COVID-19 vaccine program which employs msDNA to deliver a VLP against SARS-CoV-2. As a platform technology, msDNA has the potential for broad applicability to gene therapy, cell therapy, and gene editing areas, including T-cell and B-cell applications, DNA vaccines, iPSC, CRISPR, and rAAV production.