Orgenesis Announces Agreement to Acquire Assets of Tamir Biotechnology, Inc. Including Broad Spectrum Antiviral Platform

Strategy to combine ranpirnase antiviral platform with Bioxome™ technology

GERMANTOWN, Md., April 13, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Orgenesis Inc. (NASDAQ: ORGS) (“Orgenesis” or the “Company”), a pioneering, global biotech company committed to lowering costs, accelerating commercialization, and transforming the delivery of cell and gene therapies (CGTs), announces it has entered into an agreement to acquire the assets of Tamir Biotechnology, Inc. (“TamirBio”), including ranpirnase, TamirBio’s broad spectrum anti-viral platform. The acquisition will be completed for total stock and cash consideration valued at approximately $19 million, based on the value of the stock at closing. Orgenesis plans to combine ranpirnase with its co-developed Bioxome™ technology for enhanced payload delivery directly to cells.

TamirBio is a clinical stage anti-viral therapeutics company engaged in the discovery and development of a new class of prophylactic and therapeutic drugs for the treatment of viruses and other pathological conditions. TamirBio’s lead asset, ranpirnase, a ribonuclease (RNase), is a member of the superfamily of enzymes that catalyze the degradation of RNA, and mediate several essential biological activities, including the regulation of cell proliferation, maturation, differentiation, and cell death. Therefore, it is a potential candidate for the development of therapeutics for life-threatening diseases, including viral and autoimmune diseases, that require anti-proliferative and apoptotic properties.

TamirBio’s first target is the human papilloma virus (HPV), the worldwide leading cause of genital warts. The company’s lead asset, topical ranpirnase, was evaluated in a phase I/II clinical trial targeting genital warts. The phase I/II study demonstrated clear clinical effect of ranpirnase. Additional clinical trials are currently being planned.

Orgenesis and TamirBio plan to combine ranpirnase with Bioxomes™, which have demonstrated the ability to fuse with cell membranes and deliver an intracellular cargo, in a similar manner to natural exosomes. Bioxomes™ can carry selected therapeutic cargo inside the target cells when loaded with predesignated genetic material, proteins, signaling molecules and drugs, as these mimic the natural membrane fusion capacity of exosomes. Orgenesis and TamirBio believe the combination of the two platforms will result in enhanced efficacy and anti-viral results.

Vered Caplan, CEO of Orgenesis, said, “Combining TamirBio’s broad antiviral platform, ranpirnase, with Bioxomes™ could result in an enhanced payload delivery into cells. In
independent third-party testing, ranpirnase has shown anti-viral activity in multiple viruses. Additionally, over 1,000 patients have been dosed with ranpirnase in previous cancer/mesothelioma clinical trials. Ranpirnase demonstrated a strong safety and tolerability profile that should help accelerate the approval pathway. We believe combining ranpirnase with the Bioxome™ platform has the potential to become a potent and powerful combination given the natural intracellular trafficking abilities of Bioxomes™. We look forward to testing a variety of additional anti-viral therapies in the near future.”

“We are honored to combine forces with Orgenesis to advance this powerful platform,” stated, Jamie Sulley, President of TamirBio. “Ranpirnase has already demonstrated preclinical antiviral activity in such viral diseases as HPV, HIV, Ebola, and SARS. Not only do we believe Orgenesis will help advance ranpirnase through the clinic using their global development platform, but by combining ranpirnase with the Bioxome™ technology, we believe we can deliver ranpirnase through a more effective delivery mechanism.”

About Orgenesis
Orgenesis is a pioneering global biotech company which is unlocking the full potential of personalized therapies and closed processing systems through its Cell & Gene Therapy Biotech Platform, with the ultimate aim of providing life changing treatments at the Point of Care to large numbers of patients at low cost. The Platform consists of: (a) POCare Therapeutics, a pipeline of licensed cell and gene therapies (CGTs), and proprietary scientific knowhow; (b) POCare Technologies, a suite of proprietary and in-licensed technologies which are engineered to create customized processing systems for affordable point of care therapies; and (c) POCare Network, a collaborative, international ecosystem of leading research institutes and hospitals committed to clinical development and supply of CGTs at the point of care. By combining science, technologies and a collaborative network, Orgenesis is able to identify the most promising new therapies and provide a pathway for them to reach patients more quickly, more efficiently and at scale, thereby unlocking the power of cell and gene therapy for all. Additional information is available at: www.orgenesis.com.

Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements
This press release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements involve substantial uncertainties and risks and are based upon our current expectations, estimates and projections and reflect our beliefs and assumptions based upon information available to us at the date of this release. We caution readers that forward-looking statements are predictions based on our current expectations about future events. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Our actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the risk that the acquisition of Tamir’s assets will not be successfully integrated with our technologies or that the potential benefits of the acquisition will not be realized, our ability to further develop ranpirnase following the acquisition, our reliance on, and our ability to grow, our point-of-care cell therapy platform, our ability to effectively use the net proceeds from the sale of Masthercell, our ability to achieve and maintain overall profitability, the development of our POCare strategy, the sufficiency of working capital to realize our business plans, the
development of our transdifferentiation technology as therapeutic treatment for diabetes which could, if successful, be a cure for Type 1 Diabetes; our technology not functioning as expected; our ability to retain key employees; our ability to satisfy the rigorous regulatory requirements for new procedures; our competitors developing better or cheaper alternatives to our products and the risks and uncertainties discussed under the heading "RISK FACTORS" in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31 2019, and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statement for any reason.

Contact for Oregenesis:
David Waldman
Crescendo Communications, LLC
Tel: 212-671-1021
ORGS@crescendo-ir.com

Source: Oregenesis Inc.