

April 20, 2015



PharmaCyte Biotech Finalizes International Diabetes Consortium to Cure Diabetes

SILVER SPRING, Md., April 20, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- PharmaCyte Biotech, Inc. (OTCQB:PMCB), a clinical stage biotechnology company focused on developing targeted treatments for cancer and diabetes using its signature live-cell encapsulation technology, Cell-in-a-Box[®], today announced that the world class team of scientists, physicians and academics that make up its international Diabetes Consortium is now complete with the addition of the final two members, Dr. Thomas Stratmann and Dr. Axel Kornerup Hansen.

Dr. Stratmann is an Associate Professor at the Department of Physiology and Immunology in the Faculty of Biology at the University of Barcelona in Spain. Dr. Stratmann has extensive experience in using a diabetes mouse model of Type 1 diabetes in which the disease develops rapidly in contrast to other mouse models where the disease only develops after several weeks. Through the use of this model as the Consortium progresses in its animal preclinical studies with Cell-in-a-Box[®]-encapsulated Melligen cells, it is fully expected that the overall development timeline for PharmaCyte Biotech's diabetes treatment will be shortened significantly.

Dr. Kornerup Hansen is a Professor in the Department of Veterinary Disease Biology at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. He will perform specially designed preclinical studies to determine the minimum dose of encapsulated Melligen cells that will normalize blood glucose levels in diabetic rats as well as pigs, which are an important model for mimicking the dosing that will be required for human patients.

PharmaCyte Biotech has the exclusive worldwide rights to use the Melligen cells to treat diabetes. Melligen cells are genetically engineered from human liver cells and have been shown to secrete insulin in response to the concentrations of glucose (blood sugar) in their environment. When Melligen cells were transplanted into diabetic mice whose immune systems were essentially not functioning, the blood glucose levels of the mice became normal. This observation illustrates that Melligen cells can reverse the diabetic condition.

PharmaCyte Biotech's CEO, Kenneth L. Waggoner, said of the 16-member Diabetes Consortium, "We are very pleased that our international Diabetes Consortium is now complete after only a few months of development. We feel that the scientists, physicians and academics that make up our Consortium are of the highest caliber and have already proven that they can work in concert as the development of our diabetes treatment progresses. We firmly believe that, although the members within the Consortium are diverse in terms of their geographic location and expertise, their talents and knowledge are most complementary. Because of this, PharmaCyte Biotech's treatment for insulin-dependent diabetes could be in clinical testing much sooner than would otherwise be the case."

PharmaCyte Biotech's Diabetes Consortium brings together a global coalition of world class experts from various universities and institutions in several countries around the world. All members of the Consortium are committed to developing a treatment for insulin-dependent diabetes using PharmaCyte Biotech's Cell-in-a-Box[®] cellulose-based live-cell encapsulation technology combined with human non-pancreatic, insulin-producing cells (Melligen Cells).

Members of the Diabetes Consortium have all agreed to bring their expertise to the Consortium and work in concert to develop a treatment for diabetes. In view of the considerable collective experience and through their collaborative efforts, the timeline for the development of PharmaCyte Biotech's diabetes treatment will be significantly shortened. The members of the Consortium and their expected contributions are:

- **Dr. Eva-Maria Brandtner**, Head of the Bioencapsulation Unit at the Vorarlberg Institute for Vascular Investigation and Treatment Program Development for the Consortium. Dr. Brandtner will coordinate all of the Diabetes Consortium's research activities and also have a scientific advisory role. Dr. Brandtner previously served as Chief Scientist at Austrianova where she conducted studies related to the encapsulation of Melligen Cells and the early testing of their use in PharmaCyte Biotech's encapsulation technology as a treatment for diabetes. Dr. Brandtner serves as PharmaCyte Biotech's Director of Diabetes Program Development and is a consultant to PharmaCyte Biotech.
- **Dr. Matthias Löhr**, Professor of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, will serve a pivotal scientific advisory role for the Diabetes Consortium. Dr. Löhr is exceedingly familiar with the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology having served as Principal Investigator for the clinical trials in pancreatic cancer that employed the technology together with the cancer chemotherapy drug ifosfamide. In addition to pancreatic cancer, Dr. Löhr has a specialty in diabetes and its treatment and believes that the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology will provide a platform upon which effective treatments for both pancreatic cancer and diabetes can be built. Dr. Löhr is a consultant to PharmaCyte Biotech and the Chairman of PharmaCyte Biotech's Scientific Advisory Board.
- **Prof. Walter H. Günzburg, Dr. Brian Salmons and Dr. John Dangerfield** of Austrianova will all play significant scientific advisory roles. Prof. Günzburg is Chief Technical Officer of Austrianova and serves as PharmaCyte Biotech's Chief Scientific Officer. He is also Professor of Virology at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna (VetMed). Dr. Salmons is the CEO and President of Austrianova and is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of PharmaCyte Biotech. Prof. Günzburg and Dr. Salmons co-developed the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology and thus are the world's experts in its potential use for the treatment of diseases. Both are also consultants to PharmaCyte Biotech. Dr. Dangerfield, the COO of Austrianova, is intimately involved in dealing with the Cell-in-a-Box[®] encapsulation process on a daily basis. All three will be responsible for the preparation of cells and their encapsulation as required for preclinical studies and ultimately be involved in human clinical trials as the Diabetes Consortium develops its diabetes treatment.

- **Prof. Ann Simpson and Dr. Brenton Hamdorf** of the University of Technology in Sydney (UTS), Australia, and their scientific colleagues at UTS are essential to the success of the efforts of the Diabetes Consortium. Dr. Simpson, Professor of Biochemistry at UTS, has spent a significant portion of her professional career in developing and characterizing the non-pancreatic insulin-producing Melligen Cells that will be encapsulated using the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology to produce PharmaCyte Biotech's treatment for insulin-dependent diabetes. Prof. Simpson serves as a consultant to PharmaCyte Biotech. Dr. Hamdorf serves as UTS' business development contact and partner for the Diabetes Consortium. Dr. Simpson and her fellow scientists at UTS will be responsible for performing laboratory and animal studies on the Melligen Cells both before and after encapsulation that will be necessary for defining the parameters under which the Melligen Cells produce insulin.
- **Dr. Constantine Konstantoulas and Mag Helga Petznek** (veterinarian) of VetMed will be responsible for conducting animal studies with encapsulated Melligen Cells that will test the potential of these cells to produce tumors, define the biocompatibility of the encapsulated Melligen Cells and test the ability of the encapsulated cells to produce insulin in a mouse model in which Type 1 diabetes has been induced by the introduction of a virus. Dr. Konstantoulas will coordinate the day-to-day activities of these tests, and Prof. Walter H. Günzburg will oversee all of the studies done at VetMed. The studies at this institution are already underway.
- **Dr. Thomas Stratmann**, Associate Professor at the Department of Physiology and Immunology in the Faculty of Biology at the University of Barcelona in Spain, has extensive experience in using a diabetes mouse model of Type 1 diabetes in which the disease develops rapidly. Through the use of this model, as the Diabetes Consortium progresses in its animal preclinical studies with Cell-in-a-Box[®]-encapsulated Melligen Cells, it is fully expected that the overall development timeline for PharmaCyte Biotech's diabetes treatment will be considerably shortened. In addition, Dr. Stratmann has two other mouse models of Type 1 diabetes in his laboratory. Through the use of these other animal models, and in combination with other test systems, the Consortium should be able to obtain irrefutable data as to the effectiveness of PharmaCyte Biotech's diabetes treatment.
- **Prof. Axel Kornerup Hansen**, Professor in the Department of Veterinary Disease Biology at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, will perform preclinical studies to determine the minimum dose of encapsulated Melligen Cells that will normalize blood glucose levels in diabetic rats. In addition, Dr. Hansen will perform the same tests on pigs that have been made diabetic by injecting them with a drug known as streptozotocin. This drug destroys the ability of the pancreas to produce insulin and thus results in diabetes.
- **Dr. Andreas Blutke, Dr. Rüdiger Wanke, and Dr. Eckhard Wolf**, of the Laboratory of Functional Genome Analysis, Gene Center, at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany, have developed unique transgenic mouse and pig models in which the mice and pigs exhibit diabetes from birth without the use of diabetes-inducing drugs. When these models are ready, they will be used by the Diabetes Consortium to test the effectiveness of PharmaCyte Biotech's diabetes treatment and to study the

effectiveness of the treatment in minimizing the kidney and pancreas alterations that occur as diabetes progresses.

- **Kenneth L. Waggoner, JD and Dr. Gerald W. Crabtree**, the CEO and the COO, respectively, of PharmaCyte Biotech will be responsible for providing overall coordination and management of the Diabetes Consortium as well as and funding for the activities within the Consortium. PharmaCyte Biotech will also provide scientific direction and support when it is required.

About PharmaCyte Biotech

PharmaCyte Biotech is a clinical stage biotechnology company focused on developing and preparing to commercialize treatments for cancer and diabetes based upon a proprietary cellulose-based live cell encapsulation technology known as Cell-in-a-Box[®]. This unique and patented technology will be used as a platform upon which treatments for several types of cancer, including advanced, inoperable pancreatic cancer, and diabetes are being built. PharmaCyte Biotech's treatment for pancreatic cancer involves low doses of the well-known anticancer prodrug ifosfamide, together with encapsulated live cells, which convert ifosfamide into its active or "cancer-killing" form. These capsules are placed as close to the cancerous tumor as possible to enable the delivery of the highest levels of the cancer-killing drug at the source of the cancer. This "targeted chemotherapy" has proven remarkably effective and safe in past clinical trials. PharmaCyte Biotech is also working towards improving the quality of life for patients with advanced pancreatic cancer and on treatments for other types of solid cancerous tumors. In addition, PharmaCyte Biotech is developing treatments for cancer based upon chemical constituents of the *Cannabis* plant, known as cannabinoids. In doing so, PharmaCyte Biotech is examining ways to exploit the benefits of Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology in optimizing the anticancer effectiveness of cannabinoids, while minimizing or outright eliminating the debilitating side effects usually associated with cancer treatments. This provides PharmaCyte Biotech the rare opportunity to develop "green" approaches to fighting deadly diseases, such as cancer of the brain, breast and pancreas, which affect hundreds of thousands of individuals worldwide every year.

Safe Harbor

This press release may contain forward-looking statements regarding PharmaCyte Biotech and its future events and results that involve inherent risks and uncertainties. The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "plan" and similar expressions, as they relate to PharmaCyte Biotech or its management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Important factors, many of which are beyond the control of PharmaCyte Biotech, could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. They include PharmaCyte's ability to continue as a going concern, delays or unsuccessful results in preclinical and clinical trials, flaws or defects regarding its product candidates, changes in relevant legislation or regulatory requirements, uncertainty of protection of PharmaCyte Biotech's intellectual property and PharmaCyte Biotech's continued ability to raise capital. PharmaCyte Biotech does not assume any obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements.

More information about PharmaCyte Biotech can be found at www.PharmaCyteBiotech.com. It can also be obtained by contacting Investor Relations.

CONTACT: Investor Relations Contacts:
Jamien Jones
Blueprint Life Science Group
Telephone: 415.375.3340 Ext. 103
jjones@bplifescience.com

Source: PharmaCyte Biotech, Inc.