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PharmaCyte Biotech Receives 'Notice of Allowance' for Patent Protection of the Melligen Cells to Treat Diabetes

SILVER SPRING, Md., May 12, 2016 (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 a Notice of Allowance was received from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for patent protection of the human cell line that has been genetically engineered to produce, store and release insulin in response to the levels of blood sugar in the human body (Melligen cells). PharmaCyte plans to encapsulate Melligen cells using the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology.

A Notice of Allowance signifies that the applicant is entitled to receive patent protection of 20 years under the law. The Melligen cells were developed by Prof. Ann Simpson and her colleagues at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). PharmaCyte has a license agreement with UTS that provides PharmaCyte with the exclusive worldwide right to use Melligen cells for the treatment of diabetes.

Patent protection for the European counterpart to the U.S. application was granted on July 15, 2015. The patent has been validated in France, Switzerland, Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Spain, Denmark, Italy and the Netherlands with similar claim scope of the allowed claims by the USPTO.

About PharmaCyte Biotech

PharmaCyte Biotech is a clinical stage biotechnology company 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 technology will be used as a platform upon which treatments for several types of cancer and diabetes are being developed. PharmaCyte's treatment for cancer involves encapsulating genetically modified live cells that convert an inactive chemotherapy drug into its active or "cancer-killing" form. These encapsulated live cells are placed as close to a cancerous tumor as possible. Once implanted in a patient, a chemotherapy drug which needs to be activated in the body (ifosfamide) is then given intravenously at one-third the normal dose. The ifosfamide is carried by the circulatory system to where the encapsulated cells have been placed. When the ifosfamide, which is normally activated in the liver, comes in contact with the encapsulated live cells, activation of the chemotherapy drug takes place at the source of the cancer without any side effects from the chemotherapy. This "targeted chemotherapy" has proven remarkably effective and safe to use in past clinical trials.

In addition to developing a novel treatment for cancer, PharmaCyte is developing a treatment for Type 1 diabetes and Type 2 insulin-dependent diabetes. PharmaCyte plans to encapsulate a human cell line that has been genetically engineered to produce, store and

release insulin in response to the levels of blood sugar in the human body. The encapsulation will be done using the Cell-in-a-Box[®] technology.

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 or its management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Important factors, many of which are beyond the control of PharmaCyte, 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's intellectual property and PharmaCyte's continued ability to raise capital. PharmaCyte does not assume any obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements.

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

Investor Relations:
PharmaCyte Biotech, Inc.
Investor Relations Department
Telephone: 917.595.2856
Email: Info@PharmaCyte.com



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