Cytokinetics Announces Non-clinical Data to be Presented at the 2007 AACR Annual Meeting

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Four Posters Relating to Company Oncology Programs to be Presented

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., April 9 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Cytokinetics, Incorporated (Nasdaq: CYTK) announced today that four posters containing non-clinical data will be presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) to be held from April 14- 18, 2007 in Los Angeles, CA. These posters are related to multiple oncology programs at Cytokinetics and will present data evaluating ispinesib, a novel inhibitor of Kinesin Spindle Protein (KSP), in models of multiple myeloma, data evaluating GSK-923295, a novel inhibitor of centrosome associated protein E (CENP-E) in both biochemical assays and in xenograft models and data from a separate, novel Cytokinetics' cell-based drug discovery program.

Poster Presentations at 2007 AACR Annual Meeting

Ispinesib:

Abstract #1435: Kinesin Spindle Protein Inhibition for the Treatment of Multiple Myeloma. (Poster displayed on Sunday, April 15, 2007, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, PT, Poster Section 27, Poster Board 16.)

GSK-923295:

Abstract #1522: GSK-923295, a Potent and Selective CENP-E Inhibitor, Has Broad Spectrum Activity Against Human Tumor Xenografts in Nude Mice. (Poster displayed on Sunday, April 15, 2007, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, PT, Poster Section 31, Poster Board 8.)

Abstract #3179: Detailed Biochemical Analysis of the CENP-E Inhibitor GSK-923295. (Poster displayed on Monday, April 16, 2007, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, PT, Poster Section 26, Poster Board 18.)

Cell-based Drug Discovery Program:

Abstract #5576: Cell-based Discovery and Anti-tumor Activity of a Novel Mitotic Inhibitor. (Poster displayed on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 8:00 AM -12:00 PM, PT, Poster Section 27, Poster Board 14.)

Clinical Trials for Ispinesib

Ispinesib has been the subject of a broad Phase II clinical trials program under the sponsorship of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and is also being developed in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Under a November 2006 amendment to its collaboration and license agreement with GSK, Cytokinetics has assumed responsibility for the costs and activities of associated with the continued development of the KSP inhibitors, ispinesib and SB-743921, subject to GSK's option to resume responsibility for some or all development and commercialization activities associated with each of these novel drug candidates. Cytokinetics plans to conduct at its expense a focused development program for ispinesib in breast cancer specifically designed to supplement the broad series of Phase I and Phase II clinical trials sponsored by GSK that have demonstrated clinical activity in the treatment of patients with metastatic breast cancer and that have shown an acceptable tolerability profile for ispinesib in combination with standard chemotherapeutics. Cytokinetics expects to incur approximately $4-7 million of incremental costs in 2007 related to assuming additional clinical development responsibilities under the amendment to the collaboration agreement with GSK.

GSK has sponsored three Phase II clinical trials, one evaluating ispinesib as second--or third-line treatment for patients with locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer, one evaluating ispinesib as second-line treatment for patients with non-small cell lung cancer and one evaluating ispinesib as second-line treatment for patients with advanced ovarian cancer. Enrollment in all of these studies has been closed. To date, clinical activity for ispinesib has been observed in non-small cell lung cancer and breast cancer, with the more robust clinical activity observed in a Phase II clinical trial evaluating ispinesib in the treatment of metastatic breast cancer patients that have failed treatment with taxanes and anthracyclines. GSK has informed Cytokinetics that final data is expected from the breast cancer clinical trial in the first half of 2007 and that a patient remains on study in the ovarian trial.

In addition, GSK has sponsored three dose-escalating Phase Ib clinical trials. Each of these clinical trials was designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics of ispinesib in combination with a leading anti-cancer therapeutic, one in combination with carboplatin, the second in combination with capecitabine, and the third in combination with docetaxel. The clinical trial evaluating ispinesib in combination with capecitabine is ongoing.

The NCI has sponsored six additional Phase II clinical trials, one evaluating the potential efficacy of ispinesib in the second-line treatment of patients with colorectal cancer, one in the first-line treatment of patients with hepatocellular cancer, one in the first-line treatment of patients with melanoma, one in the first- or second-line treatment of patients with head and neck cancers, one in the second-line treatment of patients with hormone- refractory prostate cancer, and one in the second-line treatment of patients with renal cell cancer. Enrollment has been closed for all of these trials; patients remain on treatment in the renal cell cancer trial. Data are expected from the hepatocellular cancer, the prostate cancer, the melanoma, and the renal cell cancer trials in 2007. Data from other clinical trials have already been reported.

The NCI has completed patient treatment in a Phase I clinical trial designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics of ispinesib on an alternative dosing schedule in patients with advanced solid tumors that have failed to respond to all standard therapies; data from this trial have already been reported. The NCI is continuing patient enrollment in a Phase I clinical trial designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics of ispinesib on an alternative dosing schedule in patients with acute leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia or advanced myelodysplastic syndromes. Data from this trial are expected in 2007.

Background on Mitotic Kinesin Inhibitors

Since their introduction over 40 years ago, anti-mitotic drugs (taxanes and vinca alkaloids) have advanced the treatment of cancer and are commonly used for the treatment of several tumor types. However, these drugs have demonstrated limited treatment benefit against certain cancers. In addition, these drugs target tubulin, a cytoskeletal protein involved not only in mitosis and cell proliferation, but also in other important cellular functions. Inhibition of these other cellular functions produces dose- limiting toxicities such as peripheral neuropathy, an impairment of peripheral nervous system function. Neuropathies are thought to result when these drugs interfere with the dynamics of microtubule filaments that are responsible for the long-distance transport of important cellular components within nerve cells.

Mitotic kinesins are essential to mitosis, and, unlike tubulin, appear to have no role in unrelated cellular functions. Cytokinetics believes that drugs that inhibit KSP and CENP-E and other mitotic kinesins may represent the next generation of anti-mitotic cancer drugs by arresting mitosis and cell proliferation without impacting unrelated, normal cellular functions, thereby avoiding many of the toxicities commonly experienced by patients treated with existing anti-mitotic drugs.

About Cytokinetics

Cytokinetics is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of novel small molecule drugs that may address areas of significant unmet clinical needs. Cytokinetics' development efforts are directed to advancing multiple drug candidates through clinical trials to demonstrate proof-of-concept in humans, specifically in the areas of heart failure and cancer. Cytokinetics' cardiovascular disease program is focused to cardiac myosin, a motor protein essential to cardiac muscle contraction. Cytokinetics' lead compound, CK-1827452, a novel small molecule cardiac myosin activator, is anticipated to enter Phase II clinical trials for the treatment of heart failure in early 2007. Under a strategic alliance established in 2006, Cytokinetics and Amgen will conduct research with activators of cardiac myosin in order to identify potential treatments for patients with heart failure. Amgen has obtained an option for the joint development and commercialization of CK-1827452 exercisable during a defined period, the ending of which is dependent on Cytokinetics' conduct of further clinical trials of CK-1827452. Cytokinetics' cancer program is focused to mitotic kinesins, a family of motor proteins essential to cell division. Cytokinetics is developing two novel drug candidates that have arisen from this program, ispinesib and SB-743921, each a novel inhibitor of kinesin spindle protein (KSP), a mitotic kinesin. Ispinesib has been the subject of a broad clinical trials program comprised of nine Phase II clinical trials as well as six Phase I or Ib clinical trials. Cytokinetics plans to conduct additional clinical trials with ispinesib and is conducting a Phase I/II trial of SB-743921 in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Under a strategic alliance established in 2001, Cytokinetics and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) are conducting research and development activities focused towards the potential treatment of cancer. GSK has obtained an option for the joint development and commercialization of ispinesib and SB-743921, exercisable during a defined period. Cytokinetics and GSK are conducting collaborative research activities directed to the mitotic kinesin centromere-associated protein E (CENP-E). GSK-923295, a CENP-E inhibitor, is being developed under the strategic alliance by GSK; GSK is expected to begin clinical trials with GSK-923295 in 2007. All of these drug candidates have arisen from Cytokinetics' research activities and are directed towards the cytoskeleton. The cytoskeleton is a complex biological infrastructure that plays a fundamental role within every human cell. Cytokinetics' focus on the cytoskeleton enables it to develop novel and potentially safer and more effective classes of drugs directed at treatments for cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Additional information about Cytokinetics can be obtained at http://www.cytokinetics.com.

This press release contains forward-looking statements for purposes of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Act"). Cytokinetics disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements, and claims the protection of the Safe Harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Act. Examples of such statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the expected initiation, timing, scope and results of Cytokinetics' and its partners' research and development programs, including initiation of clinical trials, future presentations concerning Cytokinetics and its partners' research and development programs, anticipated dates of release of data from clinical trials; [the incremental costs Cytokinetics expects to incur in connection with its ispinesib development program;] and the potential benefits of Cytokinetics' drug candidates and potential drug candidates and the enabling capabilities of our biological focus. Such statements are based on management's current expectations, but actual results may differ materially due to various risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, that GSK or the NCI may decide to postpone or discontinue development efforts for GSK-923295 or ispinesib, respectively; that there may be difficulties or delays potential difficulties or delays in the development, testing, regulatory approval, production and marketing of Cytokinetics' drug candidates that could slow or prevent clinical development, product approval or market acceptance, including risks that current and past results of clinical trials or preclinical studies may not be indicative of future clinical trials results, patient enrollment for clinical trials may be difficult or delayed, Cytokinetics' drug candidates may have unexpected adverse side effects or inadequate therapeutic efficacy, and Cytokinetics may not be able to obtain and maintain patent or trade secret protection for its intellectual property; Cytokinetics may incur unanticipated research and development and other costs or be unable to obtain additional financing if necessary; and standards of care may change or others may introduce products or alternative therapies for the treatment of indications Cytokinetics' drug candidates and potential drug candidates currently or potentially target. For further information regarding these and other risks related to Cytokinetics' business, investors should consult Cytokinetics' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SOURCE Cytokinetics, Incorporated

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/CONTACT: Scott R. Jordan, Director, Corporate Development of Cytokinetics, Incorporated, +1-650-624-3000; or Investors, Clay Kramer, or Media, Justin Jackson, +1-212-213-0006, both of Burns McClellan, Inc./

/Web site: http://www.cytokinetics.com/

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