



Alethia BioTherapeutics Inc. announces the filing of a patent application for its ovarian cancer validated targets

MONTREAL, June 23, 2006 – Alethia BioTherapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company with innovative approaches for the treatment of cancer and related diseases, is pleased to announce today the filing of a provisional patent application encompassing the intellectual property surrounding validated targets that play an important functional role in ovarian cancer. These candidate genes were discovered using STAR (Subtractive Transcription-based Amplification of mRNA), a unique discovery platform developed by scientists at Alethia to identify key regulators of biological activity in diseased cells and tissues.

Ovarian cancer is a terrible disease that affects greater than 1 in 70 women in North America. Unfortunately, ovarian cancer is rarely diagnosed in its early stages and it is usually quite advanced by the time diagnosis is made. The 5-year survival rate for all stages is only 35% to 38%. If, however, diagnosis is made early in the disease, 5-year survival rates can reach 90% to 98%. These statistics clearly illustrate the urgent need for new therapeutic strategies both from a drug treatment approach as well as improved diagnosis tools.

Alethia's target discovery program is based on a collaborative effort between researchers at the University of Montreal (Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal, CHUM) and the Company's internal discovery and validation platform.

"These new targets represent a diverse collection of highly specific ovarian cancer markers that have then been prioritized on the basis of their tissue-specific expression profiles and finally subjected to validation as potential drug targets. We expect that some of these proteins will serve as excellent candidates for the development of highly-specific treatments for ovarian cancer," said Dr. Mario Filion, Alethia's chief scientific officer.

Mr. Yves Cornellier, Alethia's CEO commented, "There is tremendous value in these new targets since current treatments for ovarian cancer are currently limited and new therapeutic targets will permit novel strategies for attacking this deadly disease".

ABOUT ALETHIA BIOTHERAPEUTICS INC.

Established in 2002, Alethia BioTherapeutics is a Montreal-based biotechnology

company engaged in the discovery and development of therapeutics for the treatment of cancer and cancer-associated complications. Alethia applies its proprietary discovery platform for the identification and validation of therapeutic targets in cancer-induced bone loss and ovarian cancer.

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