



Stempeutics receives Japan process patent for its novel stem cell drug “Stempeucel®”

- ~ The first company in the world to be granted a Japanese process patent for a stem cell drug based on pooling technology
- ~ A new treatment which offers hope for patients suffering from Critical Limb Ischemia (CLI)
- ~ Offers new hope to millions of patients whose only treatment option is amputation

India, Bengaluru, June 8th, 2015: Stempeutics Research, a group company of Manipal Education and Medical Group and a Joint Venture with Cipla Group, announced today that it has been granted process patent from the Japan Patent Office (application no 2012-540529) for its novel stem-cell based drug Stempeucel®. The novelty covers the method of preparing master cell banks, working cell banks and the final therapeutic product “Stempeucel” based on the novel pooling technology. Stempeucel® will initially be used for the treatment of CLI, a breakthrough treatment option which directly addresses the root cause of the disease, unlike other drugs which typically treat the symptoms and not the disease itself.

Stempeucel® is derived from allogeneic pooled mesenchymal stromal cells extracted from the bone marrow of healthy, adult voluntary donors. The company proprietary pooling approach allows an efficient manufacturing process with minimum wastage of resources in order to provide the product at an affordable cost to patients. This approach also allows more than one million patient doses from a single set of master cell banks, which is unique in regenerative medicine. The proprietary technology allows Stempeucel® to extend the therapeutic potential of the drug across multiple disease categories.

Commenting on the Japan patent, **Mr B N Manohar, CEO of Stempeutics** said, “The new patent strengthens our position in Japan, which have created an accelerated development path for stem cell therapies. The new regenerative medicine law implemented in Japan allows conditional approval of stem cell products thereby enabling more rapid entry into the Japanese market. We are actively evaluating the potential for accelerated development of Stempeucel product for Critical Limb Ischemia and Osteoarthritis indications in Japan with strategic collaborations.”

Mr Chandru Chawla Head Cipla New Ventures said, “Japan is showing great leadership in innovating a regulatory framework for regenerative medicine thereby addressing major unmet medical needs faster. We would like to leverage this new framework for rapid development of our Stempeucel product for the benefit of patients along with a potential partner.”



About Stempeutics:

Stempeutics is an advanced clinical stage Biotech Company based out of Bangalore. It was founded by Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG) in 2006 and later entered into a strategic alliance with Cipla in 2009. Stempeutics strength lies in developing innovative stem cell products by nurturing cutting edge research and clinical applications through dedicated efforts of its highly qualified team. Its goal is to develop novel stem cell drugs addressing major unmet medical needs with an India first global next approach.

About Manipal Education & Medical Group:

Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG) is one of the leaders in the country, in the field of education and healthcare services, with a global footprint. MEMG, through its subsidiaries, provides education and healthcare services in India and internationally. It manages universities and professional institutions, including medical colleges, teaching hospitals, and medical science and technology institutions through which it provides bachelor's and master's degree programs in various streams. It also operates a facility management company, Manipal Integrated Services (MIS) covering student accommodation & hostel management and several other services including food and catering; engineering and maintenance and security and housekeeping. The company also manages healthcare institutions, super-specialty care hospitals, rural maternity and child welfare homes. In addition, the company researches and develops stem cell technologies in various medicine and treatment areas. Manipal Education and Medical Group International India Pvt. Ltd. was founded in 1953 and is based in Bengaluru, India with education colleges and campuses in Antigua, Dubai, Malaysia, and Nepal.

About Cipla Limited

Cipla is a global pharmaceutical company which uses cutting edge technology and innovation to meet the everyday needs of all patients. For more than 70 years, Cipla has emerged as one of the most respected pharmaceutical names in India as well as across more than 150 countries. Cipla's portfolio includes over 1500 products across wide range of therapeutic categories with one quality standard globally.

Whilst delivering a long-term sustainable business, Cipla recognises its duty to provide affordable medicines. Cipla's emphasis on access for patients was recognised globally for the pioneering role played in HIV/AIDS treatment as the first pharmaceutical company to provide a triple combination anti-retroviral (ARV) in Africa at less than one dollar a day and thereby treating many millions of patients since 2001.

Cipla's research and development focuses on developing innovative products and drug delivery systems and has given India and the world many 'firsts' for instance Triomune. In a tightly regulated environment, the company's manufacturing facilities have approvals from all the main regulators including USFDA, UKMHRA, WHO, MCC, ANVISA, and PMDA which means the company provides one universal standard both domestically and internationally.



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