



Cytokinetics Announces Non-Clinical Data Relating to Its Skeletal Muscle Contractility Program to Be Presented at the Biophysical Society 53rd Annual Meeting

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SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA, Feb 23, 2009 (MARKET WIRE via COMTEX) -- Cytokinetics, Incorporated (NASDAQ: CYTK) announced today that three abstracts summarizing non-clinical data regarding its skeletal muscle contractility program are scheduled to be presented as poster presentations at the Biophysical Society 53rd Annual Meeting to be held February 28 - March 4, 2009 in Boston, Massachusetts. Cytokinetics' skeletal muscle contractility program is focused on the discovery and development of novel, small molecule activators of the skeletal muscle troponin complex. Activation of the troponin complex increases its sensitivity to calcium subsequently leading to an increase in skeletal muscle contractility.

Recently, the company announced that it plans to file an IND in 2009 for CK-2017357, a skeletal muscle activator, which had been selected for development in April 2008. This compound is the lead potential drug candidate which has arisen from the company's skeletal muscle contractility program. The company also recently announced that it has designated a second skeletal muscle activator from this research program for development.

Poster Presentations at Biophysical Society 53rd Annual Meeting

The following abstracts are scheduled to be presented at the Biophysical Society 53rd Annual Meeting:

Abstract #1189-Pos: "The Fast Skeletal Troponin Activator, CK-1909178, Increases Skeletal Muscle Force in-vitro and in-situ." The poster presentation is scheduled on Monday, March 2, 2009 during the Muscle Regulation II Poster Session in Hall A, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The presenters, Alan Russell Ph.D. and Ken Lee, Cytokinetics, Inc., South San Francisco, CA will be present from 1:45 PM - 2:45 PM at poster board #B33.

Abstract #1190-Pos: "The Small Molecule Skeletal Sarcomere Activator, CK-1909178, is a Calcium Sensitizer that Binds Selectively to the Fast Skeletal Troponin Complex." The poster presentation is scheduled on Monday, March 2, 2009 during the Muscle Regulation II Poster Session in Hall A, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The presenter, James Hartman Ph.D., Cytokinetics, Inc., South San Francisco, CA will be present from 2:45 PM - 3:45 PM at poster board #B34.

Abstract #3178-Pos: "An Automated Apparatus for Isometric Force Analysis of Skinned Muscle Fibers." The poster presentation is scheduled on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 during the Muscle: Fiber & Molecular Mechanics & Structure II Poster Session in Hall A, Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The presenter, Richard Hansen Ph.D., Cytokinetics, Inc., South San Francisco, CA will be present from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM at poster board #B225.

About Cytokinetics

Cytokinetics is a biopharmaceutical company with a focus on muscle contractility that engages in the discovery, development and commercialization of novel small molecule drugs that may address areas of significant unmet clinical needs. Cytokinetics' cardiovascular disease program is focused on cardiac myosin, a motor protein essential to cardiac muscle contraction. Cytokinetics' lead compound from this program, CK-1827452, a novel small molecule cardiac myosin activator, is in Phase II clinical trials for the treatment of heart failure. Amgen Inc. has obtained an option for an exclusive license to develop and commercialize CK-1827452, subject to Cytokinetics' development and commercial participation rights. In April 2008, Cytokinetics announced the selection of a potential drug candidate, CK-2017357, directed towards skeletal muscle contractility which may be developed as a potential treatment for skeletal muscle weakness associated with neuromuscular diseases or other conditions. In January 2009, Cytokinetics announced the selection of a potential drug candidate directed towards smooth muscle contractility which may be developed as a potential treatment for diseases associated with bronchoconstriction and vasoconstriction.

Cytokinetics' cancer program is focused on mitotic kinesins, a family of motor proteins essential to cell division. Cytokinetics is developing two drug candidates that have arisen from this program, ispinesib and SB-743921, each an inhibitor of kinesin spindle protein, a mitotic kinesin. In addition, Cytokinetics and GlaxoSmithKline are conducting research and development activities focused on GSK-923295, an inhibitor of centromere-associated protein E.

All of these drug candidates and potential 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. Additional information about Cytokinetics can be obtained at 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 Act's safe harbor for forward-looking statements. Examples of such statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to planned presentations and the potential benefits of Cytokinetics' drug candidates and potential drug candidates. 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, potential difficulties or delays in the development, testing, regulatory approval and production of Cytokinetics' drug candidates and potential drug candidates that could slow or prevent clinical development or product approval, including risks that current and past results of clinical trials or preclinical studies may not be indicative of future clinical trials results and that Cytokinetics' drug candidates and potential drug candidates may have unexpected adverse side effects or inadequate therapeutic efficacy. For further information regarding these and other risks related to Cytokinetics' business, investors should consult Cytokinetics' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Contacts: [
Christopher S. Keenan
Director, Investor Relations
(650) 624-3000

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