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MTTI receives patent approval for technology to identify dead and dying cells in patients

October 28, 2014, West Chester, Pennsylvania. Molecular Targeting Technologies, Inc., (MTTI) announced that a new patent, which they have exclusively licensed from the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) has been granted by the Patent Office. This patent, US 8,778,303, is a continuation-in-part (CIP) of a previously granted patent, and significantly expands the scope of claims for unique molecules that can be used in imaging cell death associated with a variety of diseases.

"We are excited about MTTI's aggressive plan to develop the compounds encompassed by this patent into radiopharmaceuticals to benefit clinicians and their patients," said Jim Antczak, Ph.D., a licensing manager in MCW's Office of Technology Development.

In commenting on the potential use of this technology, Professor Jagat Narula, Associate Dean of Global Health of Mt Sinai Medical School said "In the event of heart attack, heart muscle cells are lost which are not replaceable. It is of paramount importance to identify cell death in its earliest stages wherein they may be rescued. The earliest form of cell death is represented by a process of apoptosis or cellular suicide in which some of the components situated on the undersurface of the cell membrane of the heart muscle cells flip out and can be targeted by these designer molecules with special imaging process. MTTI's duramycin technology identifies one such component called phosphatidylethanolamine and can be documented by an appropriate imaging technique. It is quite like 'tracking epitaphs for counting coffins.'"

Chris Pak, President and CEO of MTTI said, "We are excited by the validation of this imaging technology by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute through the awarding of a Small Business Innovation Research contract and by the strengthening of the intellectual property through approval of the CIP."

Molecular Targeting Technologies, Inc. (MTTI) is a privately held biotechnology company primarily focused on the acquisition and development of novel technologies for treatment and diagnosis of human diseases. MTTI has licensed and is developing two major technology platforms to provide: (i) novel small molecule drug conjugate (SMDC) cancer therapeutic, and (ii) in vivo imaging agents. Please visit our website: www.mtarget.com for more information.

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is Wisconsin's only private medical school and health sciences graduate school. Founded in 1893, it is dedicated to leadership and excellence in education, patient care, research and service. Please visit MCW's website: www.mcw.edu for more information.

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