



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Zn-DPA Cardiac Imaging Study presented by L. wyffels wins the Young Investigator Competition at 2010 WMIC in Kyoto, Japan

September 22, 2010, West Chester, Pennsylvania, Molecular Targeting Technologies, Inc., (MTTI) and University of Arizona (UA), Tucson, AZ announced that Dr. Leonie wyffels at the University of Arizona placed first in the Young Investigator Competition at 2010 World Molecular Imaging Congress in Kyoto, Japan. Dr. wyffels, a postdoctoral fellow, who works with Drs. Harrison Barrett and Zhonglin Liu in the Center for Gamma-Ray Imaging (CGRI) of UA, presented their study results entitled: "Targeting of myocardial necrosis and apoptosis using a novel small molecule probe, bis (zinc(II)-dipicolylamine) complex (Zn-DPA)."

Zn-DPA technology can selectively target dead and dying mammalian cells as well as bacteria. When the targeting component is attached to a probe, it has been successfully shown to identify necrosis as well as apoptosis in myocardium.

According to Professor Bradley Smith, inventor of Zn-DPA from University of Notre Dame, "This unique probe can be used to image cell death as a means to intervene early in diseases and rapidly determine the effectiveness of treatments. Imaging of cell death is broadly useful for treatment of numerous conditions, including cancer, cardiovascular diseases, neurology, renal diseases and even transplant rejection."

Dr. Zhonglin Liu, Research Professor of Radiology at UA, pointed out the great potential of this radiolabeled Zn-DPA for noninvasively targeting and imaging myocardial apoptosis and necrosis. "It could lead to a marketable cardiac imaging agent for detection of ischemia due to acute coronary syndrome in chest pain patients. We first explored the feasibility of radiolabeling this small molecule with technetium-99m, a radionuclide with broad clinical utility. Our current preclinical results are very promising for detection and quantification of myocardial ischemia. We expect this novel small molecule probe could be a significant addition to the Nuclear Cardiology in diagnosis of chest pain patients"

Chris Pak, President and CEO of MTTI said, "I want to congratulate Dr. wyffels in winning this prestigious award. Zn-DPA targeting probe can be used for *in vitro* applications as well as for *in vivo* molecular imaging. We believe that this technology that MTTI licensed from University of Notre Dame has the potential to target Parkinson disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer and bacterial infections. "

University of Notre Dame

Founded in 1842, the University of Notre Dame is the nation's pre-eminent Catholic university and rated among the top 25 of all U.S. institutions of higher learning. Notre Dame offers its nearly 12,000 students a choice of over 60 undergraduate majors, 32 master's, and 23 doctoral degree programs. Rated as a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University-Extensive, Notre Dame boasts 4 colleges, 3 schools, 10 major research institutes, more than 40 centers and special programs, and the University's well-respected Hesburgh libraries system.

Molecular Targeting Technologies, Inc.

Molecular Targeting Technologies, Inc. (MTTI) is a privately held US based Biotechnology Company founded to develop novel medical imaging products for the diagnosis of cardiovascular disease and cancer. In addition, MTTI develops fluorescent probes and other research tools for use by the research community. Current research reagent product lines include PSVue™ (Zn-DPA analogs), CellVue®, NeuroVue®, SRfluor®, (novel proprietary fluorescent squaraine-rotaxane dyes with excellent fluorescence properties) and novel immobilized steroid beads.

Center for Gamma-Ray Imaging (CGRI), the University of Arizona

CGRI is a research resource funded by the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB). The overall objective of the Center is to develop new gamma-ray imaging instruments with dramatically improved spatial and temporal resolution, to make them available to a wide community of biomedical and clinical researchers. CGRI aims to translate the advances in biomedical imaging into specific investigations of important biomedical topics. The center conducts collaborative research on molecular imaging studies in cardiovascular disease, cancer, and neurology using novel radiotracers, small-animal models, and state-of-the-art gamma-ray imaging systems.

#####

Contacts:

Chris Pak, e-mail: cpak@mtarget.com; Tel: (610) 738-7938

Zhonglin Liu, email: zliu@email.arizona.edu; Tel: (520)626-4248