Blaze Bioscience Announces NCI SBIR Phase II Funding for Clinical Trial of Tumor Paint™ BLZ-100 in Sarcoma

BLZ-100 clinical program expands beyond brain and skin cancers
Competitive SBIR Phase II contract follows successful Phase I contract in veterinary setting

SEATTLE, WA – October 8, 2014 –Blaze Bioscience, Inc.,a biotechnology company focused on guided cancer therapy, announced today that the company has been awarded a $1.5 million Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II contract from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to study Tumor Paint BLZ-100 in patients with soft tissue sarcoma[1]. The company received this award after the successful completion of the Phase I contract, which studied BLZ-100 in canine patients with multiple tumor types. The award will fund the Phase 1b study in human patients with soft tissue sarcoma undergoing tumor resection. The company recently announced the initiation of their Phase 1b program in brain cancer.

Like brain cancer, soft tissue sarcoma represents an orphan indication with a high unmet need which disproportionately affects young people. In an attempt to stop the rapid spread of this aggressive cancer surgeons strive to get all of the tumor during the procedure, often taking large amounts of normal tissue in an attempt to ensure a complete resection. “Our goal with BLZ-100 in sarcoma is to provide surgeons with the ability to see and resect the cancer cells, improving the chances of achieving a complete resection with negative tumor margins,” said Dennis Miller, Ph.D., Blaze Bioscience’s Senior Vice President and Principal Investigator on the NCI contract.

“This follow-on NCI award provides additional validation of the potential utility of Tumor Paint technology,” said Blaze Bioscience President and CEO, Heather Franklin. “With this funding for the new trial in sarcoma, it is possible that we may demonstrate initial clinical proof of principle for BLZ-100 in both brain cancer and sarcoma by the end of 2015.”

BLZ-100 is the first product candidate from Blaze’s Tumor Paint platform and consists of an Optide (optimized peptide), which binds and internalizes into cancer cells, and a fluorescent dye, which emits light in the near-infrared range. Tumor Paint products are designed to provide real-time, high-resolution intraoperative visualization of cancer cells, enabling more precise, complete resection of cancer throughout surgery. Preclinical utility has been demonstrated in a wide range of cancer types, including brain, lung, breast, prostate, colorectal, skin, and sarcomas.

About Blaze Bioscience

Blaze Bioscience, Inc. is a privately held biotechnology company focused on guided cancer therapy. Blaze was founded in 2010 by Dr. Jim Olson, a pediatric neuro-oncologist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Seattle Children’s Hospital, and Heather Franklin, a former senior business executive from ZymoGenetics, and is working to develop Tumor Paint™ products and Optide-based guided cancer therapeutics. Surgery is first line therapy for most solid tumor cancers and Tumor Paint products intend to improve cancer surgery by providing real-time, high-resolution visualization of cancer cells throughout surgery. The ability to see cancer cells in real time and high resolution throughout surgery should enable better detection and more complete and precise surgical removal of cancer—while sparing surrounding normal tissue. Blaze has an ongoing

[1] $1.5 million of the program will be financed with federal funds from National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health under Contract No. HHSN261201400046C. An estimated twenty-nine percent (29%) of costs will be funded by the Company.

collaboration with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center focused on the discovery and development of Optide-based products for use as guided therapeutics. For additional information, please visit www.blazebioscience.com.

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