



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: John McB. Hodgson/Mytogen, Inc.
(M) 480-678-5770
Email: jhodgson@mytogen.com

Christopher Allman/Cordis Cardiology
(O) 786-313-2303
(M) 305-586-6024
Email: Callman1@crdus.jnj.com

Adult Autologous Cell Therapy Improves Symptoms of Congestive Heart Failure In Small Investigational Clinical Trial

Trial Highlights Importance of Targeted Delivery

New Orleans, LA -- March 25, 2007 – Clinical data from a small investigational trial presented today suggest that patients with congestive heart failure experienced improvements in their symptoms at three and six months after therapeutic adult autologous cell implantation. This was the first study in the United States to use a three-dimensional (3-D) catheter guidance system called the NOGA[®] Cardiac Navigation System and an investigational injection catheter known as MYOSTAR[™] to deliver muscle cells to the heart. Data were announced here at the American College of Cardiology's 56th Annual Scientific Session.

“In this study, we learned that minimally invasive, guided adult stem cell transplantation may have the potential to improve cardiac function,” said Nabil Dib, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.C.C., Director, Clinical Cardiovascular Cell Therapy, University of California, San Diego. “We will continue to monitor these patients to determine if these results are maintained and will explore additional clinical research in a larger number of patients. We are cautiously optimistic about these preliminary results and look forward to additional studies.”

At both 3- and 6-month follow-up, patients receiving the cell transplant experienced marked and statistically significant improvements in heart failure symptoms, and showed beneficial ventricular remodeling while patients in the control group (maximal medical therapy) worsened in these same measures. In addition, patients receiving the cell transplant exhibited no higher rate of arrhythmia, or irregular heart rhythms, than those in the control group on average.

The study included 23 patients with severe ischemic congestive heart failure, a condition in which areas of the heart are failing because of the presence of scarred, inelastic tissue. Twelve patients received autologous cell transplants of myoblasts (precursor muscle cells from the patient's own body) while the others continued on maximal medical therapy that included B-blockers, ACE inhibitors and pacemakers/ICDs. Cells were obtained from each patient's thigh muscle, processed to isolate and expand myoblasts, and then transplanted back into their own heart scar tissue during a cardiac catheterization procedure.

- more -

“This work advances the growing body of clinical data documenting the potential benefits of autologous myoblast transplantation in heart failure patients,” said Dr. Dib. “Furthermore, tissue viability resulting from these cellular transplants could be detected after 3 months by comparison of patients’ NOGA electromechanical maps.”

This study used the NOGA[®] Cardiac Navigation System and the investigational MYOSTAR[™] Injection Catheter*, both from Biologics Delivery Systems Group, Cordis Corporation. The NOGA[®] Cardiac Navigation System combines diagnostic mapping with guided therapeutic delivery. Operating like a mini-GPS system, it provides exact 3-D visualization of the heart chamber, including electrical viability and wall motion data, which is intended to help the physician identify both scar tissue and viable myocardium. This accurate characterization of the underlying tissue enables precise targeting of heart muscle that could potentially benefit from investigational therapy.

Cells (myoblasts)** in this study were harvested from a patient’s thigh muscle using Mytogen’s patented proprietary technique. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has allowed Mytogen to proceed with a Phase II randomized, double blind, placebo controlled, multi-center clinical trial including up to 160 patients to further study the effectiveness of cell transplantation.

***MYOSTAR[™] Injection Catheter is not available for sale in the United States; in use in IND investigations.**

****Caution: New Drug – Limited by Federal law to investigational use.**

About Mytogen, Inc.

Mytogen, Inc. is a privately held biopharmaceutical company founded in Phoenix, AZ, with operations in both Arizona and Massachusetts, and is focused on the development and commercialization of novel cell based therapies that improve patient outcome in the field of cardiovascular medicine. Mytogen’s main cell processing laboratories in Charlestown, Massachusetts are currently supporting two U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized clinical trials employing its autologous skeletal myoblast therapy. Additional information on Mytogen is available at www.mytogen.com.

About Biologics Delivery Systems Group, Cordis Corporation

Biologics Delivery Systems Group, Cordis Corporation, is a leader in the emerging field of biologics delivery, developing breakthrough technology in targeted delivery across multiple disease states and clinical specialties. Biologics Delivery Systems delivery technology is advancing the standard of care by enabling physicians to identify and visualize optimal delivery sites, and to precisely target single and multiple treatment sites. Biologics Delivery Systems currently markets the second generation NOGA[®] XP Cardiac Navigation System, which is being used in more than 17 ongoing clinical trials throughout the world.

About Cordis

Cordis Corporation, a Johnson & Johnson company, is a worldwide leader in developing and manufacturing interventional vascular technology. Through the company’s innovation, research and development, physicians worldwide are better able to treat the millions of patients who suffer from vascular disease.

