

AdnaGen AG and OncoVista Innovative Therapies Inc., Announce the Issuance in the U.S. of a Key Patent Related to Technology for the Detection and Analysis of Circulating Tumor Cells.

Patent covers core technology for the detection and molecular analysis of rare cells including EMT and cancer stem cells.

Langenhagen, Germany; San Antonio, TX, USA, March 27, 2009

AdnaGen AG, a molecular diagnostics company, and subsidiary of OncoVista Inc., (OTCBB:OVIT.OB), focused on the detection and molecular analysis of tumor cells from the blood of cancer patients has been issued a core-patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. United States Patent 7,507,528 issued Mar 24, 2009, and titled "Method and Diagnosis Kit for Selecting and or Qualitative and/or Quantitative Detection of Cells", claims broad methods for the identification and molecular analysis of rare cells, particularly circulating tumor cells, in the presence of a large excess of unrelated cells.

A corresponding European Patent EP 1 409 727 with a priority date of Nov 6, 2001 was previously issued on Nov 9, 2005. Patent applications are also pending in Canada and Japan. This patent is part of a portfolio of several patents (issued and applied for) covering the entire procedure from sample handling to molecular profiling of the cell population of interest.

Winfried Albert, Ph.D., AdnaGen's Managing Director, commented: "This patent is a major milestone in our commercial efforts to extend our business activities to the United States. This patent will protect the unique position of AdnaGen in the field and will help us to realize significant revenues through sales of our own products and from the formation of diagnostics partnerships."

OncoVista's Chief Executive Officer, Alexander L. Weis, Ph.D., stated, "We believe that the proprietary AdnaGen diagnostic technology will expedite development of targeted cancer therapies and will prove to be a valuable diagnostic and prognostic tool for oncologists. The issuance of the US patent provides validation for the novelty of the AdnaGen approach and affords protection for our intellectual property."

Significance of Circulating Tumor Cells as Biomarkers for Metastatic Disease

It has been demonstrated that the presence of tumor cells in patient blood is an early indicator of metastasis and may signal tumor spread sooner than clinical symptoms appear and imaging results confirm an inferior prognosis. The reduction in tumor-associated biomarkers from the patient's circulation during therapy may provide an indication of positive response to treatment. It has been shown that patients with metastatic disease who have no circulating tumor cell biomarkers have a significantly longer overall survival than patients who test positive for such biomarkers. The detection and analysis of biomarkers from circulating tumor cells should allow a greater level of personalized treatment than was previously possible.

AdnaGen AG has developed, and is marketing in Europe, CE-marked tests for the detection and molecular analysis of circulating tumor cells in breast, colon and prostate cancer patients. A test for ovarian cancer will also be available soon.

Furthermore, AdnaGen's technology is the first to allow the detection and analysis of stem cell and EMT (epithelial-mesenchymal transition) markers on circulating tumor cells at the molecular level, thus offering new tools for clinical research and drug development (patent applied for). Kits for the analysis of these markers on circulating tumor cells are available for research use.

About AdnaGen AG

AdnaGen was founded in 1999 as a privately held biotechnology research and development company based in Langenhagen, Germany. AdnaGen was recently acquired by OncoVista Inc. and is now a part of an integrated healthcare organisation.

AdnaGen is ISO 9001 and EN 13485 certified. For more information, go to www.adnagen.com.

About OncoVista Innovative Therapies

OncoVista is a biopharmaceutical company engaged in the development and commercialization of targeted cancer therapies which are more efficacious and less toxic. Further information on OncoVista can be found at www.oncovista.com.

Forward-Looking Statements: A number of statements contained in this press release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the applicable statements. These risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the applicable statements.