



## **Lypro Biosciences Receives Competitively Renewed Phase II NIH SBIR Grant to Develop Novel Antifungal Nanoparticle**

June 29, 2010

San Francisco, CA – Lypro Biosciences, Inc. (Lypro Bio), a privately-held nanotechnology company focused on improving and targeting the delivery of drugs, announced the receipt of a competitively renewed Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant to develop a novel therapy for aspergillosis. The grant, funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), provides support to apply NanoDisk technology to the treatment of Aspergillosis and other severe systemic fungal infections. NanoDisk nanoparticle is a ternary complex comprised of a scaffold which binds and stabilizes a lipid bilayer into which therapeutic compounds are incorporated. NanoDisk increases the solubility and bioavailability of the therapeutic yielding a more potent and efficacious therapy.

Aspergillosis, a lethal systemic fungal infection, is caused by the mold *Aspergillus fumigatus* which is commonly found in soil. Anyone spending time outdoors, gardening, or around grain silos may be exposed to the fungus. While infections are rare in those with a normal immune system, they are prevalent in immune compromised populations such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, and organ transplant patients. Invasive pulmonary aspergillosis causes death in each of these patient populations and is now a leading cause of death in recipients of bone marrow transplants. Despite the number of systemic antifungals available to clinicians, mortality rates for aspergillosis are as high as 90%. These patients often suffer other diseases leaving them especially weak. A faster acting therapy, one that quickly kills the aspergillus infection, is a critical need.

Lypro Bio will collaborate with Dr. Michael N. Oda of Children's Hospital of Oakland Research Institute. "In our collaboration thus far we've taken a broad spectrum anti-fungal that is normally very toxic and improved its safety and potency," said Dr. Oda. "This indicates that the NanoDisk delivery vehicle significantly improves the drug's effectiveness and safety."

"We are very excited to continue our work with Dr. Oda and are pleased to have the additional support from NIAID. We anticipate that this study will demonstrate that the NanoDisk formulation is faster-acting, and hence more efficacious, than other formulations of amphotericin B," said Trudy M. Forte, Director of Research of Lypro Bio.

### About Lypro Biosciences

Lypro Biosciences, Inc. is preclinical stage therapeutic company, located in the San Francisco Bay Area and financed by angel investors including Life Science Angels. Lypro Bio's proprietary nanotechnology drug delivery platform, NanoDisk, has applications across numerous disease indications. Its product pipeline includes therapies for infectious diseases such as aspergillosis and leishmaniasis, as well as for cancers such as mantle cell lymphoma.

#### Contacts:

Michelle S. Call, President and CEO

Lypro Biosciences, Inc.

[info@lyprobio.com](mailto:info@lyprobio.com)

[www.lyprobio.com](http://www.lyprobio.com)

---