IMMUNOMEDICS’ CANCER IMAGING PRODUCT REPORTED TO IMPROVE DETECTION OF BREAST CANCER METASTASES

CEA-Scan® Images Combined with Spiral CT in Breast Cancer Patients

San Antonio, TX, December 11, 2001 -- Immunomedics, Inc. (Nasdaq:IMMU) today announced that its approved diagnostic imaging product for colorectal cancer, arcitumomab (CEA-Scan), was the subject of a presentation made at the 24th Annual San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium. The paper was authored by Dr. Joshua Rettig of the Arlington Cancer Center in Arlington, Texas.

In patients with suspected spread, or metastasis, of breast cancer, it is important to confirm the presence and location of these distant sites of disease. The study reported by Dr. Rettig involved 14 patients, 13 women and 1 man, with confirmed breast cancer and whose computed tomography (CT) findings do not show certain evidence of tumor metastases, although their blood values of carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) are elevated, suggesting disease spread.

The Texas researcher found that combining the images made by CEA-Scan with those of spiral CT could improve the detection of breast cancer metastases. In this series of 14 patients, 15 additional sites of cancer were found by this combined imaging process in patients with a positive CT that did not change with time, and in 4 patients equivocal CT lesions could be confirmed by the CEA antibody imaging study.

“Since we knew that these patients were making more CEA by their tumors, we postulated that using a CEA imaging kit, such as CEA-Scan, may enable us to more precisely find sites of CEA-expressing breast cancer metastases, especially in patients whose CT results were suggestive or equivocal for cancer,” Dr. Rettig explained. He said further: “This method of CT/antibody co-registration appears to be a valuable tool for the detection of metastatic carcinoma, was found to be well tolerated and convenient, being a same-day procedure.”

Immunomedics’ President and CEO, Cynthia L. Sullivan, commented: “These new clinical findings, supporting prior publications on the use of CEA-Scan in the detection of primary and metastatic breast cancer, support our considering further studies to assess its role in the management of breast cancer patients, and also to advance our therapeutic trials with our CEA therapy product, CEA-Cide™ in patients with metastatic breast cancer.”

CEA-Scan (arcitumomab) is described in the Company’s web site, www.CEA-Scan.com, and is currently being marketed in the U.S. and Europe as a diagnostic imaging test for colorectal cancer metastases. The product consists of an antibody fragment made against CEA, and
labeled by a simple, rapid method with the radioisotope, technetium-99m. After injection into the bloodstream, the small amount of radiolabeled antibody fragment deposits at the sites of CEA-expression, enabling a nuclear medicine physician to detect these elevations of radioactivity by means of a sensitive nuclear scanning camera, thus pinpointing sites of presumed CEA-expressing cancers. The imaging method is usually completed within a few hours of injecting the diagnostic imaging product, so that a diagnosis can be made on the same day.

Immunomedics is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development, manufacture and commercialization of diagnostic imaging and therapeutic products for the detection and treatment of cancer and infectious diseases. Integral to these products are highly specific monoclonal antibodies and antibody fragments designed to deliver radioisotopes and chemotherapeutic agents to tumors and sites of infection. Immunomedics has five therapeutic products in clinical trials and two marketed diagnostic imaging products. The most advanced therapeutic products are LymphoCide™ (epratuzumab), which is in Phase III clinical trials for the treatment of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, and CEA-Cide™ (labetuzumab), which is in Phase I/II clinical trials for the treatment of certain solid tumors.

This release, in addition to historical information, contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements, including the statements regarding future clinical trials, involve significant risks and uncertainties and actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied herein. Factors that could cause such differences include, but are not limited to, risks associated with new product development (including clinical trials outcome and regulatory requirements/actions), competitive risks to marketed products and availability of financing and other sources of capital, as well as the risks discussed in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the quarter ended June 30, 2001.


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