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Brainstorm Announces Milestone Towards ALS Clinical Trials

NEW YORK & PETACH TIKVAH, ISRAEL--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc. (OTCBB:BCLI), a leading developer of adult stem cell technologies and therapeutics, announced today that bone marrow cells taken from ALS patients were capable of differentiating into nerve-supporting cells.

The company tested ALS patients' bone marrow stem cells in order to confirm that these stem cells could undergo BrainStorm's differentiation procedure to secrete NeuroTrophic Factors (NTF) and used for treatment by back transplantation into the patients.

The experiments performed at BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics' research laboratories showed that the stem cells isolated from bone marrow of healthy donors and ALS patients were similar, as indicated by all the morphological and biochemical parameters tested. In addition, the cellular expansion potential of stem cells from the healthy donors and from the patients was comparable. Most important, cells from both, the healthy donors and the patients, secreted NeuroTrophic Factors (NTF) after applying Brainstorm's unique differentiation protocols.

BrainStorm will now complete all of its preparations for pre-clinical trials to be followed by clinical trials based on the company's proposed stem cell therapy.

Prof. Daniel Offen, Brainstorm's Chief Scientist, said: "The differentiated stem cells express specific proteins characteristic of brain (glial) cells and secrete NeuroTrophic Factors (NTF), such as GDNF and BDNF, which are essential for survival of existing neurons and encourage the growth and regeneration of new neurons".

He added that "Our results show that ALS patient's cells are capable of undergoing expansion and differentiation. Hence, it appears that bone marrow derived stem cells from ALS patients may be beneficial for therapy through autologous (self) transplantation, using Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics' process."

As previously announced, Brainstorm has now begun the process of growing its NTF cells according to the regulatory authority standards at Protein Production Services (PPS) Ltd facilities. BrainStorm plans to proceed with final pre-clinical studies at Harlan Biotech Israel Ltd (HBI) whereby Brainstorm will be ready to submit an application for human clinical trials in Israel to the Ministry of Health.

About BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics, Inc.

BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc. is an emerging company developing adult stem cell therapeutic products, derived from autologous (self) bone marrow cells, for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. The patent pending technology is based on discoveries made by the scientific team led by Professor Eldad Melamed, former Head of Neurology at Rabin Medical Center, and cell biologist Professor Daniel Offen, Head of the Neuroscience Laboratory at the Felsenstein Medical Research Center of Tel-Aviv University. The technology allows for the differentiation of bone marrow-derived stem cells into functional neurons and astrocytes, as demonstrated in animal models. The Company holds rights to develop and commercialize the technology through an exclusive, worldwide licensing agreement with Ramot at Tel Aviv University Ltd., the technology transfer company of Tel-Aviv University. The Company's current focus is on ALS and Parkinson's, although its technology has promise for treating several others diseases including MS, Huntington's disease and stroke.

Safe Harbor Statement

Statements in this announcement other than historical data and information constitute "forward-looking statements" and involve risks and uncertainties that could cause BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.'s actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied by such forward-looking statements, including BrainStorm's ability to complete its equity financing transactions previously disclosed. The potential risks and uncertainties include, among others, risks associated with BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.'s limited operating history, history of losses and expectation to incur losses for the foreseeable future; minimal working capital and difficulty raising additional capital, dependence on its license to Ramot's technology; ability, together with its licensor, to adequately protect the technology; dependence on key executives and on its scientific consultants; ability to identify, negotiate and successfully implement strategic partnering relationships; ability to complete clinical trials successfully and to obtain required regulatory approvals; competition with companies, some of which have greater resources and experience in developing and obtaining regulatory approval for treatments in BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.'s market; the limited public trading market for BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.'s stock which may never develop into an active market; and other factors detailed in BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.'s annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission available at <http://www.sec.gov> or by request to the Company. The Company does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements made by us.

Contacts

BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics
Rami Efrati, CEO, +972-3-9236384
efrati@brainstorm-cell.com