



21st Century Therapeutics, Inc.

1366 Hilton Road
Ferndale, MI 48220

For Immediate Release

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Pharmaceutical Research Firm Receives a \$186 K Contract from NCI

Ferndale based 21st Century Therapeutics, Inc. (21CTI) received a Phase I SBIR Contract of \$186K from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as a 100% funding source to develop a small-molecule Tumor Necrosis Factor- α (TNF- α) inhibitor as a radioprotector to reduce radiotherapy-induced side effects. According to 21CTI's CEO, Dr. Frederick Valeriote, this is the first SBIR Contract received by 21CTI.

"This research contract will help us further the preclinical development of UTL-5g as a radioprotector", said Valeriote. This 9-month contract is the first phase of the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Contract sponsored by the NCI.

According to 21CTI's president and the Principal Investigator of this study, Dr. JJ Shaw, radiotherapy is widely used in cancer treatment, but induces both tissue and organ damage which can both limit the dose of radiation and cause serious, sometimes life-threatening, side effects. Based on the previously completed studies by 21CTI, pretreatment of UTL-5g reduced liver damage induced by irradiation; this successful outcome resulted in a new patent application. Based on these promising results, 21CTI plans to use this newly awarded Phase I SBIR contract to continue the preclinical development of UTL-5g as a radioprotector. If successful, 21CTI will apply for the Phase II Contract to take the drug to clinical trials.

21CTI is a private pharmaceutical discovery and development company, specializing in cancer and immune-mediated diseases. In addition to UTL-5g, the company has several other anticancer agents and immune modulators in preclinical development.

This release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those described in these forward-looking statements due to certain factors, including changes in business, economic and competitive conditions, regulatory reforms, foreign exchanges rate fluctuations, uncertainties in litigation or investigative proceedings, and the availability of financing. 21CTI's management does not undertake any responsibility to update the forward-looking statements contained in this release.

Contact: Frederick Valeriote or JJ Shaw (248) 545-0595, (586) 863-8298, (734) 330-6052

Website: www.21-cti.com

e-mail: jshaw@21-cti.com