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July 16, 2012

For Immediate Release

Pharmaceutical Research Firm Signs Agreement with a Mississippi Biotech Company for anti-MRSA Antibiotic Drug Development

Ferndale, Michigan based 21st Century Therapeutics, Inc. (21CTI) signed an agreement with the Oxford, Mississippi-based biotech company, Oxford Pharmaceuticals (Oxford), to develop a novel anti-MRSA (methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus) antibiotic to combat this devastating hospital-based bacterial infection. 21CTI's CEO, Dr. Frederick Valeriote indicated that "MRSA strains are often resistant to many other common antibiotics such as streptomycin, erythromycin and ciprofloxacin making it especially dangerous as this multiple drug resistance greatly limits potentially effective antibiotics. Indeed, some MRSA strains have become resistant to vancomycin making therapeutic options minimal."

According to 21CTI's President, Dr. Jiajiu Shaw: "This recently patented series of compounds will be the first antibiotics to be introduced into our pipeline of drug development leads. We are very excited about these natural product compounds which can be readily obtained from the fallen leaves of a widespread timber producing tree – American Sycamore. Further, we are pleased that this partnership will also provide a close and expanding association with the plant drug-product separation company, Ironsides Separation, headed by Dr. James McChesney, which will provide 21CTI with sufficient compounds to continue and conclude the pre-clinical development phase."

Dr. Hamann, the President of Oxford Pharmaceutical Development noted that "the demand for any MRSA or vancomycin-resistant effective antibiotic is urgently needed and would have a tremendous international market ease the suffering and deaths of a vast number of patients. In recent years deaths in the US associated with hospital associated MSRA has exceeded HIV and AIDS associated mortality making drug resistant infectious bacteria a critical priority. It is not only a disastrous hospital-acquired infection, but recently has developed into a community-associated pathogen unrelated to the hospitalized patient." Dr. Hamann's initial, successful studies have been published in the scientific literature (Journal of Natural Products, volume 72, pages 2141-2144, 2009).

21CTI is a private pharmaceutical discovery and development company, specializing in cancer, immune-mediated diseases, and now infectious diseases. It is our mission to bring affordable and effective pharmaceutical drugs to combat major diseases effecting mankind.

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.

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