



Centrose Awarded NIH Grant for the Development of External Drug Conjugates Directed to Protein Complexes Present on Late Stage Cancers

MADISON, Wis., October 24, 2011- Centrose, a preclinical stage company developing drugs that targets late stage hard to treat cancers, today announced that the National Cancer Institute has awarded Centrose a NIH Phase I grant entitle “A new paradigm for antibody-directed conjugates”. This is the first grant Centrose has received specific for their Extracellular Drug Conjugate or EDC platform. Two years ago, Centrose discovered the novel EDC approach while testing ways to specifically target their small molecule drug libraries and has been busy securing the technology through multiple patent filings. EDC technology is a true paradigm shift away from current ADCs in clinical development and promises to be safer and more effective on late stage tumors since EDCs are stable in the body and target metastatic cancers specifically.

EDCs use a ‘dual’ targeting mechanism wherein the antibody and drug cargo each bind to distinct protein targets overproduced on the surface of many types of hard to treat cancer cells. Since there exist many suitable targets toward which EDCs could be applied, Centrose believes it will see more interest in the approach as the technology matures.

“The continued commitment of the NIH and National Cancer Institute towards novel antibody technologies like EDC technology will accelerate our progress in developing multiple safe and effective therapeutic agents,” said Jim Prudent president and chief executive officer for Centrose. “Using our EDC platform we have the potential to revolutionize the antibody drug conjugate field by our ability to go after extra cellular targets which pose limitations to current ADC technologies. Extra cellular targets represent a the largest classes of targets for current targeted therapeutics on the market today. The results of our studies for which the NIH grant provides critical funds, may have significant applications in a number of disease indications both inside and outside of oncology.”

About Centrose:

Centrose is a biotechnology company based in Madison, Wisconsin, that discovers and develops novel therapeutics which target a number of disease related cells. Centrose discovered the first-ever synergistic drug targeting system called the Extracellular Drug Conjugate System or EDC. EDCs are like Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADCs) but are safer and more effective because they are not pro-drugs and only affect diseased cells. To modulate cell growth and activity, EDCs use targeting systems (specific to diseased cells) attached to Centrose’s proprietary drugs to work in concert together – the two must be attached to act as effective therapeutics. Currently, Centrose has multiple EDC lead drug candidates and is continuing to build the pipeline and platform. As a platform, the EDC system allows for the construction and development of multiple targeted drugs.

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