Celsion Corporation Announces Oral Presentation at International Vaccines Congress

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Chief Science Officer Dr. Khursheed Anwer to Deliver Virtual Presentation on Celsion's Ongoing Work with DNA-based Vaccines

LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J., Oct. 12, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Celsion Corporation (NASDAQ: CLSN), a clinical-stage development company focused on DNA mediated immunotherapy and next-generation nucleic vaccines, announces that Khursheed Anwer, Ph.D., executive vice president and chief science officer, will be presenting at the International Vaccines Congress being held virtually October 18-20, 2021. Dr. Anwer's presentation is titled "Immunogenicity of DNA Vaccines based on Multicistronic Vectors and Synthetic DNA Delivery Systems." The date and time of the presentation will be announced following publication of the conference agenda.

Dr. Anwer will be discussing ongoing proof-of-concept studies in SARS-CoV-2 with the Company's DNA-based vaccine approach utilizing its PLACCINE platform. PLACCINE, Celsion's proprietary design for DNA vectors, encompasses molecular elements designed to improve the immune response by targeting multiple antigens of a pathogen or multiple mutants of the same antigen. Dr. Anwer will review the PLACCINE technology and the production of a family of DNA vaccine vectors expressing one or more SARS-CoV-2 surface antigens as a proof-of-concept target, verified vector composition and demonstrated expression of the encoded genes.

"The International Vaccines Congress is an ideal forum to discuss our ongoing work with unique approaches to DNA-based vaccines.We view their acceptance of Dr. Anwer's abstract as support for our scientific rigor and the promise of our work," said Michael H. Tardugno, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Celsion. "We previously reported that immunization of Balb-C mice with a plasmid expressing the Spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 resulted in the production of IgG antibodies with evidence of viral neutralization and cytotoxic T-cell response specific to the antigen. We look forward to reporting this and additional data as we continue to make excellent progress with our PLACCINE platform."

About the PLACCINE Platform

PLACCINE is Celsion's proprietary plasmid and DNA delivery technology and the subject of a provisional patent application that covers a broad range of next-generation DNA vaccines. An adaptation of the Company's TheraPlas technology, PLACCINE is a DNA vaccine technology platform characterized by a single plasmid DNA with multiple coding regions. The plasmid vector is designed to express multiple pathogen antigens along with a potent immune modifier. It is delivered via a synthetic delivery system and has the potential to be easily modified to create vaccines against a multitude of infectious diseases, addressing:

- **Viral Mutations**: PLACCINE may offer broad-spectrum and mutational resistance (variants) by targeting multiple antigens on a single plasmid vector.
- **Enhanced Efficacy**: The potent immune modifiers such as cytokines and chemokines may improve humoral and cellular responses to viral antigens and can be incorporated in the plasmid.
- **Durable Efficacy**: PLACCINE delivers a DNA plasmid-based antigen that can result in durable antigen exposure and a robust vaccine response to viral antigens.
- **Storage & Distribution**: PLACCINE allows for stability that is compatible with manageable vaccine storage and distribution.
- **Dosing & Administration**: PLACCINE is a synthetic delivery system that should require a simple injection that does not require viruses or special equipment to deliver its payload.

About Celsion Corporation

Celsion is a fully integrated, clinical stage biotechnology company focused on advancing a portfolio of innovative cancer treatments, including immunotherapies, DNA-based therapies and directed chemotherapies through clinical trials and eventual commercialization. The company's product pipeline includes GEN-1, a DNA-based immunotherapy for the localized treatment of ovarian cancer. Celsion also has two feasibility stage platform technologies for the development of novel nucleic acid-based immunotherapies and other anti-cancer DNA or RNA therapies. Both are novel synthetic, non-viral vectors with demonstrated capability in nucleic acid cellular transfection. For more information on Celsion, visit www.celsion.com.

Forward-looking Statements

Forward-looking statements in this news release are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon current beliefs, expectation, and assumptions and include statements regarding the platform having the potential to provide broad protection against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and possible future mutations of SARS-CoV-2 or other coronaviruses. These statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict, including the ability of the Company's platform to provide broad protection against COVID-19, and possible future mutations of SARS-CoV-2 or other coronaviruses, the issuance of a patent to the Company for use of its technology platform for treating or preventing infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19, unforeseen changes in the course of research and development activities and in clinical trials; the uncertainties of and difficulties in analyzing interim clinical data, particularly in small subgroups that are not statistically significant; FDA and regulatory uncertainties and risks; the significant expense, time and risk of failure of conducting clinical trials; the need for Celsion to evaluate its future development plans; possible acquisitions or licenses of other technologies, assets or businesses; possible actions by customers, suppliers, competitors or regulatory authorities; and other risks detailed from time to time in the Celsion's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Celsion assumes no obligation to update or supplement forward-looking statements that become untrue because of subsequent events, new information or otherwise.

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