asx announcement

mesoblast
the regenerative medicine company

KEY MESOBLAST PATENT GRANTED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE TREATMENT OF DEGENERATED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

New York, USA, and Melbourne, Australia; 10 February 2015: Mesoblast Limited (ASX:MSB; USOTC:MBLTY) today announced that it has been granted a key patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) covering its proprietary Mesenchymal Precursor Cell (MPC) technology for use in the treatment of degenerated intervertebral discs. Granted US patent number 8,858,932 provides Mesoblast with exclusive commercial rights through to June 2029. There is also potential for patent term and regulatory exclusivity extensions which would provide longer term protection.

This latest granted patent is one of a suite of patents that provides Mesoblast with multiple layers of protection for its product candidates in the treatment of low back pain due to degenerating discs. United States patents have already been granted covering Mesoblast's product candidates for repair and regeneration of intervertebral discs and for spinal fusion, including product compositions (US 7122178 and US 8158118), and methods of use (US 7670628 and US 8062675). Mesoblast also has several pending applications which will be used to pursue additional claims to broaden and extend protection for its product candidates for the treatment of chronic low back pain.

A Phase 3 program using Mesoblast's MPCs has been initiated in the United States in patients with chronic discogenic low back pain (CDLBP). The objective of the Phase 3 clinical program will be to confirm the positive outcomes seen in the Company's Phase 2 clinical trial where product candidate, MPC-06-ID, demonstrated the potential to provide durable improvement in pain and function for patients who suffer with CDLBP due to degenerative disc disease. The primary endpoint in the Phase 3 program will seek to confirm the treatment benefit seen in Phase 2 for MPC-06-ID against saline control using a composite of durable improvement in pain and function.

Chronic Discogenic Low Back Pain (CDLBP)
Mesoblast's investigational product candidate MPC-06-ID is being developed to target the population of patients suffering from moderate to severe chronic low back pain due to moderately degenerated discs. The target patient population has failed conservative treatment options, may have failed epidural steroid injections to alleviate pain and has no treatment option other than invasive and costly surgical interventions. Over four million patients in the United States alone suffer from CDLBP. Total costs of low back pain are estimated to be between US$100 billion and US$200 billion annually with two thirds attributed to patients' decreased wages and productivity.

Mesoblast Limited
Mesoblast Limited (ASX: MSB; USOTC: MBLTY) is a global leader in regenerative medicine. The Company has leveraged its proprietary technology platform, which is based on specialized cells known as mesenchymal lineage adult stem cells (MLCs), to establish a broad portfolio of late-stage product candidates. Mesoblast's allogeneic or 'off-the-shelf' cell product candidates target significantly advanced stages of diseases where there are highly unmet medical needs, including cardiovascular diseases, orthopedic disorders of the spine, immunologic/inflammatory disorders and oncology /hematology conditions. Lead product candidates under investigation include MPC-150-IM for chronic congestive heart failure (CHF), in partnership with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., MPC-06-ID for chronic discogenic low back pain (CDLBP), MSC-100-IV for acute graft versus host disease (aGVHD), and MPC-300-IV for biologic refractory rheumatoid arthritis and diabetic nephropathy.

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