

Company Announcement



LCT achieves successful use of its DiaβCell product in preclinical diabetes trial

24 February 2005, Australia:

Living Cell Technologies Ltd (ASX: LCT) today announced the successful use of its DiaβCell product to reduce insulin needs in diabetic primates for over 12 weeks.

DiaβCell is designed to improve the current treatment of type I diabetes by transplanting insulin-producing cells called islets. The pancreatic islet cells in a healthy pancreas make insulin when the sugar level of the blood gets too high. DiaβCell's unique living cells, protected by the LCT's novel encapsulation, are designed to function just like a healthy pancreas in diabetics who have lost or impaired ability to produce their own insulin.

These preliminary results are part of a 6 month study, evaluating the safety and ability of DiaβCell to treat insulin dependant diabetes. The study treated 16 diabetic monkeys with either DiaβCell or empty capsules. The monkeys who received DiaβCell demonstrated a reduction in insulin need in comparison to an unchanged or increased need for insulin in the untreated control group.

Controlled safety and efficacy studies are an important part of the information required by regulatory bodies such as the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) before allowing trials in humans with type 1 diabetes. Diabetic primates are considered to be the most representative model of the human disease.

"We are very encouraged by initial data from our primate preclinical study. This is a major preclinical milestone for LCT. These are important studies and final data from these primates will be included in our application to the FDA requesting permission to start clinical studies in the United States," said Professor Robert Elliott, LCT's Scientific Director.

"For those of us with diabetes or family members who have diabetes these exiting results bring us one step closer to the clinic and one step closer to treating the disease instead of the symptoms," said David Collinson, LCT's Managing Director.

Type I diabetes is a disease that affects 17 million and is growing at an epidemic rate of 5% each year. Despite the best effort by doctors, insulin injections only treat the symptoms while secondary effects of the disease such



as blindness, organ failure and amputation continue to ravage those that cannot control their blood glucose.

About LCT: www.lct.com.au

LCT is an ASX listed biotechnology company (ASX: LCT). Living Cell Technologies Ltd (LCT) began its business to develop and commercialise cell therapies for the treatment of a wide variety of diseases in 1987. The company has operating companies in New Zealand and Rhode Island, US.

LCT's technology has potential application for the treatment of conditions caused by a deficiency of specific cell function. The company has three products under development – NeurotrophinCell for Huntington's, Fac8Cell for haemophilia and DiaBCell for diabetes.

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