

Helix BioMedix Advances Its Wound Healing Program

Jul 25, 2003 - Bothell, Washington

Helix BioMedix, Inc. -- A peptide known as HB107 could become the substance of choice for the healing of wounds, provided it works as well on humans as it appears to work on pigs. In a pilot test conducted by Charles River Laboratories, HB107 appeared to speed up the regeneration of new cells (re-epithelialization) in the process of healing burn wounds. Pigs treated with relatively low concentrations of the peptide appeared to regenerate new cells faster than those treated with a placebo gel. The four-week study was conducted on full thickness burn wounds. The peptide was applied once daily in gel formulation at two concentrations (0.1% and 0.5% HB107). At both concentrations the peptide produced an improved degree of re-epithelialization in animals after 14 days and 28 days. Although only a small-scale study, regression analysis demonstrated that the peptide might be capable of reducing the time to achieve 50% re-epithelialization in this model, from 16 to 10 days. This measurement is the standard scientific barometer for wound healing. The peptide showed no signs of toxicity at either concentration as determined by histology and extensive blood analysis.

The results of the pilot study were announced today by Helix BioMedix, Inc. (OTC Bulletin Board: HXBM - News), an early-stage biotechnology company based outside of Seattle. The Company developed HB107 and owns its proprietary rights.

The peptide was previously tested successfully in acute-wound studies on mice. Studies on pigs are almost always the final step before wound-healing tests on humans begin.

Charles River Laboratories, which describes itself in company literature as "the global leader in . . . animal research models for use in the discovery, development and testing of new pharmaceuticals," conducts research in the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan. The four-week pilot study of HB107 was designed to assess both how well it works and how safe it was. The peptide appeared to pass both tests.

Dr. Richard Gallo of the University of California, San Diego, a pioneer in study of antimicrobial peptides in mammalian skin wounds in the mid-1990s, conducted early laboratory testing on HB107 and later became a consultant to Helix BioMedix, Inc. Dr. Gallo said that the results of studies so far conducted on HB107 provide "an excellent basis for moving the peptide forward towards the clinical stage of development."

The Company's business plan calls for it to license its proprietary peptides to other firms, which then conduct clinical trials and develop and market new drugs. Helix BioMedix President and CEO, Stephen Beatty, said the Company would present the Charles River test data to a variety of potential licensing partners.

About Helix BioMedix:

Helix BioMedix, Inc. is an early-stage biotechnology company whose mission is to become the industry leader in developing and commercializing bioactive peptides (small proteins). The antimicrobial and wound healing properties of these peptides qualify them for inclusion in a wide range of both pharmaceutical and consumer products. The Company is currently focused on the development of selected peptides as pharmaceutical agents for use in treating cystic fibrosis, sexually-transmitted diseases, and in wound

healing. Non-pharmaceutical applications being pursued by Helix BioMedix include adjuvants for cosmetics/cosmeceuticals and wide-spectrum biocides. Located in Bothell, Washington, Helix BioMedix is a product development company organized to derive revenue from licensing its peptide-based technology to partners with sales, marketing, and/or manufacturing expertise. More information about the Company and its proprietary peptides can be found on the Company's website at www.helixbiomedix.com.

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Except for historical information presented in this press release, matters discussed herein may constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are based on the opinions and estimates of management only as of the date of this release and are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, uncertainties related to the Company's access to capital, the progress, costs and results of any clinical trials undertaken by the Company, progress of research and development projects, and uncertainties related to whether the Company's product candidates would ultimately achieve commercial success. Reference should be made to Helix BioMedix's public disclosure documents including its Annual Report on Form 10-KSB, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a more detailed description of such factors. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements that speak only as of the date of this press release. Helix BioMedix disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect new information, events or circumstances after the date of this release or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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