Celgene Corporation Awarded Additional Patent Protection For Lead IMiD(TM), REVIMID(TM);

Comprehensive Patent Protection for REVIMID Includes Coverage of the Active Ingredient, Pharmaceutical Compositions, and Therapeutic Uses

PR Newswire

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Body

Celgene Corporation (Nasdaq: CELG) announced today that its patent portfolio now includes issued U.S. Patent No. 6,281,230 that covers the use of REVIMID(TM), Celgene's lead IMiD(TM) (Immunomodulatory Drug), to treat cancer and inflammatory diseases both as a single agent and in combination with other therapies. The patent, which issued this morning, also covers all pharmaceutical compositions of REVIMID. Celgene's broad intellectual property estate for REVIMID includes U.S. Composition of Matter Patent No. 5,635,517 that covers the active ingredient of REVIMID and therapeutic uses of this and other IMiDs. A Re-examination Certificate for this patent, issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office over U.S. Patent No. 5,712,291 and other patents, confirms Celgene's dominant patent position for its IMiD pipeline. Celgene's comprehensive IMiD patent estate comprises several U.S. and foreign patents and numerous additional U.S. and foreign patent applications.

Below is the chemical structure of REVIMID:

(Photo: *http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20010828/NYTU033*)

"This patent continues to validate our intellectual property position for the entire IMiD pipeline and its therapeutic uses," said Sol J. Barer, Ph.D, President and Chief Operating Officer of Celgene Corporation. "We are committed to accelerating our clinical programs for all of the IMiDs and realizing the full potential of this promising pipeline of compounds."

Research has demonstrated that IMiDs are novel, small molecule, orally available analogs of thalidomide that are designed to be more potent and potentially have a better safety profile than the parent compound. Celgene's IMiDs have significantly greater immunological activity than thalidomide in in vitro studies. Data published in The Journal of Immunology in 1999 demonstrated that IMiDs potently inhibit the inflammatory cytokines TNF-alpha and interleukin (IL)-1 beta while stimulating the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10. IMiDs were also reported in the November 1, 2000 issue of Blood to enhance T-cell proliferation and IL-2 production.

REVIMID is currently being evaluated as a treatment in multiple myeloma in two Phase I/II clinical trials at the Arkansas Cancer Research Center and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Clinical investigators from both institutions presented interim data from the trials in May 2001 at the International Myeloma Workshop. REVIMID also completed the initial phase of a clinical trial in metastatic melanoma, and based on the results, the trial is being expanded to an additional 60 patients who will be treated at greater than 100 mg/day. Further studies are planned for REVIMID in anti-inflammatory diseases, in addition to a recently initiated congestive heart failure trial.

Celgene Corporation, headquartered in Warren, New Jersey, is an independent biopharmaceutical company engaged in the discovery, development and commercialization of small molecule drugs for the treatment of cancer and immunological diseases through gene regulation.

This release contains certain forward-looking statements which involve known and unknown risks, delays, uncertainties and other factors not under the Company's control, which may cause actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from the results, performance or other expectations implied by these forward-looking statements. These factors include results of current or pending research and development activities, actions by the FDA and other regulatory authorities, and those factors detailed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission such as 10K, 10Q and 8K reports.

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