



AEGERA THERAPEUTICS ANNOUNCES THE COMPLETION OF ITS SECOND NON EXCLUSIVE ADENOVIRUS TECHNOLOGY LICENSE

MONTREAL, QC. October 2, 2002 - Aegera Therapeutics Inc. announced that it has signed a non-exclusive license with Wyeth (NYSE:WYE) which grants access to Aegera's proprietary adenovirus technology. This license also grants Wyeth the right to practice the adenovirus transfection method. Under the terms of this Agreement, an undisclosed upfront payment and annual maintenance fees are due.

Acting through its Wyeth Pharmaceuticals division, the licensed technology covered under U.S. Patent number 6,060,247 titled "Post-Mitotic Neurons Containing Adenovirus Vectors that Modulate Apoptosis and Growth" strengthens Wyeth's capabilities to use functional genomics to identify and validate new neuronal disease targets.

Dr. John Gillard, Chief Scientific Officer at Aegera Therapeutics Inc. commented, "Adenoviral gene transfection is one of the simplest and easiest methods to study neuronal functional genomics. This technology will help neuronal research teams to discover and develop a new generation of neuronal drugs."

"We are very pleased that a company with the research strength of Wyeth has selected our adenovirus technology to move their neuro discovery program forward," said Michael Atkin, President and CEO of Aegera Therapeutics Inc.

Mr. Atkin continued, "The Wyeth license is our second for this technology, which was previously licensed to Millennium Pharmaceuticals Inc."

Aegera uses the adenovirus technology in-house for validation of novel gene targets and to discover small molecule drugs for neurodegeneration and enhanced peripheral nerve regeneration. Aegera's current neuro-programs are focused on small molecule neurotrophin mimetics, and modulating signal transduction pathways.

About Aegera

Aegera Therapeutics Inc. is a privately-held biotechnology company headquartered in Montreal, Canada, with a wholly owned subsidiary – Aegera

Oncology Inc. Aegera has built a strong, focused biotechnology company focused on apoptosis control to extend and enhance life: killing cancer cells by inducing apoptosis and rescuing neurons from cell death. Its lead oncology program is a XIAP antisense therapeutic which is expected to enter the clinic in Q1 2004. Aegera has in development two additional approaches to regulate apoptosis for cancer. In addition, it is also developing small molecular drugs to treat central and peripheral nerve diseases as well as a unique adult stem cell technology. For more information, please visit Aegera's website at www.aegera.com.

Contacts:

Aegera Therapeutics, Inc.

514-288-5532

Michael Atkin, President & CEO

Email: business@aegera.com