

Micromet's Drug Candidate MT103 Triggers Serial Killing of Cancer Cells

Results from Preclinical Study Published in the International Journal of Cancer

May 09, 2005, Munich, Germany -- Micromet AG reports preclinical data on its drug candidate MT103, a representative of the Company's proprietary class of antibody derivatives called BiTE(tm). MT103 is currently in a phase I trial for the treatment of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. It is being co-developed with MedImmune, Inc., a leading U.S.-based biotechnology company focused on infectious diseases, immunology and oncology.

The new study published in the recent issue of the International Journal of Cancer (1) investigates the mode of action of MT103 using video-assisted microscopy. The results demonstrate that minute doses of MT103 can direct cytotoxic T cells to conduct multiple rounds of target cell killing. Even at a ratio of one T cell facing five tumor cells, complete target cell elimination was achieved within 24 hours. Cells that did not carry the CD19 target antigen for MT103 were completely spared from T cell attack.

"To our knowledge, this is the first study showing that a bispecific antibody can sustain serial killing of target cells by T cells in a highly specific and potent manner", Patrick Baeuerle, CSO of Micromet comments. "Since cancer patients typically have a high excess of cancer cells over T cells, these findings further support the therapeutic potential of MT103 for lymphoma treatment. Cytotoxic T cells are the most potent killer cells of the human immune system and appear to be the prime enemies of cancer cells. The findings of our new study visualize for the first time the precision, specificity and mode of action of BiTEs and suggest that MT103 and other BiTEs add a novel therapeutic modality to the range of existing anti-cancer treatments." ###

Contact Information:

Media: Evelyn Wolf, Phone: +49 89 895277-220, Email: evelyn.wolf@micromet.de

Investors: Ines-Regina Buth, Phone: +49 89 895277-221, Email: ines-regina.buth@micromet.de

References:

(1) Hoffmann P, Hofmeister R, Brischwein K, Brandl C, Crommer S, Bargou R, Itin C, Prang N, Baeuerle PA: Serial killing of tumor cells by cytotoxic T cells redirected with a CD19-/CD3-bispecific single-chain antibody construct, Int. J. Cancer: 2005, May 20; 115 (1):98-104

About Micromet AG

Micromet AG, a private Munich-based biotechnology company, puts novel concepts in immunotherapy to work. Using proprietary technologies, the Company is building a strong pipeline of innovative drug candidates for the treatment of cancer, inflammation and autoimmune disease. Two candidates are currently in clinical trials. The Company has established a powerful drug development platform based on its BiTE(tm) technology, a unique drug format that leverages the outstanding cytotoxic potential of T cells, the most powerful 'killer cells' of the human immune system. In addition, Micromet is exploiting the potential of SCAs (single-chain antibodies) for the development of novel drug candidates under a multi-year strategic collaboration with Enzon Inc. Micromet has integrated infrastructure and expertise in all disciplines of drug design and development. The Company has attracted both top-tier life science investors and corporate partners such as MedImmune, Inc., Enzon Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Serono. For further information, please visit the Company's web site at www.micromet.de.