



Contact:
Alan P. Carpenter, Jr., Ph.D., J.D.
VP, Business Development
Avid Radiopharmaceuticals, Inc.
215.966.6208

MOLECULAR IMAGING OF DIABETES SELECTED AS 2007 SMALL ANIMAL IMAGE OF THE YEAR

Novel Molecular Imaging Agent for Imaging Beta Cell Loss in the Diabetic Pancreas -- Announced at SNM's 54th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Philadelphia, PA – June 11, 2007 – Avid Radiopharmaceuticals, Inc. today announced that a preclinical study presented by Dr. Mei-Ping Kung of the University of Pennsylvania using Avid compound AV-133 (¹⁸F-FP-DTBZ) was selected from thousands presented at the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM) Annual Meeting as the 2007 Small Animal Image of the Year. The award - announced by Dr. Henry Wagner on June 6 during his presentation of the SNM meeting highlights - shows a Positron Emission Tomography (PET) image of a rat pancreas following injection with AV-133. This compound was discovered by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and University of Michigan and is now under investigation at Avid.

The image highlighted the presentation entitled: "F-18 FP-DTBZ: An Investigational PET Ligand for Measuring Beta Cell Mass in the Pancreas," with Drs. Mei-Ping Kung and Hank Kung as primary investigators. This study showed that AV-133, a molecular imaging agent targeting the vesicular monoamine transporter-2 (VMAT2), is potentially useful for measurement of beta cell mass and for studying the pathogenesis of diabetes.

Declines in the number of beta cells in the pancreas are evident prior to the onset of diabetes and may be a useful early marker for increased risk of developing Type I or Type II diabetes. The amount of vesicular monoamine transporter (VMAT2), which is expressed by the beta cells of the pancreas, may reflect beta cell mass. Molecular imaging of beta cells using a VMAT2-targeted compound has the potential to detect losses in beta cells before a diagnosis of diabetes is possible by current methods. This may make it possible to identify individuals who are at elevated risk of developing diabetes to receive earlier treatment, and allow for monitoring of new treatments designed to preserve beta cells.

There are 20.8 million children and adults with diabetes in the United States alone (7% of the population). Diabetes mellitus (DM) is on the rise globally and is associated with an increased risk for serious, life-threatening complications including heart disease and stroke. Proactive disease control can help reduce risk; however, many people are not aware that they are at risk of diabetes until they develop one of its complications.

Avid is the exclusive licensee of intellectual property from the University of Pennsylvania and University of Michigan covering this family of molecular imaging agents which bind with high selectivity to VMAT2. Avid is also evaluating these agents for studying the loss of dopaminergic neurons in the brains of patients with Parkinson's disease, Dementia with Lewy Bodies (DLB) and Alzheimer's disease.

About Avid

Avid Radiopharmaceuticals, Inc. is developing novel diagnostic imaging agents to enable earlier and more accurate diagnosis, treatment selection and therapeutic monitoring of major medical disorders. The company is a pioneer in the development of molecular imaging agents for Alzheimer's disease and other neurological disorders and is developing products for imaging with both positron emission tomography (PET) and single photon computed tomography (SPECT). The company has a collaboration in place with Bayer Schering Pharma AG to develop its first PET molecular imaging agent for Alzheimer's disease. In addition, Avid is currently conducting clinical studies on a pipeline of next generation PET and SPECT agents. The company also has collaborative relationships with leading molecular imaging researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Michigan. For more information, visit www.avidrp.com.

About Molecular Imaging

Molecular imaging utilizes radiotracer drugs to diagnose and monitor disease processes and progression. These diagnostic agents, referred to as molecular imaging agents, are used for imaging with both positron emission computed tomography (PET) and single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) imaging. In 2006, more than 20 million SPECT scans and 1.5 million PET scans were performed. New and more effective molecular imaging agents could support the use of such imaging procedures in the diagnosis of many disorders at earlier stages of disease.

###

Pancreas Image in the Rat with 18F-AV-133

