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Interviews & News!

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Intellect Neurosciences Is Offering Hope In The Fight Against Alzheimer's Disease With Its ANTISENILIN® Monoclonal Antibody Technology, Which Is Designed To Specifically Block The Neurotoxicity Of Beta Amyloid That Accumulates In The Brain Of Alzheimer's Patients



**Healthcare
Biotechnology
(ILNS-OTC: BB)**

Intellect Neurosciences, Inc.

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**Dr. Daniel G. Chain, Ph.D.
Chairman and CEO**

BIO:

Dr. Chain obtained his B.Sc. in Biochemistry from the Institute of Biology in London and obtained his Ph.D. in Biochemis-

try from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. He trained as a post-doctoral research fellow at the Center for Neurobiology and Behavior at Columbia University in New York. Prior to forming Intellect, Dr. Chain was CEO of Mindset.

Biopharmaceuticals, Inc., which he founded in 1998. Dr. Chain's interest in biology of the human brain led to his discovery of novel therapeutics to treat Alzheimer's disease and age-related cognitive impairment.

Company Profile:

Intellect Neurosciences, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company engaged in the discovery and development of disease-modifying therapeutic agents for the treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's disease and other disorders. The company has a broad proprietary immunotherapy platform for both passive and active immunization against Alzheimer's disease. Also, Intellect has recently completed Phase I clinical trials for OXIGON(TM), a unique antioxidant and anti-amyloid compound that has potential to treat Alzheimer's disease and other disorders.

**Interview conducted by:
Lynn Fosse, Senior Editor
CEOCFOinterviews.com**

CEOCFO: Dr. Chain, what was the vision as you founded Intellect Neurosciences?

Dr. Chain: "Our vision was to be a pre-eminent Alzheimer's disease research and development biopharmaceutical company, focused on developing and commercializing those products that would slow down, arrest and ultimately

delay the onset of this devastating disease which affects 5 million Americans and their families as well, as millions more around the world."

CEOCFO: Why the interest in Alzheimer's?

Dr. Chain: "Originally I was a neuroscientist and I worked for many years at Columbia University in New York, studying fundamental molecular mechanisms that are the basis of learning and memory in a simple marine organism. This work really drew my attention to Alzheimer's disease in which memory formation is impaired. My goal was to try and understand what in Alzheimer's disease was the cause of memory loss and how to prevent it."

CEOCFO: What is your approach? How does it differ from many of the others?

Dr. Chain: "The core technology uses antibody-based drugs which are either monoclonal bodies or active vaccines, in which patients would ultimately be inoculated and mount an immune response themselves. The technology that really is the buzz around Intellect today is called ANTISENILIN®, which is a registered trademark for our monoclonal antibody technology. It incorporates a very important safety feature, which we call "free-end specificity", meaning that these antibodies are designed to specifically block the neurotoxicity of the Alzheimer's toxin, which is known as beta amyloid that accumulates in the brain of Alzheimer's patients. The blocking of the neurotoxicity is achieved by promoting clearance of this protein, the beta amyloid protein, away from the site of damage in

the brain while minimizing the potential for adverse effect.”

CEOFCO: Is your target the cause of Alzheimer’s?

Dr. Chain: “Well, there is a huge consensus. It is true that this area was hotly debated for at least 20 years. There were two camps really. The so-called Baptists, who believed that beta amyloid this protein is indeed the focal point of the disease. Then there was another group known as the Taoists who believed that it was the neurofibrillary tangles, which result from an abnormality in a protein called Tau which is generally also formed in Alzheimer’s disease and certainly part of the pathology. But at the end of the day the Baptists won out, and this is really based on a huge number of different studies including genetic and epidemiological studies. Very importantly, when transgenic models were developed to study the disease course, these models that had alterations leading to an accumulation of this beta amyloid indeed resulted in a pathology that very much reproduced many of the features of Alzheimer’s disease. Therefore, today the consensus is very strong and there is also some clinical evidence based on antibodies that target beta amyloid causing a reduction amyloid plaques in the brain and improved cognition. You always find some naysayer’s, but the vast majority of scientists and clinicians in this area would agree that an accumulation of beta amyloid is in fact the starting point of the disease. And it can result in a number of different reasons. There can be a genetic abnormality, which would result in an overproduction of the protein, and 5%-10% of all Alzheimer’s disease carries a genetic trait mutation in one or two genes. Another classic case and probably the first clue to the importance of beta amyloid is the Down-Syndrome/ Trisomy 21 where individuals with Down more or less invariably develop Alzheimer’s disease by the age of 40 as a result of having an extra copy of the gene giving rise to beta amyloid. Therefore, there is really just a huge amount of evidence for it today.”

CEOFCO: Where are you on the development of the ANTISENIN?

Dr. Chain: “We have our own lead antibody which we call IN-N01. This is undergoing humanization. It is being done in collaboration with a company called MRCT in the UK. So that is still in pre-clinical development and won’t be in the clinic for a couple of years. The technology has already been applied, by big pharmaceutical companies and there are other products which are similar drug candidates, in advanced clinical developments by big pharmaceutical companies. We expect to license our patents to those companies.”

CEOFCO: You now have the allowance to go to European trials?

Dr. Chain: “This is just a patent allowance in Europe. The patent will issue hopefully next month or several weeks

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- Dr. Daniel G. Chain, Ph.D.

from now. It is a pivotal patent, because it has very early priority date, ahead of all our competition.”

CEOFCO: Are most of your works and studies being done outside of the US?

Dr. Chain: “It is a combination where we had a drug discovery group that did a lot of its work based in Israel, although that group is now transitioning to the US. We have some of the work as I said being conducted in the UK. But we are very international and some of the work also in the US, an increasing amount of the work will be done over here.”

CEOFCO: What else is in the pipeline?

Dr. Chain: “In addition to the monoclonal antibody technology we have two other active vaccines, BETA-VAX and BIOVAX. The idea there really is that whereas the ANTISENIN technology may ultimately have advantages for patients already diagnosed with the disease,

the active vaccines would potentially been used to delay or prevent the onset of this disease, much the same way as using the flu shot. A vaccine really is the holy grail of Alzheimer’s disease. If you had a really safe way to vaccinate people so that they would mount their own immune response against this toxin then you could really hope to prevent the onset of Alzheimer’s disease in elderly people. Those are the programs relatively in the early stage in our hands but we are pursuing both of these technologies aggressively.

In addition to the core immunotherapy approach around which our company is based, we also have a small molecule, which is already in clinical trials and has multiple disease indications. This is a molecule we call OXIGON™, which is its trademark. It is a unique antioxidant molecule that scavenges free radicals and in contrast to other world known antioxidants, does not break down to form pro-oxidant intermediates. That has been one of the characteristics that has plagued the antioxidant field because many antioxidants actually break down during metabolism to form intermediates that have the opposite effect which causes damage. OXIGON does not have that possibility. It also

has extremely good oral bioavailability and is able to cross the so-called blood brain barriers, allowing it to get into the brain without any difficulty making it an attractive drug candidate for the variety of brain diseases, such as Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease. We have recently completed Phase I trials in elderly healthy volunteers, that trial was conducted in the Netherlands. Those trials indicated a good safety profile and we are hoping to go to Alzheimer’s disease patient trials in next year.”

CEOFCO: How are you funding development; it is always quite expensive?

Dr. Chain: “Indeed it is a challenge all the time! We have had various private investors; actually, we are a public company. We went public early last year by virtue of a reverse merger with a shell. We are listed on the bulletin. We are on the bulletin board. We’ve had a series of

different investments into the company. Our anticipation is that in the short term we will conclude license agreements around our patents estate with major pharmaceutical companies. That will bring in funds into the company and bring a whole level of validation around the technology. Then we will go back out to the market and try and access the capital markets and raise significant amount of cash to hopefully carry the company through the next couple of years.”

CEOCFO: There are many biotech companies; why should Intellect Neurosci-

ences stand out and what might people not really get that they need to understand?

Dr. Chain: “We have one of the most outstanding patent estates of any biotech company. That is based on patents that have already issued in many major territories. We hope in the next short while, we will have issued patents in the US as well. They cover drugs that are in advanced clinical development by the big pharmaceutical companies. Therefore, in addition to our own internal pipeline, we are uniquely in positioned to capitalize from the fact that the technology has been

adopted by big pharmaceutical companies with various promising drug candidates in development. That is a unique position for a small biotech company to be in.”

CEOCFO: Final thoughts; what should people reading this story remember most about Intellect Neurosciences?

Dr. Chain: “A preeminent Alzheimer’s disease company with products in the pipeline that are likely to be disease-modifying drugs, and among the first of these modifying drugs for Alzheimer’s disease.”



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