

AVI BioPharma Announces Third Quarter 2008 Financial Results Conference Call

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For Immediate Release

CORVALLIS, OR — November 4, 2008 — AVI BioPharma, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVII), a developer of RNA-based drugs, will hold a conference call to report third quarter 2008 financial results on Monday, November 10, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time (6:30 a.m. Pacific time).

Individuals interested in listening to the live conference call may do so by dialing 866–550–6338 toll free within the United States and Canada, or 347–284–6930 for international callers.

A replay of the call will be available by dialing 888–203–1112 toll free within the U.S. and Canada or 719–457–0820. The passcode for the replay is 4948533. In addition, a recording of the call will be available within approximately 24 hours at www.avibio.com.

About AVI BioPharma

AVI BioPharma is focused on the discovery and development of RNA–based drugs utilizing proprietary derivatives of its antisense chemistry (morpholino–modified phosphorodiamidate oligomers or PMOs) that can be applied to a wide range of diseases and genetic disorders through several distinct mechanisms of action. Unlike other RNA therapeutic approaches, AVI's antisense technology has been used to directly target both messenger RNA (mRNA) and its precursor (pre–mRNA), allowing for both up- and down–regulation of targeted genes and proteins. AVI's RNA–based drug programs are being evaluated for the treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy as well as for the treatment of cardiovascular restenosis through our partner Global Therapeutics, a Cook Group Company. AVI's antiviral programs have demonstrated promising outcomes in Ebola Zaire and Marburg Musoke virus infections and may prove applicable to other viral targets such as HCV or Dengue viruses. For more information, visit <u>www.avibio.com</u>.