



AVI BioPharma Announces First Quarter 2008 Financial Results Conference Call

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For Immediate Release

PORTLAND, OR — May 8, 2008 — AVI BioPharma, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVII) today announced that the company will hold a conference call to report its first quarter 2008 financial results on Tuesday, May 13, 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 866.507.1212 toll free within the United States and Canada, or 416.695.7848 for international callers.

Following the conference call, a [recording of the call](#) will be available for download (MP3) on the company's website: www.avibio.com.

About AVI BioPharma

AVI BioPharma develops therapeutic products for the treatment of life-threatening diseases using third-generation NeuGene[®] antisense drugs and ESPRIT directed RNA alternative splicing technology. AVI's ESPRIT technology is initially being applied to potential treatments for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. AVI's NeuGene compounds are also designed to treat cardiovascular restenosis in stent and coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) procedures. In addition to targeting specific genes in the body, AVI's antiviral program uses NeuGene antisense compounds to combat disease by targeting single-stranded RNA viruses, including Marburg Musoke and Ebola Zaire viruses. More information about AVI is available at www.avibio.com.