AVI BioPharma, Inc. Presenting at Rodman & Renshaw Global Investment Conference

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For Immediate Release

BOTHELL, WA — Sept. 2, 2009 — AVI BioPharma, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVII), a developer of RNA-based drugs, today announced that Leslie Hudson, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, will present at the Rodman & Renshaw 11th Annual Healthcare Conference taking place Sept. 9-11, 2009 in New York.

Dr. Hudson will present at 2 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, Sept. 9. A live and archived webcast of the presentation will be accessible by visiting http://www.wsw.com/webcast/rrshq15/avii or the "Events and Presentations" section of the AVI BioPharma website 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 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-based 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 www.avibio.com.