

AVI BioPharma to Present Company Overview at the 14th Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference

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Webcast Accessible via AVI Website

BOTHELL, WA, Feb 02, 2012 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --AVI BioPharma (NASDAQ: AVII), a developer of RNA-based therapeutics, announced today that Chris Garabedian, AVI's president and CEO, will present a company overview at 9:30 a.m. EST on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the 14th Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

The presentation will be webcast live under the events section of AVI's website at www.avibio.com and will be archived there following the presentation for 90 days. Please connect to AVI's website several minutes prior to the start of the broadcast to ensure adequate time for any software download that may be necessary.

About AVI BioPharma

AVI BioPharma is focused on the discovery and development of novel RNA-based therapeutics for rare and infectious diseases, as well as other select disease targets. Applying pioneering technologies developed and optimized by AVI, the Company is able to target a broad range of diseases and disorders through distinct RNA-based mechanisms of action. Unlike other RNA-based approaches, AVI's technologies can be used to directly target both messenger RNA (mRNA) and precursor messenger RNA (pre-mRNA) to either down-regulate (inhibit) or up-regulate (promote) the expression of targeted genes or proteins. By leveraging its highly differentiated RNA-based technology platform, AVI has built a pipeline of potentially transformative therapeutic agents, including eteplirsen, which is in clinical development for the treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and multiple drug candidates that are in clinical development for the treatment of infectious disease. For more information, please visit www.avibio.com.

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SOURCE: AVI BioPharma, Inc.