## AVI BioPharma to Present at BMO Capital Markets Focus on Healthcare Conference

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BOTHELL, WA, Jul 29, 2010 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --

AVI BioPharma, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVII), a developer of RNA-based therapeutics, announced today that the company is scheduled to present at the BMO Capital Markets 10th Annual Focus on Healthcare Conference on Thursday, August 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time in New York City. J. David Boyle II, AVI's Interim President and Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Financial Officer, will provide a company overview.

The conference 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. 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, we are able to target a broad range of diseases and disorders through distinct RNA-based mechanisms of action. Unlike other RNA-based approaches, our 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 our highly differentiated RNA antisense-based technology platform, we have built a pipeline of potentially transformative therapeutic agents, including a clinical stage Duchenne muscular dystrophy candidate and anti-infective candidates for influenza and hemorrhagic fever viruses. For more information, visit www.avibio.com.

SOURCE: AVI BioPharma, Inc.