AVI BioPharma to Present Data for RNA-Based Influenza Drug Candidates at 2010 Chemical and Biological Defense Science and Technology Conference

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BOTHELL, WA, Nov 11, 2010 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --

AVI BioPharma, Inc. (NASDAQ: AVII), a developer of RNA-based therapeutics, today announced the presentation of data from the Company's influenza program at the 2010 Chemical and Biological Defense Science and Technology Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Patrick Iversen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Research and Innovation at AVI, will present during the poster session titled "Pathogen-Directed Therapeutics," at 6 p.m. EST on Monday, Nov. 15. The presentation, T20-028, is titled "Rapid Response Therapeutic for Pandemic (H1N1-SOIV) and Seasonal Influenza." The presentation will feature preclinical data evaluating the rapid response capabilities of AVI's influenza program.

The presentation will be posted on the AVI BioPharma Web site in the "Our Programs" section after its session is completed.

AVI-7100 is AVI's lead therapeutic candidate for influenza virus infections. The investigational drug candidate employs AVI's patented PMOplus(TM) technology that selectively introduces positive charges to its phosphorodiamidate morpholino oligomer (PMO) backbone to improve selective interaction between the drug and its target.

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 a highly differentiated RNA antisense-based technology platform, AVI has built a pipeline of potentially transformative therapeutic agents, including one in the clinical development stage for the treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

SOURCE: AVI BioPharma, Inc.