

February 18, 2009

ECI, Inc.  
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## **ECI, Inc. entered into a contract with the National Institute on Aging for ECI301 CTA (Clinical Trial Agreement)**

ECI, Inc. is pleased to announce the conclusion of the Clinical Trial Agreement with the NIA (National Institute on Aging), one of the NIH (National Institutes of Health) organizations for the commencement of the ECI301 (a revolutionary protein preparation for cancer therapy development project) clinical trial in the US.

ECI301 is a derivative of MIP-1  $\alpha$ . This agent has raised high expectations in preclinical trial in mice such as drastic reduction of tumors and life-prolonging effects when combined with radiotherapy as well as suppression of tumor growth at non-irradiated sites (“abscopal effect”) in a mouse tumor model, an effect not observed with any other conventional chemical anticancer drugs. This time, its leading-edge unique therapeutic effects are highly evaluated by the authoritative public medical institution in the US.

Based on this CTA, after the approval of the clinical trial by the IRB (Institutional Review Board) at the NIA, ECI will submit an IND (Investigational New Drug) application to the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) in the US. Followed by the approval of the IND, ECI will provide free ECI301 preparation to the NIA. The NIA will then start Phase I clinical trial in accordance with its own Study Protocols in the Spring of 2009. Basically the NIA bears all the necessary clinical trial expenses. Phase I intends to verify safety and in vivo kinetics of radio therapy applied cancers including lung, breast, prostate and uterus.

ECI is expected to share all the results of the clinical trial, and followed by the successful result of drug effectiveness in Phase II clinical trial, ECI will be able to submit NDA (New Drug Application) to the FDA in the US.

This clinical trial agreement with the NIA is not expected to influence directly to the business performance for May 2009 fiscal term of ECI.

Incidentally, ECI expects to receive yen 500 million ( $\approx$  US\$5 million) as lump-sum payment from domestic or overseas mega-pharmaceutical company as licensing fee for May 2009 term. The amount is already taken into consideration for May 2009



forecast at the previous disclosure on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2008. However, we will immediately make announcement if there will be any development on this matter associated with the conclusion of the CTA.

(Contacts for inquiries or additional information)

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