



Trubion Pharmaceuticals Wins Genentech and Biogen Idec Patent Appeal

SEATTLE, June 3, 2010 /PRNewswire via COMTEX News Network/ -- Trubion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: TRBN), today announced that the Board of Appeal for the European Patent Office (EPO) has upheld the Opposition Division's original decision (announced Sept. 11, 2008) to revoke Genentech and Biogen Idec's European Patent 1176981, generally directed to the use of an anti-CD20 antibody for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA). The revocation of the patent claims as originally granted is now final.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20090320/TRUBIONLOGO>)

On Aug. 8, 2006, Trubion filed an opposition to European Patent 1176981 raising objections as to its validity. Subsequent to the submission of Trubion's opposition, several other parties filed oppositions to the Genentech patent, including MedImmune Inc., Genmab A/S, Centocor Inc., Glaxo Group Ltd., Merck Serono S.A, and Wyeth (now Pfizer). On Sept. 11, 2008, Trubion announced that the Opposition Division of the EPO had revoked the European patent in its entirety. On Feb. 19, 2009, Genentech and Biogen Idec appealed the decision. In addition to its opposition, Glaxo Group Ltd. filed an action with the United Kingdom High Court to revoke the U.K. counterpart of European Patent 1176981, and on May 19, 2008, the U.K. counterpart was revoked by court order.

The Board of Appeal, presiding in oral proceedings on June 1, 2010, upheld the original revocation ruling by the Opposition Division citing that the patent as granted did not meet the requirements for patentability. No further appeals can be made with regard to the revoked claims, but Genentech and Biogen Idec can pursue a claim limited to the use of rituximab in combination with methotrexate to treat RA. The Board of Appeal sent this claim down to the Opposition Division to assess patentability.

"Today's decision by the Board of Appeal is important not only for Trubion but also for patients who rely on companies like ours to innovate and develop more effective, more convenient and safer therapies," said Kathleen Deeley, senior vice president and general counsel at Trubion.

About Trubion

Trubion is a biopharmaceutical company that is creating a pipeline of novel protein therapeutic product candidates to treat autoimmune and inflammatory diseases and cancer. The Company's mission is to develop a variety of first-in-class and best-in-class product candidates, customized for optimal safety, efficacy and convenience that it believes may offer improved patient experiences. Trubion's current product candidates are novel single-chain protein, or SMIP, therapeutics, and are designed using its custom drug assembly technology. Trubion's product pipeline includes CD20-directed SMIP therapeutics such as TRU-015 and SBI-087 for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, developed under the Company's Pfizer collaboration. Trubion's product pipeline also includes TRU-016, a novel CD37-targeted therapy for the treatment of B-cell malignancies developed under the Company's Facet collaboration. In addition to Trubion's current clinical stage product pipeline, the Company is also developing its multi-specific SCORPION technology, both for targeting cell-surface molecules as well as simultaneously neutralizing soluble ligands. More information is available in the investors section of Trubion's website: <http://investors.trubion.com/index.cfm>.

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