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## **Immunotec Medical Corporation announced a clinical development program in the prevention of wasting in cancer**

Montreal (Quebec) - October 20<sup>th</sup> 2003 - Immunotec Medical Corporation announced today that a Clinical Trial Application (CTA) has been approved in Canada for a Phase 2 clinical trial to study the efficacy of IMN 1207 (a soluble protein based formulation) in the prevention of cachexia (wasting) in colorectal or non small cell lung cancer.

### **About the Trial**

This multi-centre, randomized, placebo controlled double-blind Phase 2 trial will evaluate the safety and efficacy of IMN 1207 in the prevention of wasting over a six month period in 74 patients, during or following, chemotherapy, radiation or surgery in the treatment of colorectal or non-small cell lung cancer. The trial will be conducted at number of prominent university hospital cancer centres across Canada including the McGill Department of Oncology, the Hamilton Regional Cancer Centre and the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton Alberta.

### **About Cachexia (Wasting)**

About half of cancer patients experience wasting (cachexia) that is characterized by progressive and substantial involuntary weight loss.<sup>1</sup> It results from the gradual depletion of host body cell mass (bcm), with loss of adipose tissue and skeletal muscle mass that may reach as high as 80%.<sup>2</sup> Low body cell mass (bcm) is associated with low performance status and has been clearly linked to significantly reduced survival in certain cancers and in other diseases such as AIDS<sup>3456</sup>. Wasting contributes to deterioration of quality of life, and increased morbidity and mortality in

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<sup>1</sup> Tisdale MJ. Wasting in cancer. *J Nutr* 1999; 129(IS Suppl):243S-246S.

<sup>2</sup> Tisdale MJ. Cachexia in cancer patients. *Nature Reviews Cancer*. 2002;2:862-871.

<sup>3</sup> DeWys WD Begg C Band P Tormey D. The impact of malnutrition on treatment results in breast cancer. *Cancer Treat Rep* 1981;65(Supl. 5):87-91.

<sup>4</sup> Simons JP Schols A Nuurman WA Wouters EFM. Weight loss and low body cell mass in males with lung cancer: relationship with systemic inflammation, acute-phase response, resting energy expenditure, and catabolic and anabolic hormones. *Clin Sci* 1999;97:215-223.

<sup>5</sup> Hack V Breikreutz R Kinscherf R *et al*. The redox state as a correlate of senescence and wasting and as a target for therapeutic intervention. *Blood* 1998;92:59-67.

<sup>6</sup> Kotler DP Tierney AR Franciso A Wang J Pierson RN. The timing of body cell mass depletion determines the timing of death from wasting in AIDS. *Am J Clin Nutr* 1989;50:444-447.

<sup>7</sup> Pisters PW Pearlstone DB. Protein and amino acid metabolism in cancer cachexia: investigative techniques and therapeutic interventions. *Crit Rev Clin Lab Sci* 1993; 30:223-272.

cancer patients<sup>7</sup>. Since wasting is an important determinant of performance status and survival in cancer, it is an important key target for therapeutic intervention.

## About Immunotec Medical Corporation

Immunotec Medical Corporation is focused on the development and commercialization of innovative therapeutics for cancer management. Immunotec Medical Corporation is a subsidiary of Immunotec Research Limited, a privately held company based in Vaudreuil-Dorion, Quebec Canada.

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