

April 6, 2011

Contact:
Mary Campbell, Managing Director
EDF Ventures
(734) 663-3213

EDF Ventures' Portfolio Company Cerenis Initiates Phase 2 Study of Lead Product Candidate, CER-001, in Patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome

ANN ARBOR, Mich. --- Cerenis Therapeutics, an EDF Ventures-backed biopharmaceutical company developing novel high-density lipoprotein (HDL) therapies to treat cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, has initiated a Phase 2 study of CER-001 in patients with acute coronary syndrome (ACS). The study is termed "CHI-SQUARE," an acronym for "**C**an **H**D**L** **I**nfusions **S**ignificantly **Q**uicken **A**therosclerosis **R**egression?"

CER-001 is an innovative complex of recombinant human ApoA-I, the major structural protein of HDL, and phospholipids. It has been designed to mimic the structure and function of natural, nascent HDL, also known as pre-beta HDL, which is believed to be protective against atherosclerosis. It is hoped that CER-001 will further reduce cardiovascular events in high-risk patients by promoting removal of cholesterol from the vessel wall.

The double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, safety and efficacy study will assess the ability of CER-001 to regress coronary atherosclerotic plaque as measured by intravascular ultrasound (IVUS). The study will include over 500 patients at 50 centers in the US, Canada and Europe, and will evaluate three different dose levels given in six weekly intravenous infusions.

This study is being done in collaboration with the Global Atherothrombotic Investigative Network (GAIN) and the Montreal Heart Institute. Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, Director of the Research Centre at the Montreal Heart Institute, is serving as the principal investigator.

Pre-beta HDL is believed to protect against cardiovascular disease by removing cholesterol and other lipids from tissues, including the arterial wall, and transporting them to the liver for elimination. The aim for the clinical use of a recombinant ApoA-I HDL mimetic is to stimulate cholesterol removal in a process known as reverse lipid transport.

EDF Managing Director Mary Campbell comments, “EDF was delighted to have the opportunity to invest at the inception of Cerenis and to participate in each successive round of financing. Our enthusiasm has grown as the Company continues to hit its technical and funding milestones. Cerenis has the opportunity to transform the lives of cardiovascular patients.”

About EDF Ventures

EDF Ventures provides capital and leadership assistance to entrepreneurs with proprietary technology and a passion for building a company to uniquely meet the needs of large and growing markets. Located in Michigan, EDF invests throughout the country and is proud of its ability to attract as syndicate members several of the nation's leading venture investors. The EDF portfolio includes companies developing medical devices, clinical diagnostics and pharmaceuticals as well as those capitalizing on innovations in transformative technologies to meet the market's growing need for information storage, protection, retrieval and transmission. Several of the EDF companies have their roots in universities. EDF manages three funds with approximately \$175 million under management. Visit www.edfvc.com for more information.

About Cerenis

Cerenis Therapeutics is an international biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of novel HDL therapies for the treatment of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. HDL is the primary facilitator of the reverse lipid transport, or RLT, pathway by which excess cholesterol is removed from arteries and is transported to the liver for elimination from the body. Cerenis is developing a portfolio of HDL therapies, including HDL mimetics for the rapid regression of atherosclerotic plaque in high-risk patients, and HDL elevators for patients with low HDL. Cerenis is well positioned to become the leader in the HDL therapeutic market with a broad portfolio of programs in development.

Since its inception in 2005, the company has raised \$165 million in equity with top tier investors: Sofinnova Partners, HealthCap, Alta Partners, EDF Ventures, Daiwa Corporate Investment, TVM Capital, Orbimed, IRDI/IXO Private Equity and the FSI (Fund for Strategic Investment). In addition to equity raised, OSEO, the French agency for innovation, has provided funding of \$15 million to support the development of CER-001.

About CER-001

CER-001, a complex of recombinant human ApoA-I and phospholipids, is being developed for the treatment of patients with acute coronary syndrome. CER-001 is designed to mimic pre-beta HDL, the "good" cholesterol, to promote the removal of excess cholesterol and other lipids from artery walls and enhance reverse lipid transport.