

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Defyrus Expands Antiviral Testing with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to Include Testing Against 5 Additional Pathogenic Viruses

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**Toronto -** Defyrus Inc. today announced that it has expanded antiviral testing of DEF201, its lead broad-spectrum antiviral candidate. Under the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' (NIAID's) preclinical services program, NIAID-funded contractors will test DEF201 in animal models for efficacy against 5 additional pathogenic viruses including; Rift Valley Fever virus, chikungunya, tick-borne encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus and adenovirus.

To date, under the Nonclinical Evaluation Agreement signed March 21, 2009, NIAID-funded contractors have evaluated the efficacy of DEF201 in mice or hamsters infected with SARS, Vaccinia, Pichinde or Yellow Fever viruses The studies found that DEF201 is effective against these infections in animal models. Positive results from these studies have been published jointly by Defyrus and the NIAID-supported laboratories.

"NIAID's antiviral screening program provides Defyrus with essential support in terms of funding studies that are conducted by world-class scientific investigators using well characterized, infectious disease models" said Dr. Jeffrey Turner, President & CEO, "This collaborative process truly facilitates the comprehensive evaluation of our lead drug DEF201 as a broad spectrum antiviral".

## **About Defyrus Inc.**

Defyrus is a private, life sciences biodefence company that collaborates with military and public health R&D partners in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada to develop broad spectrum anti-viral drugs and immunopotentiators to improve vaccine performance as medical countermeasures to viral threats of military and public health interest. www.defyrus.com

## About NIAID

NIAID conducts and supports research —at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), throughout the United States, and worldwide—to study the causes of infectious and immune-mediated diseases, and to develop better means of preventing, diagnosing and treating these illnesses. News releases, facts sheets and other NIAID-related materials are available on the NIAID web site at <a href="https://www.niaid.nih.gov">www.niaid.nih.gov</a>

The National Institutes of Health (NIH)—The Nation's Medical Research Agency—includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <a href="https://www.nih.gov">www.nih.gov</a>.



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