



## JOINT NEWS RELEASE

### Defyurus Inc. and H&P Labs Inc. enter into a Collaboration and Licensing Agreement on DEF201

Web Site Release

August 6, 2014

**Toronto & Montreal, Canada** - Defyurus Inc. and H&P Labs Inc. jointly announced today that they have signed a collaboration and licensing agreement for the advanced development of DEF201, Defyurus' lead drug candidate. Under the terms of the agreement, H&P Labs was granted exclusive, worldwide rights to DEF201, Defyurus' non-replicating adenoviral vector-5 expressing human consensus interferon alpha (IFN $\alpha$ ). H&P Labs will assume the financial and operational responsibility for all DEF201 clinical programs moving forward.

DEF201 is currently in preclinical stage. It has shown therapeutic and prophylactic efficacy in multiple animal models against a broad range of infectious diseases and it is expected that development could be pursued in viral hemorrhagic fever infections.

*"H&P Labs' management team, their regulatory experience, proven track record and the company's financial commitment to the DEF201 program will accelerate clinical development"* said Jeffrey Turner, President & CEO of Defyurus Inc. *"As seen with the most recent Ebola outbreak in Africa, antiviral drugs are urgently needed worldwide for public health and biodefense. Our investors and clients in government expect on-time, cost effective drug development. Together, we can deliver better results faster."*

*"There are currently very few treatment options for patients with, or exposed to, viral hemorrhagic fever viruses such as Ebola, Lassa or Yellow Fever and the results of DEF201 in animal studies are very promising. DEF201 could represent a very significant breakthrough in these illnesses"* said John Huss, President and CEO of H&P Labs; *"and there are a number of other infectious diseases that DEF201 could treat, or prevent"*, he added.

#### **About DEF201**

DEF201 uses a well-characterized adenoviral vector (Ad5) to deliver the human IFN $\alpha$  gene intranasally to the upper respiratory tract, which then drives the *in situ* production of human IFN $\alpha$ . This route of administration prevents the host immune system from recognizing the Ad5 vector, thereby bypassing any pre-existing immunity to Ad5 that is often present in humans. This intranasal route of administration is key to DEF201's success and one dose of DEF201 produces an "antiviral state" for several weeks.

DEF201 is an adenoviral-vectored interferon with proven broad spectrum antiviral efficacy in well characterized models of infectious diseases. To date, over 70 *in vivo* efficacy studies have confirmed DEF201's utility as a monotherapy in preventing or treating the following infectious viruses; Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, Lassa Fever, SARS, Yellow fever, Pox, Pichinde, Punta Toro,



Rift Valley fever and Eastern, Western, Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (EEE, WEE, VEE). Recently, DEF201 was also shown to have efficacy against the Strep bacteria, a major human pathogen, that causes community/hospital-acquired pneumonia.

Combination Therapy: DEF201 further enhances and potentiates the protective effects of other antimicrobial drugs such as monoclonal antibodies (MAbs) or vaccines when administered together. The benefits of combination therapy is realized with vaccine dose sparing, faster acquire immunity or synergistic augmentation of MAb or vaccine efficacy.

#### **About Defyrus**

Defyrus is a private, life sciences biodefence company that collaborates with public health & biodefense R&D partners in the United States, European Union, Canada and Asia to develop and manufacture broad spectrum anti-viral drugs, MAbs and vaccines as effective medical countermeasures to treat viral-based diseases worldwide.

[www.defyrus.com](http://www.defyrus.com)

#### **About H&P Labs**

H&P Labs is a private, diversified biotechnology company focused on early stages of development. H&P Labs partners with academia, biotechnological and pharmaceutical companies in order to take pre-clinical compounds through early stages of clinical development, before licensing or selling their rights to a third party for late-stage development and commercialization. H&P Labs' objective is to reduce the time between pre-clinical research and proof-of-concept (Phase II) in humans, thus maximizing the commercial value of the compounds.

[www.hnplabs.com](http://www.hnplabs.com)

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