



## PSIOXUS THERAPEUTICS RECEIVES £1.8 MILLION TRANSLATION AWARD FROM THE WELLCOME TRUST TO TAKE ONCOLYTIC VIRUS INTO CLINIC

*ColoAd1 will enter phase I/II development for metastatic colorectal cancer in 2012*

LONDON –12 September, 2011 – [PsiOxus Therapeutics, Ltd.](#) (PsiOxus) today announced that it has received a Translation Award from the Wellcome Trust valued at up to £1.8 million. The funding will support clinical development of a virus that attacks cancer cells with clinical trials expected to begin in early 2012.

Viruses that preferentially attack cancer cells whilst leaving normal tissues unharmed are known as oncolytic viruses. The oncolytic virus ColoAd1 was developed using the evolutionary principle of natural selection to generate a virus with specificity for cancer cells as a possible new therapy for cancer.

Laboratory studies have shown that ColoAd1 has selectivity for killing cancer cells from a wide range of solid tumour types but shows little or no activity on normal tissue. Compared to other oncolytic viruses in development as cancer therapies, ColoAd1 has been shown to retain a high level of activity in human blood. This means that it could potentially be administered systemically as a treatment for cancer that has already spread to other tissues, known as metastatic disease.

PsiOxus will use the funding from the Wellcome Trust to conduct a phase I/II clinical trial of ColoAd1 in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer, to determine the safety and tolerability of the virus. Future studies are also planned in patients with other solid tumour types, including primary hepatocellular cancer and ovarian cancer.

PsiOxus CEO Dr John Beadle added, “We are delighted that our innovative oncolytic product has gained recognition by the UK’s leading biomedical foundation, the Wellcome Trust. This funding will enable a key clinical trial to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of intravenous administration of ColoAd1 to patients with metastatic cancer.

This is the second product PsiOxus has entering the clinic and highlights the effectiveness of our research and development strategy to identify suitable early stage candidates for translational development.” PsiOxus is also developing a small molecule treatment for Cachexia, a wasting syndrome associated with cancer and other serious chronic diseases that results in significant unintended weight loss. The product, MT-102, is currently in phase II clinical development.

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### About PsiOxusTherapeutics, Ltd.

**PsiOxus Therapeutics** is a development stage biotechnology company using non-traditional approaches to develop novel therapeutics that address cancer and other clinically unmet diseases. The Company's lead candidate is **MT-102**, a dual action Anabolic Catabolic Transforming Agent (ACTA) in phase II clinical development for the treatment of cachexia and sarcopenia. **ColoAd1**, an oncolytic virus for the systemic treatment of metastatic cancer, has demonstrated optimal anti-cancer properties in late pre-clinical development. The Company is also developing treatments based upon the research phase vaccine platform **PolySTAR**, which combines recombinant viral vectors with polymers to shield them from the immune system, and the research phase adjuvant and immunotherapeutic platform **PolyMAP**, which combines polymers with synthetic adjuvants to significantly enhance the effectiveness of vaccines.

The **Wellcome Trust** is a global charitable foundation dedicated to achieving extraordinary improvements in human and animal health. It supports the brightest minds in biomedical research and the medical humanities. The Trust's breadth of support includes public engagement, education and the application of research to improve health. It is independent of both political and commercial interests.

[www.wellcome.ac.uk](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk)

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