Ocata Therapeutics Receives Important New U.S. Patent for its RPE Therapy for Macular Degenerative Diseases

Fortified Patent Portfolio Covers RPE Products from All Pluripotent Stem Cell Sources

MARLBOROUGH, Mass.-- Ocata Therapeutics, Inc. (“Ocata” or “the Company”; NASDAQ: OCAT), a leader in the field of Regenerative Ophthalmology™, today announced that it continues to fortify the scope of protection covering its retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) transplant technology with the issuance by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) of U.S. Patent No 9,045,732. This new patent further strengthens the Company’s comprehensive suite of intellectual property which the Company believes to be an important component of its sustainable competitive advantage in Regenerative Ophthalmology. Ocata recently announced the issuance of three new patents and the Company believes it now has protection for the manufacture of all RPE cell products from pluripotent stem cell sources, including the manufacturing of all formulations, (e.g. suspensions and sheets of cells), for use as therapeutic agents, as well as the use of these formulations for treating ophthalmic diseases, such as dry age related macular degeneration (“dry AMD”) and Stargardt’s macular degeneration (“SMD”).

"We continue to expand and strengthen our patent estate as we increase our worldwide leadership position in RPE products derived from any pluripotent cell source," said Paul K. Wotton, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ocata Therapeutics. “Our emphasis and ongoing investment in a comprehensive patent strategy has Ocata well positioned to initiate the next phase of our clinical development program; phase 2 trials for dry AMD and a pivotal trial for SMD. The development and commercialization of our breakthrough, fully differentiated cell therapies remains our key objective and we are committed to bringing these novel therapies to patients in need.”

This issued patent strengthens Ocata’s broad intellectual property portfolio of more than 60 granted patents and approximately 200 patent applications globally. The current intellectual property estate, which incorporates additional filings around the core RPE cell therapy discovery and improvements the Company has made, may provide additional coverage for the Company’s pharmaceutical preparations of RPE cells, methods of use, manufacturing processes, and products for the next 20 years or longer.

About Ocata Therapeutics, Inc.

Ocata Therapeutics, Inc. is a clinical stage biotechnology company focused on the development and commercialization of Regenerative Ophthalmology therapeutics. Ocata’s most advanced products are in clinical trials for the treatment of Stargardt’s macular...
degeneration, dry age-related macular degeneration, and myopic macular degeneration. Ocata’s intellectual property portfolio includes pluripotent stem cell platforms – hESC and induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) – and other cell therapy research programs. For more information, visit www.ocata.com.

About Age-related Macular Degeneration

Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of vision loss in people over the age of 50. Every year in the USA there are 1.8 million patients newly diagnosed with dry AMD which occurs when light-sensitive photoreceptor cells in the macula, located in the center of the retina, slowly break down, causing vision loss as a result. Photoreceptor breakdown is a consequence of loss or damage to the RPE layer. As the disease progresses, patients may have difficulty reading and recognizing faces. There is currently no proven medical therapy for dry AMD and the projected number of people worldwide with age-related macular degeneration in 2020 is 196 million, increasing to 288 million in 2040 underscoring the urgent need for new treatments.

About Stargardt’s Disease

Stargardt’s macular degeneration is a form of juvenile macular degeneration that affects vision in children and young adults between the ages of six and 20, with a prevalence of approximately one in 10,000 people in the United States. It is an orphan disease and loss of vision is an inevitable aspect of SMD, with more than half of the patients experiencing vision loss in the range of 20/200-20/400. Like dry AMD, it occurs as a result of damage to the RPE layer and there are no treatments currently approved to prevent or slow the vision loss associated with SMD.

Forward-Looking Statements

All statements, other than historical facts, contained in this news release, including statements regarding, Ocata’s beliefs regarding the scope and duration of protection provided by its new and existing patents, the effect of such patents on the Ocata’s clinical development plans, the existence and sustainability of any competitive advantages due to Ocata’s intellectual property position, plans to initiate a pivotal trial for Stargardt’s Disease and phase 2 clinical trials for dry AMD, and any other statements about Ocata’s future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans, results or prospects expressed by management constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements that are not statements of historical fact (including statements containing the words “will,” “believes,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “estimates,” and similar expressions) should also be considered to be forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, including: the fact that Ocata has no product revenue and no products approved for marketing; Ocata’s limited operating history; Ocata’s need for and limited sources of future capital; potential failures or delays in obtaining regulatory approval of products; risks inherent in the development and commercialization of potential products; reliance on new and unproven technology in the development of products; the need to protect Ocata’s intellectual property; the challenges associated with conducting and enrolling clinical trials; the risk that the results of clinical trials may not support Ocata’s
product candidate claims; the risk that physicians and patients may not accept or use Ocata’s products, even if approved; Ocata’s reliance on third parties to conduct its clinical trials and to formulate and manufacture its product candidates; and economic conditions generally. Additional information on potential factors that could affect our results and other risks and uncertainties are detailed from time to time in Ocata's periodic reports, including the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. Forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs, opinions, and expectations of Ocata’s management at the time they are made, and Ocata does not assume any obligation to update its forward-looking statements if those beliefs, opinions, expectations, or other circumstances should change. Forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs, opinions, and expectations of Ocata’s management at the time they are made, and Ocata does not assume any obligation to update its forward-looking statements if those beliefs, opinions, expectations, or other circumstances should change. There can be no assurance that Ocata’s future clinical trials will be successful or that the results of previous clinical studies will lead to commercialization or products or therapies.

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