



## **\$ 6.6 million R&D grant from US NIH for Intercell to develop biodefense vaccines**

*Vienna - June 14, 2005* – Intercell AG announced today the receipt of an R&D grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH) of the United States amounting to \$ 6.6m. The grant supports the incorporation of Intercell's proprietary adjuvant program (IC31™) into the development of biodefense vaccines. In the event of a bioterror attack effective single dose vaccines with reduced antigen doses and safe immune protection are required for mass immunization.

The major goal of the NIH-funded project is the incorporation of Intercell's novel "Immunizer" IC31™ adjuvant into vaccine applications to mediate the induction of intensified and specific immune responses. The three year R&D program will include a proof-of-concept study combining IC31™ with Intercell's existing prophylactic Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) vaccine to create biodefense related applications.

Intercell's proprietary IC31™ comprises a peptide and an oligonucleotide for stimulating both potent B-cell and T-cell immune responses.

"This is the largest NIH R&D grant ever awarded to an Austrian biotechnology company. It shows that our adjuvant program and one of our most advanced vaccine products have been recognized for their strong potential to protect people in hazardous situations that go beyond standard prophylactic applications", states Gerd Zettlmeissl, Intercell's COO.

### **About Intercell AG**

Intercell AG is a fast growing biotechnology company focusing on the design and development of novel vaccines for prevention and treatment of diseases with substantial unaddressed medical need. The Company's unique position is based on proprietary technology platforms and its in-house GMP manufacturing facilities. Intercell's technology has been endorsed by collaborative agreements with a number of global pharmaceutical companies, including Sanofi Aventis, and Merck&Co., Inc. The superior adjuvant profile of IC31™ has led to promising product alliances with the Statens Serum Institut in Denmark for the development of a novel TB vaccine and with Scigen Ltd in Australia in the field of Hepatitis B. The Company has a broad development pipeline. The lead product – a prophylactic vaccine against Japanese Encephalitis (JEV) is about to enter Phase III clinical trials. JEV is a flavivirus that is the leading cause of encephalitis worldwide resulting in 50,000 cases and 15,000 deaths annually and has been classified as a Pathogen for Biodefense. The second lead product - a vaccine against Hepatitis C - is currently undergoing Phase II clinical trials. Five additional follow up product candidates focusing infectious diseases in the pre-clinical phase fill the pipeline. Intercell is listed on the Vienna stock exchange under the symbol "ICLL".

For more information please visit: [www.intercell.com](http://www.intercell.com)





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