

Hemispherx Biopharma and Sigma-Aldrich Enter Agreement to Produce Hemispherx's RNA-based Ampligen® in U.S.

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Philadelphia, PA, Monday, November 18, 2002: Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc. (AMEX: HEB) and Sigma-Aldrich Fine Chemicals, a division of Sigma-Aldrich Corporation (NASDAQ: SIAL), announced today that they have entered an agreement in which Sigma-Aldrich will manufacture the active ingredient for Hemispherx's lead RNA-based platform drug, Ampligen®, for the first time in the U.S. Prior to this arrangement, Ampligen will have been produced solely outside the country. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Sigma-Aldrich, known for its expertise in genomic and pharmaceutical production and processing, will manufacture the active ingredient for Ampligen in its St. Louis facilities. Hemispherx focuses on the development of nucleic acids to enhance anti-viral defense systems. It is the leading company in the experimental-stage development of immune-based therapies primarily addressing the diseases of HIV/AIDS and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

"Hemispherx's RNA-based drug products have a broad range of therapeutic indications," said Tom Gelineau, Director of U.S. Sales of Sigma-Aldrich. "We are excited about collaborating with Hemispherx as Ampligen moves toward eventual large-scale production and marketing, and we look forward to the development and production of this new RNA-based class of pharmaceutical products."

Hemispherx Chairman and CEO William Carter, M.D., said, "Sigma-Aldrich's experience and knowledge of biotechnology and chemical production will facilitate the process toward successful commercialization of Hemispherx drug products."

Hemispherx holds nearly 400 patents worldwide. The company is presently conducting Phase III Clinical Studies in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Phase IIb studies in HIV/AIDS. The Company has also conducted studies in Hepatitis B, and is collaborating with the National Institutes of Health to evaluate promising experimental drug modalities against potential bioterror agents.

About Hemispherx

Hemispherx Biopharma, based in Philadelphia, is a bio-pharmaceutical company engaged in the manufacture and global clinical development of new drug entities in the nucleic acid (NA) class for chronic viral diseases and disorders of the immune system including, HIV, CFS and Hepatitis. Its platform technology includes large and small agent components for potential treatment of various chronic viral infections. For more information visit the company's Web site at www.hemispherx.net.

About Sigma-Aldrich

Sigma-Aldrich is a leading Life Science and High Technology company. Its biochemical and organic chemical products and kits are used in scientific and genomic research, biotechnology, pharmaceutical development, the diagnosis of disease and chemical manufacturing. It has customers in life science companies, university and government institutions, hospitals and in industry. Sigma-Aldrich operates in 34 countries and has over 6,000 employees. For more information about Sigma-Aldrich, please visit their web site at sigma-aldrich.com.

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HEB's Web Site: www.hemispherx.net

Information contained in this news release other than historical information, should be considered forward-looking and is subject to various risk factors and uncertainties. For instance, the strategies and operations of Hemispherx and Sigma-Aldrich involve risks of competition, changing market conditions, changes in laws and regulations affecting these industries and numerous other factors discussed in this release and in the Companies filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, actual results including financial results may differ materially from those in any forward-looking statements. Additionally, all the referenced investigational drugs and associated technologies of Hemispherx are experimental in nature and as such are not designated safe and effective by a regulatory authority for general use and are legally available only through clinical trials with the referenced disorders. The forward-looking statements represent the Companies judgment as of the date of this release. The Companies disclaims, however, any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements.