



# CELLERANT THERAPEUTICS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE GRANTS CELLERANT THERAPEUTICS BROAD CLAIMS ON THE HUMAN HEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELL**

**PALO ALTO, Calif. – October 28, 2004** – Cellerant Therapeutics, Inc. today announced the end of the opposition period for the patent on its highly purified human hematopoietic stem cell (HP-HSC) composition of matter and uses in the European Union. The patent, “Human Hematopoietic Stem Cell,” patent number EP1344819, is the final patent to issue in a portfolio that includes eleven issued U.S., European, and Japanese patents.

Cellerant President and CEO Bruce Cohen stated, “The grant of this broad European patent is a major milestone for Cellerant and our HP-HSC technology platform. This patent strengthens our claims to the human hematopoietic stem cell and its uses both as a therapeutic and as a drug discovery tool. Combined with our existing portfolio of patents on the HP-HSC and hematopoietic progenitor cells such as myeloid and lymphoid progenitors, this patent establishes Cellerant as the world leader in intellectual property for the therapeutic and research uses of these cells.”

Cellerant Therapeutics intends to commercialize the HP-HSC as a treatment for autoimmune and genetic diseases, beginning with lupus in 2005. HP-HSCs were shown to result in prompt engraftment in human clinical trials involving more than 65 patients who received myeloablative therapy, the full destruction of the stem cells in the bone marrow which is typical in stem cell transplants. Based on animal models, the Company believes that transplants of purified stem cells will be curative and free of graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), the major cause of morbidity associated with the T-cell contamination in unpurified donor-derived stem cells.

Cellerant also intends to use its expertise in hematopoietic ontogeny and its IP position in hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells as a discovery platform for target screening and validation of small molecules and biologics, both independently and with partners. Cellerant is the exclusive worldwide licensee of the HSC patents, which are owned by Novartis AG.

### **About Cellerant Therapeutics**

Cellerant Therapeutics Inc. ([www.cellerant.com](http://www.cellerant.com)) is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing and commercializing the use of hematopoietic (blood-forming) stem

cell-based products and therapies for the treatment of autoimmune and blood disorders, infectious disease and cancer. The Company's extensive portfolio of intellectual property and clinical assets are licensed from Novartis and Stanford University. Cellerant was founded by Dr. Irving Weissman, Director of the Cancer/Stem Cell Institute at Stanford University.

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