Ziopharm Oncology Announces First Patient Infused in CD19 RPM CAR-T Phase I Clinical Trial Being Conducted by Joint Venture Partner Eden BioCell

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BOSTON and HOUSTON and TAIPEI, Taiwan, April 19, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Ziopharm Oncology, Inc. (“Ziopharm” or the “Company”) (Nasdaq: ZIOP), announced today that in March, the first patient was infused in the CD19-Specific Rapid Personalized Manufacturing (“RPM”) CAR-T Phase I Trial, being conducted by Eden BioCell, its joint venture with TriArm Therapeutics.

The patient was treated at National Taiwan University Hospital under the direction of lead investigator, Dr. Shang-Ju Wu.

The patient's T cells, collected from the patient via apheresis, were genetically engineered utilizing the Company’s non-viral *Sleeping Beauty* transposon transposase system and infused two days after gene transfer.

“We are excited to be conducting this important trial for this experimental treatment,” said Dr. Jay Zhang, Chief Executive Officer of TriArm Therapeutics.

The Company and Eden BioCell will provide updates regarding the experimental treatment and other patient data in the second half of the year at appropriate venue(s), including scientific conferences, publications and / or bespoke events that the Company may convene.

About the Trial *“Infusion of CD19-Specific Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cells Produced by Rapid Personalized Manufacture for Patients with Advanced Lymphoid Malignancies”*
This is a single center phase I, open-label dose-escalation trial, for patients with relapsed CD19+ leukemias and lymphomas. Up to 24 patients will be enrolled in this trial. The primary endpoint of the trial is to evaluate the safety and tolerability of autologous CD19-specific T cells manufactured using the RPM process.

About Ziopharm Oncology, Inc.
Ziopharm is developing non-viral and cytokine-driven cell and gene therapies that weaponize the body’s immune system to treat the millions of people globally diagnosed with cancer each year. With its multiplatform approach, Ziopharm is at the forefront of immuno-oncology. Ziopharm’s pipeline is built for commercially scalable, cost effective T-cell receptor T-cell therapies based on its non-viral *Sleeping Beauty* gene transfer platform, a rapidly manufactured *Sleeping Beauty*-enabled CD19-specific CAR-T program, and a precisely controlled IL-12 gene therapy. The Company has clinical and strategic collaborations with the National Cancer Institute, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals. For more information, please visit www.ziopharm.com.

About Eden BioCell
In December 2018, Ziopharm and TriArm Therapeutics announced the launch of Eden BioCell to lead clinical development and commercialization of Ziopharm’s RPM Sleeping Beauty-generated CAR-T therapies in Greater China and Korea.

About TriArm Therapeutics
TriArm Therapeutics is a cell therapy company with R&D operations in Germany, United States and Asia. The company is dedicated to the treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases.

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Forward-Looking Statements Disclaimer
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the Securities and Exchange Commission. We are providing this information as of the date of this press release, and Ziopharm does not undertake any obligation to update or revise the information contained in this press release whether as a result of new information, future events or any other reason.

Source: ZIOPHARM Oncology Inc