

# ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

# 2ND EXCELLENCE IN MIDKINE RESEARCH CONFERENCE JUNE 27-30, ISTANBUL

- 2<sup>nd</sup> global conference on midkine research is held in Istanbul
- Key opinion leaders from 12 countries presenting
- Midkine book launch on 28<sup>th</sup> June at the conference
- Novel therapeutic and diagnostic work to be presented

**SYDNEY, ISTANBUL, 25 June 2012: Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)** will be holding the *2nd Excellence in Midkine Research Conference* between 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey. The event is hosted by Istanbul University and Yeni Yuzyil University and will be held in the historic Rectorate of Istanbul University. The event follows on the success of the first midkine conference held in Sydney in November 2010 and boasts double the number of registered scientific delegates.

This second global meeting of key opinion leaders will be attended by leading researchers and clinicians from twelve countries representing a number of new therapeutic and diagnostic fields. This is a scientific meeting of experts in midkine research on an 'invitation only' basis and discussions will be held confidentially to ensure open debate on unpublished and potentially patentable data.

The conference will be the forum for the launching of the book "*Midkine: From Embryogenesis to Pathogenesis and Therapy*", published by Springer, to coincide with this global event.

A conference communique is available on Cellmid's website (<u>http://www.cellmid.com.au/content\_common/pg-2012-program.seo</u>) outlining the full program, biographies of the speakers and abstracts of the presentations. Due to the confidential nature of some of the data discussed presentations will not be published.

Eminent Japanese scientists and discoverers of midkine, Emeritus Professor Takashi Muramatsu and Professor Kenji Kadomatsu, will be making keynote addresses outlining the progress made in midkine research since the last conference in 2010.

Novel areas of research to be presented will include midkine as a tool for diagnosing inflammation, stem cells and cancer therapeutics. In addition, critical midkine receptor information will be discussed.

"We are delighted to be hosted by one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Europe and grateful to the Rectors of Istanbul University and Yani Yuzyil University for their generous support of this event" said CEO of Cellmid Maria Halasz.

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### Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)

Cellmid is an Australian biotechnology company developing innovative novel therapies and diagnostic tests for inflammatory diseases, heart attack and cancer. Cellmid holds the largest and most comprehensive portfolio of intellectual property related to midkine and midkine antagonists globally. The Company's most advanced clinical development programme is for the treatment of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) utilising the midkine protein. Cellmid is also developing anti-midkine antibodies for the treatment of inflammatory and autoimmune disorders. In addition, Cellmid is commercialising midkine as a biomarker for cancer diagnosis. Elevated midkine concentration in the blood and other body fluids is strongly indicative of cancer. Cellmid's first product, the MK-ELISA, is a blood test that sensitively and accurately measures serum midkine levels.

#### Midkine (MK)

Midkine is a multifunctional growth factor that is highly expressed during embryonic development. Midkine modulates many important biological interactions such as cell growth, cell migration and cellular adherence. These functions are relevant to cancer, inflammation, autoimmunity, ischemia, nerve growth/repair and wound healing. Midkine is barely detectable in healthy adults and only occurs as a consequence of the pathogenesis of a number of different disorders. Midkine expression is often evident very early in disease onset, even before any apparent physical symptoms. Accordingly, midkine is an important early marker for diagnosing cancers and autoimmune diseases. Finally, because midkine is only present in a disease context, targeting midkine does not harm normal healthy tissues.

### **Istanbul University**

Istanbul University, the oldest and best-established university of Turkey, has a history that dates back 550 years. The foundation of Istanbul University, one of the oldest educational institutions not only of Turkey, but also of the world, was accomplished when Mehmet the Conqueror conquered Istanbul at 1453. When the Turkish Republic was founded, Istanbul University was the only institution of higher education. That is the reason why it is the provender for all the universities existing in Turkey today, and the academics educated here have initiated the establishment of the other institutions. Thus, Istanbul University has always been instrumental in the training and strengthening of Turkey's scientific cadres. Istanbul University ranks among the first 10 founded in Europe. The University has been a leader in the establishment of modern values and social enlightenment, and it remains in the lead in the age of science. It consists of 17 faculties, 12 colleges and training schools, 13 institutes, and more than 30 research centres. There are approximately 60 000 students receiving their B.A., M.A., and Doctorate degrees.

## Yeni Yüzyıl University

Yeni Yüzyıl University, an autonomous foundation university, was founded by Vatan Health and Education Foundation (VASEV) in February 28, 2009. Dr. Azmi Ofluoğlu is the head of both the Foundation and the Board of Trustees of the university. One of the primary goals of Yeni Yüzyıl University is to hold a place among the world's standard-setting universities by providing an educational environment based on sound academic principles, concordant with the changing demands of the modern world. To this end, it aims to provide society with individuals who are insightful, modern, intellectually and scientifically well equipped, experienced, and loyal to Atatürk's principles and reforms. Due to the expertise of the academic staff, in cooperation with the public and private sectors, the university provides a universal standard of education, not only in the area of medical sciences, for which the university is recognized, but in every academic discipline offered. Yeni Yüzyıl University currently offers 13 programs in 8 faculties, 19 departments and 2 vocational schools.