

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

### CELLMID CONVENING 5<sup>TH</sup> MIDKINE SYMPOSIUM IN MUNICH, 3-5 MAY 2018

- Hosted by the Biomedical Center, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
- Key opinion leaders from twelve countries presenting on midkine research
- Presentations on midkine therapies for cancer, kidney disease and heart failure

**SYDNEY, MONDAY, 9 April 2018: Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)** will be convening the 5<sup>th</sup> Midkine Symposium in Munich, Germany between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The Symposium will be a global meeting of key opinion leaders, clinicians and research scientists involved in midkine (MK) research. The event follows on the success of the previous four scientific meetings on midkine held in Sydney (2010), Istanbul (2012), Kyoto (2014) and Budapest (2016).

Munich has been chosen for the Symposium as it is the home Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU), where researchers are currently assessing Cellmid's midkine antibodies in a model of chronic heart failure. The research at LMU is the subject of a recently filed patent application by Cellmid and is expected to deliver vital data and add to the Company's already substantial midkine asset portfolio.

Midkine is a promising molecule in drug development. It is a heparin-binding growth factor that promotes cell growth, survival, differentiation and cell migration. It is almost undetectable in healthy adults, however, is upregulated as part of the pathogenesis of certain chronic diseases.

This Symposium will host delegates from twelve countries with expertise in various therapeutic and diagnostic fields and will enhance interactions between leading researchers within the midkine community, as well as foster new research directions and collaborations world-wide.

Previous meetings resulted in a number of collaborations that continue to provide vital progress for Cellmid's therapeutic programs including the recently completed clinical studies carried out at Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, demonstrating that midkine is associated with prostate cancer progression and treatment resistance.

The Symposium will be hosted by the team led by eminent cardiologist Dr Ludwig Weckbach, Cellmid's research partner based at the Biomedical Center and Department of Cardiology, Ludwig Maximilian University. The Biomedical Center at LMU is an internationally renowned centre for Applied Cell Science.

Dr Weckbach will be welcoming Symposium delegates as well presenting his group's innovative discoveries demonstrating the clinical potential of therapeutic antibodies targeting midkine for chronic heart failure.

Another highlight of this year's Midkine Symposium is the exciting program of talks, brimming with recent papers from high profile journals such as *Nature* and *Cell* within themed sessions covering midkine's role in cancer, neurological, cardiovascular and chronic inflammatory diseases.

The Symposium agenda includes presentations on unpublished and patentable research, and for this reason the information presented at the meeting and the lectures on the agenda will not be publicly released. Amongst the 32 presenters will be Symposium Patrons and discoverers of midkine, Emeritus Professor Takashi Muramatsu and Professor Kenji Kadomatsu, who will be outlining the progress made in midkine research since the last meeting in 2016.

"The Midkine Symposium in Munich promises to be the best yet with a very full and exciting program of talks and activities that continue to reflect the value of developing new treatments based on midkine for significant clinical indications. We are gratified that so many leading international researchers will attend and present their latest findings about how midkine is involved in diverse disease processes" said Symposium Chair and Head of Research and Development at Cellmid, Associate Professor Graham Robertson.

Further details on the 5<sup>th</sup> Midkine Symposium are available on the Cellmid website: [www.cellmid.com.au/content\\_common/pg-midkine-conference.seo](http://www.cellmid.com.au/content_common/pg-midkine-conference.seo).

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## **Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)**

Cellmid is an Australian life sciences company with lead programs in multiple disease indications. The Company, through its wholly owned subsidiaries, Lynamid, Kinera and Advangen, develops and markets innovative novel therapies and diagnostic tests for fibrotic diseases, cancer, ischemic diseases of the heart and hair loss. Cellmid holds the largest and most comprehensive portfolio of intellectual property relating to the novel targets midkine (MK) and FGF5 globally. Intellectual property pertaining to midkine is being exploited through wholly owned subsidiaries Lynamid and Kinera. Advangen, Cellmid's consumer health business, sells its FGF5 inhibitor hair growth products in Australia, Japan, USA and China. For further information, please see [www.cellmid.com.au](http://www.cellmid.com.au) and [www.myevolis.com.au](http://www.myevolis.com.au).

## **Advangen Limited and hair growth products**

Advangen Limited is Cellmid's wholly owned subsidiary engaged in the development and sale of first in class, best in class, clinically validated anti-aging products for hair, skin and body. Advangen has a range of FGF5 inhibitor hair growth products which are sold in Australia, Japan, USA and China. Advangen has a rich portfolio of hair growth and anti-aging hair care assets which include formulations of products on market, trademarks, patents and patent applications, proprietary assays and manufacturing processes. Fillerina<sup>®</sup>, a non-injectable dermal filler, is Advangen's first anti-aging skin product.

## **Midkine (MK)**

Midkine is a 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, midkine is only evident in a disease context, and targeting midkine is not expected to harm normal healthy tissues.

## **Investment in life sciences companies**

There are a number of inherent risks associated with the research, development and commercialisation of pharmaceutical products. Investment in companies specialising in these activities carry specific risks which are different to those associated with trading and manufacturing businesses. As such, these companies should be regarded as highly speculative. Cellmid recommends that investors seek professional advice before making an investment in its shares.

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<sup>i</sup> ASX Announcement, 3 July 2017