INTROGEN THERAPEUTICS INC Form 10-Q August 09, 2007

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### Form 10-Q

(Mark One)

# QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2007.

or

#### • TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the transition period from to .

For the transition period from

Commission file number 000-21291

Introgen Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

74-2704230

# 301 Congress Avenue, Suite 1850

Austin, Texas 78701

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(512) 708-9310

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes b No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one): Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer b Non-accelerated filer o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No b

As of August 8, 2007 the registrant had 43,845,438 shares of its common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, issued and outstanding.

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# PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

# **Item 1. Financial Statements**

# INTROGEN THERAPEUTICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts)

	December 31, 2006		June 30, 2007 (Unaudited)		
ASSETS					
Current Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	25,578	\$	8,471	
Short-term investments		15,767		19,399	
Total cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments		41,345		27,870	
Marketable securities		6,957		19,692	
Prepaid expense and other current assets		397		376	
Total current assets		48,699		47,938	
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$13,976 and					
\$14,521		5,172		4,654	
Other assets		290		279	
Total assets	\$	54,161	\$	52,871	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY					
Current Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$	2,384	\$	1,601	
Accrued liabilities and other		4,817		3,004	
Deferred revenue and other		624		624	
Current portion of notes payable		917		669	
Total current liabilities		8,742		5,898	
Notes payable, net of current portion		7,448		7,234	
Deferred revenue and other, long-term		923		501	
Total liabilities		17,113		13,633	
Non-controlling and minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries Commitments and Contingencies Stockholders Equity: Preferred stock, \$.001 par value per share; 5,000 shares authorized; 4,900 shares issuable; zero Series A shares issued and outstanding in 2006 and 2007, respectively					
		44		44	

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Common stock, \$.001 par value per share; 100,000 shares authorized; shares		
issued and outstanding of 43,591 in 2006 and 43,845 in 2007		
Additional paid-in capital	205,350	208,185
Accumulated deficit	(172,260)	(185,626)
Accumulated other comprehensive gain	3,914	16,635
Total stockholders equity	37,048	39,238
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 54,161	\$ 52,871

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

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# INTROGEN THERAPEUTICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts) (UNAUDITED)

		nths Ended e 30,	Six Months Ended June 30,		
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
Contract services, grant and other revenue Operating costs and expense: Research and development, including share-based compensation of \$253 and \$314 for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and 2007 and \$470 and \$619 for	\$98	\$ 82	\$ 323	\$ 404	
the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2007 General and administrative, including share-based compensation of \$1,307 and \$1,190 for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and 2007 and \$3,328 and \$2,140	4,896	4,763	9,942	7,938	
for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2007	3,273	3,533	7,069	6,800	
Total operating costs and expense	8,169	8,296	17,011	14,738	
Loss from operations	(8,071)	(8,214)	(16,688)	(14,334)	
Interest income	267	373	566	815	
Interest expense	(175)	(166)	(331)	(345)	
Other income	288	244	543	498	
Loss before non-controlling and minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries Non-controlling and minority interests in consolidated	(7,691)	(7,763)	(15,910)	(13,366)	
subsidiaries		14			
Net loss	\$ (7,691)	\$ (7,749)	\$ (15,910)	\$(13,366)	
Net loss per share, basic and diluted	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.18)	\$ (0.43)	\$ (0.31)	
Shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share	37,214	43,801	37,197	43,728	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

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# INTROGEN THERAPEUTICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Amounts in thousands) (UNAUDITED)

	Six Months Ended 2006			June 30, 2007	
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net loss	\$	(15,910)	\$	(13,366)	
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:					
Non-controlling and minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries		719		545	
Depreciation Share-based compensation		3,769		2,759	
Amortization of grant rights acquired		133		2,139	
Changes in assets and liabilities:		155			
(Increase) decrease in other assets		(27)		33	
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable		280		(783)	
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable		(366)		(783)	
		. ,			
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue and other		(114)		(422)	
Net cash used in operating activities		(11,516)		(11,545)	
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchases of property and equipment		(85)		(27)	
Purchases of short-term investments		(22,198)		(19,334)	
Maturities of short-term investments		14,790		15,702	
Net cash used in investing activities		(7,493)		(3,659)	
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Payment of offering costs related to sale of common stock				(1,571)	
Proceeds from exercise of options for common stock		29		145	
Proceeds from notes payable		346		94	
Principal payments under notes payable		(434)		(557)	
Net cash used in financing activities		(59)		(1,889)	
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash		14		(14)	
Net decrease in cash		(19,054)		(17,107)	
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		28,090		25,578	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	9,036	\$	8,471	
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Cash paid for interest	\$	309	\$	330	
Cash paid for taxes for the issuance of common stock in connection with the grant of common stock	\$	28	\$		

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Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing and financing activities: Grant rights acquired in asset acquisition	\$	30	\$	
Non-cash unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities	\$	(991)	\$	12,735
Issuance of common stock in connection with the grant of stock	\$	251	\$	210
Construction allowance for leasehold improvements	\$	194	\$	
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements. $5$				

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#### INTROGEN THERAPEUTICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1. Formation and Business of the Company

# We are a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of targeted molecular therapies for the treatment of cancer and other diseases. We are developing product candidates to treat a wide range of cancers using tumor suppressors, cytokines and other targeted molecular therapies. These agents are designed to increase production of normal cancer-fighting proteins that act to overpower cancerous cells, stimulate immune activity and enhance conventional cancer therapies.

We have not yet generated any significant revenue from unaffiliated third parties, nor is there any assurance of future product revenue. We earn minimal revenue from contract services activities, interest income, and rent from the lease of a portion of our facilities to The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. We do not expect to generate revenue from the commercial sale of our products in the near future. We may never generate revenue from the commercial sale of our products.

Our research and development activities involve a high degree of risk and uncertainty. Our ability to successfully develop, manufacture and market our proprietary products is dependent upon many factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, the need for and the ability to obtain additional financing, the reliance on collaborative research and development arrangements with corporate and academic affiliates and the ability to develop manufacturing, sales and marketing experience. Additional factors include uncertainties as to patents and proprietary technologies, competitive technologies, technological change and risk of obsolescence, development of products, competition, government regulations and regulatory approval, and product liability exposure. As a result of these factors and the related uncertainties, there can be no assurance of our future success.

#### 2. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for interim financial information and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). These financial statements do not include all of the information and footnotes required under GAAP for complete financial statements. In management s opinion, all accounting entries considered necessary for a fair presentation have been made in preparing these financial statements, and such entries are normal in nature. Operating results for the three and six month periods ended June 30, 2007 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year.

Our significant accounting policies are described in Note 2 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, filed with the SEC on March 8, 2007.

These financial statements include the accounts of Introgen Therapeutics, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries (collectively referred to as Introgen .) We account for Introgen Therapeutic Inc. s investment in subsidiaries in accordance with the relevant provisions of generally accepted accounting principles, specifically FIN 46(R), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities (as amended). Accordingly, the subsidiaries accounts are included in these consolidated financial statements. We record a non-controlling or minority interest for the portion of those subsidiaries we do not own to the extent such minority interest constitutes a liability in our financial statements. If those subsidiaries have an accumulated net loss, the minority interest is zero. See footnote 3 regarding new subsidiaries.

See footnote 5 regarding our adoption of and accounting policies related to Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (SFAS) Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an interpretation of SFAS Statement No. 109 (FIN 48),

## 3. Consolidated Subsidiaries

During the six months ended June 30, 2007, we purchased 49% of the outstanding stock of Introgen Research Institute, Inc. for \$10,000. The other 51% of IRI is owned by our corporate Secretary, who is also an Introgen shareholder. We transferred to IRI an NIH grant originally awarded to us. IRI will be responsible for the remaining research contemplated by that grant and will receive future funding, if any, from the NIH under that grant. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2007, we recorded grant income of \$213,000, all of which is related to grants held by IRI. We have contractual relationships with IRI under which we may perform research and development

services for them in the future.

During the six months ended June 30, 2007, we established Introgen Global Limited ( IGL ), Gendux Pharmaceuticals Limited ( GPL ) and Gendux Molecular Limited ( GML ) to develop and commercialize targeted molecular medicines in European markets. We anticipate Introgen will license certain of its technologies to one or more of these entities in connection with those activities.

Introgen owns 100% of IGL. Introgen owns 85% of GPL in the form of preferred stock convertible by Introgen into common stock at any time. The other 15% of GPL is owned by certain of our directors, officers, employees and key medical consultants in the form of 150,000 shares of restricted common stock granted to them as approved by our Board of Directors. GPL owns 100% of GML.

The restricted common stock of GPL is designed to provide performance incentives similar in nature to a stock option plan. This stock is subject to transfer and other restrictions. These restrictions are subject to release under a four year vesting schedule that is contingent upon continued service by the stockholder to Introgen and/or GPL. This stock is voted by Introgen under proxy from the stockholders. This stock had a nominal value at the time it was issued such that the share-based compensation related to those shares at that time was not material.

#### 4. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income or Loss

Accumulated other comprehensive income or loss is included as a component of stockholders equity and is composed of (1) foreign currency translation adjustments and (2) unrealized gains and losses on investments designated as available-for-sale securities. Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is calculated as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Net loss	\$(7,691)	\$(7,749)	\$(15,910)	\$(13,366)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	14	(10)	14	(14)
Unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities	(863)	8,688	(991)	12,735
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$(8,540)	\$ 929	\$(16,887)	\$ (645)

#### **5.** Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes

We adopted FIN 48 as of January 1, 2007. FIN 48 applies to all tax positions accounted for under SFAS No. 109. FIN 48 refers to tax positions as positions taken in a previously filed tax return or positions expected to be taken in a future tax return which are reflected in measuring current or deferred income tax assets and liabilities reported in the financial statements. FIN 48 further clarifies a tax position to include, but not be limited to, the following:

An allocation or a shift of income between taxing jurisdictions;

The characterization of income or a decision to exclude reporting taxable income in a tax return;

A decision to classify a transaction, entity, or other position in a tax return as tax exempt.

FIN 48 provides that a tax benefit may be reflected in the financial statements only if it is more likely than not that a company will be able to sustain the tax return position, based on its technical merits. If a tax benefit meets this criterion, it should be measured and recognized based on the largest amount of benefit that is cumulatively greater than 50% likely to be realized. This approach is a change from previous practice under which a tax benefit could be recognized only if it was probable a tax position could be sustained.

FIN 48 requires we make qualitative and quantitative disclosures, including a discussion of reasonably possible changes that might occur in unrecognized tax benefits over the next twelve months, a description of open tax years by major jurisdictions and a roll-forward of all unrecognized tax benefits, presented as a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances of the unrecognized tax benefits on an aggregated basis.

The Company and certain of its subsidiaries file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction, various state jurisdictions, and certain foreign jurisdictions. Generally, the Company is no longer subject to examinations for U.S.

federal income taxes for years prior to 2003 and for state income taxes for years prior to 2002. Examinations for foreign income taxes for previous years remain open, but tax considerations in those jurisdictions are not material to us.

The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material impact on our financial statements or disclosures. As of January 1, 2007 and June 30, 2007, we did not recognize any assets or liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits relative to uncertain tax positions. We anticipate no significant increase or decrease to gross unrecognized tax benefits will be recorded during the next twelve months. Any interest or penalties resulting from examinations will continue to be recognized as a component of the income tax provision. However, since there are no unrecognized tax benefits as a result of tax positions taken, we have no accrued interest and penalties.

#### 6. Share-Based Compensation

The Company issued 98,323 and zero shares of common stock related to exercises of stock options granted from its stock option plans for the three months ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The Company issued 206,723 and 44,825 shares of common stock related to exercises of stock options granted from its stock option plans for the six months ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

#### Item 2. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and the other documents we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition to historical information, this report and the following discussion and analysis contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements address our future operations, financial condition, business strategies and other prospective items and include, among other subjects, matters concerning our expectations regarding:

Our expectations regarding various regulatory applications, procedures and approvals relating to our product candidates, including but not limited to our expectations regarding the timing of such applications, procedures and approvals;

The growth of our operations, business and revenues and the growth rate of our costs and expenses;

Future increases in our research and development, sales and marketing and general and administrative expenses;

The sufficiency of our existing cash, cash equivalents, marketable securities and cash generated from operations;

Better efficacy of our product candidates through the use of biomarkers ;

Application of our research and development expertise to other diseases that result from cellular dysfunction and uncontrolled cell growth; and

#### Access to additional working capital.

The words believe, expect, anticipate and other similar expressions generally identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and entail various risks and uncertainties. Given these risks and uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to revise or publicly release the results of any revision to these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those reflected in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this report, and in particular, the risks discussed under the heading Risk Factors in Part II, Item 1A of this report and those discussed in other documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### Overview

Introgen Therapeutics, Inc. was incorporated in Delaware in 1993. We are a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of targeted molecular therapies for the treatment of cancer and other diseases. We are developing product candidates to treat a wide range of cancers using tumor suppressors, cytokines and other targeted molecular therapies. These agents are designed to increase production of normal cancer-fighting proteins that act to overpower cancerous cells, stimulate immune activity and enhance conventional cancer therapies.

Our primary approach to the treatment of cancers is to deliver targeted molecular therapies that increase production of normal cancer-fighting proteins to induce apoptosis, cell cycle control, cell growth control and gene regulation, including the regulation of angiogenic and immune factors. Our products work by acting as templates for the transient *in vivo* production of proteins that have pharmacological properties. The resultant proteins engage disease-related molecular targets or receptors to produce specific therapeutic effects.

We believe the use of targeted molecular therapies to induce the production of biopharmaceutical proteins represents a new approach for treating many cancers while avoiding the toxic side effects common to traditional therapies. We have developed significant expertise in developing targeted therapies that may be used to treat disease and in using what we believe are safe and effective delivery systems to transport these agents to the cancer cells. We believe we will be able to treat a number of cancers in a way that kills cancer cells without harming normal cells.

Our lead product candidate, ADVEXIN<sup>®</sup> therapy, combines the p53 tumor suppressor with a non-replicating, non-integrating, adenoviral delivery system we have developed and extensively tested. The p53 molecule is one of the most potent members of a group of naturally-occurring tumor suppressors, which act to kill cancer cells, arrest cancer growth and protect cells from becoming cancerous. We are developing other product candidates for the treatment of cancer using other molecules and delivery systems, such as the mda-7 and FUS1 tumor suppressors.

We believe our research and development expertise gained from our targeted molecular therapies for cancer is also applicable to other diseases that, like cancer, result from cellular dysfunction and uncontrolled cell growth. As a result, we are conducting research in collaboration with medical institutions to understand the safety and effectiveness of our targeted molecular therapy product candidates in the treatment of other diseases.

We typically license the technologies on which our products are based from third parties. These licenses generally grant us exclusive rights for pre-clinical and clinical development, manufacturing, marketing and commercialization of product candidates based on those technologies.

Our product research and development efforts include pre-clinical activities as well as the conduct of Phase 1, 2 and 3 clinical trials. We rely on third parties to treat patients in their facilities under these clinical trials. We produce ADVEXIN therapy and other product candidates in manufacturing facilities we own and operate using production methods we developed. We hold a number of patents or patents pending on certain product candidates and manufacturing processes used to produce certain product candidates.

We have not yet generated any significant revenue from unaffiliated third parties, nor is there any assurance of future product revenue. We earn minimal revenue from contract services activities, grants and interest income, as well as rent from the lease of a portion of our facilities to The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. We do not expect to generate revenue from the commercial sale of our products in the near future. We may never generate revenue from the commercial sale of our products.

Our principal executive offices are located at 301 Congress Avenue, Suite 1850, Austin, Texas 78701. Our telephone number is (512) 708-9310. Our Internet website address is www.introgen.com.

# The Introgen Approach

Our primary approach for the treatment of cancers is to deliver targeted molecular therapies that increase production of normal cancer-fighting proteins. The resultant proteins engage disease-related molecular targets or receptors to produce specific therapeutic effects. We believe we are able to treat a number of cancers in a way that kills cancer cells without harming normal cells.

Most cancers are amenable to local treatment, such as surgery and radiation, which are administered far more often than systemic cancer treatments. Our locally delivered product candidates, such as ADVEXIN therapy and INGN 241, IL24 therapy, deposit therapeutic molecules directly into a patient s cancerous tumor by hypodermic syringe. We have systemic formulations for intravenous use in those cases for which a systemic therapy may be indicated and have applied ADVEXIN therapy using a nanoparticle formulation system to deliver our tumor suppressors.

We initially focused on advanced cancers lacking effective treatments and in which local tumor growth control, where the tumor stops growing or shrinks, is likely to lead to measurable benefit. We have expanded our focus to include earlier stage cancers and pre-malignancies. We believe our clinical trials have shown that our therapies can be used alone and in combination with conventional treatments such as surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

#### The Introgen Strategy

Our objective is to be a leader in the development of targeted molecular tumor suppressor therapies and other products for the treatment of cancer and other diseases that, like cancer, result from cellular dysfunction and uncontrolled cell growth. To accomplish this objective, we are pursuing the following strategies:

*Develop and Commercialize ADVEXIN Therapy, INGN 241, INGN 225 and INGN 401 for Multiple Cancer Indications.* We plan to continue our development programs to commercialize our ADVEXIN therapy, using the p53 tumor suppressor, our INGN 241 product, using the mda-7 tumor suppressor, also known as interleukin 24 (IL-24), our INGN 225 product, using the p53 gene as a highly specific cancer immunotherapy, and our INGN 401 systemic nanoparticle therapy, using the FUS1 tumor suppressor, in multiple cancer indications.

*Develop Our Portfolio of Targeted Molecular Therapies and Other Drug Products.* Utilizing our research, clinical, regulatory and manufacturing expertise, we are evaluating development of additional molecular therapies for various cancers, including:

INGN 234, an oral rinse or mouthwash formulation containing the p53 tumor suppressor;

INGN 402 and 403, using nanoparticle formulations for systemic delivery of the p53 and mda-7 tumor suppressors; and

## INGN 007, a replication-competent viral therapy.

*Develop a Nanoparticle Systemic Administration Platform.* Early pre-clinical and clinical studies with these new nanoparticle drugs have demonstrated a good safety profile and promising anti-cancer activity. In addition to FUS-1, we incorporate the p53 tumor suppressor and the mda-7 tumor suppressor in these nanoparticle formulations. We also have in-licensed technologies for nanoparticle delivery of DNA, siRNA, proteins, peptides and polypeptides.

*Develop the Topical Use of Tumor Suppressors.* We plan to continue developing topical product candidates for the treatment or prevention of oral and dermal cancers, specifically INGN 234 referred to above. We believe these treatments are a logical extension of our loco-regional delivery of cancer therapies and represent attractive product candidates since pre-malignant and malignant cells can be exposed to natural, biological tumor suppressors and DNA repairing agents.

*Establish Targeted Sales and Marketing Capabilities.* The oncology market can be effectively addressed by a small, focused sales force because it is characterized by a concentration of specialists in relatively few major cancer centers. We believe we can address this market by a combination of building a direct sales force as part of the ADVEXIN therapy commercialization process and pursuing marketing and distribution agreements with corporate partners for ADVEXIN therapy as well as additional products.

*Expand Our Market Focus to Non-Cancer Indications.* We plan to leverage our scientific, research and process competencies in molecular therapy and vector development to pursue targeted molecular therapies for a variety of other diseases and conditions. We believe these therapies could hold promise for diseases such as cardiovascular disease and rheumatoid arthritis, which, like cancer, result from cellular dysfunction or uncontrolled cell growth.

We have an established process for evaluating new drug candidates and advancing them from pre-clinical to clinical development. We have identified and licensed multiple technologies, which we intend to combine with our adenoviral and non-viral vector systems and which we believe are attractive development targets for the treatment of various cancers. We intend to evaluate additional opportunities to in-license or acquire new technologies.

# **Product Development Overview**

ADVEXIN® Therapy (p53) ADVEXIN Therapy Overview and Regulatory Status

Our lead product candidate, ADVEXIN<sup>®</sup> therapy, combines the p53 tumor suppressor with a non-replicating, non-integrating adenoviral delivery system we have developed and extensively tested. The p53 molecule is one of the most potent members of a group of naturally-occurring tumor suppressors, which act to kill cancer cells, arrest cancer cell growth and protect cells from becoming cancerous.

ADVEXIN therapy for head and neck cancer has been designated an Orphan Drug under the Orphan Drug Act. This designation may give us up to seven years of marketing exclusivity for ADVEXIN therapy for this indication if approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In September 2006, the European Medicines Agency (EMEA) Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products has granted ADVEXIN therapy an Orphan Medicinal Product Designation in Europe for the treatment of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome. This designation has been ratified by the European Commission. Li-Fraumeni Syndrome is an inherited cancer characterized by inherited mutations in the p53 tumor suppressor gene. The Orphan Medicinal Product Designation in Europe confers a number of regulatory benefits to ADVEXIN therapy, including access to protocol assistance, reduced regulatory fees and a ten-year period of marketing exclusivity from the date of marketing authorization by the European Commission.

We have an agreement with EMEA to file for marketing approval for ADVEXIN therapy under the EMEA s Exceptional Circumstances (EC) provisions. The application will be for the use of ADVEXIN therapy for the treatment of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome. Exceptional circumstances provisions are designed to facilitate access to needed treatments for certain Orphan Medicinal Products. A Marketing Authorization Application filed with the EMEA under these provisions can be reviewed on an expedited basis. This EC registration approach is designed by EMEA to be more streamlined than EMEA s Conditional Approval procedures, which are similar to the FDA s Accelerated Approval regulations.

As a result of an audit and inspection by a European Union Qualified Person (QP), we are certified with the United Kingdom s Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) that our facilities and production processes are compliant with European Good Manufacturing Practices for the manufacture of ADVEXIN therapy. The MHRA is the competent authority in the United Kingdom and is a component of the EMEA.

We have two ongoing Phase 3 clinical trials of ADVEXIN therapy in patients with advanced recurrent squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (recurrent head and neck cancer). These trials involve administration of ADVEXIN therapy, both independently and in combination with chemotherapy, in recurrent head and neck cancer.

We received Fast Track designation for ADVEXIN therapy from the FDA under its protocol assessment program as a result of the FDA s agreement with the design of our two ongoing Phase 3 clinical trials of ADVEXIN therapy. Under this Fast Track designation, the FDA will take actions to expedite the evaluation and review of the Biologics License Application (BLA) for ADVEXIN therapy. We plan to pursue with the FDA an Accelerated Approval of ADVEXIN therapy, which is one alternative provided under a Fast Track designation.

We reviewed historically successful FDA registration strategies for numerous cancer drugs, noting that during the past decade, approximately 14 cancer drugs were initially approved based upon submissions of Phase 2 clinical data. A number of the Phase 2 trials supporting these approvals employed single-arm studies involving relatively small patient populations. Virtually all of those drugs relied on surrogate endpoints for approval and a substantial number of the products were for orphan drug indications.

We conducted a series of meetings with the FDA to develop and implement the filing strategy for the BLA for ADVEXIN therapy, which is the application for approval to market and sell ADVEXIN therapy in the United States. As a result of these meetings, we are developing and pursuing an initial rolling BLA filing strategy based on data from our Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials of ADVEXIN therapy for treatment of recurrent head and neck cancer. The FDA has concurred that preliminary evaluation of this data suggests a level of efficacy consistent with the standard for the initiation of a rolling BLA (a submission process also known as Submission Of a Partial Application or SOPA). The FDA has also concluded that ADVEXIN therapy continues to show promise with respect to an unmet medical need since there are limited treatment alternatives in the United States for recurrent head and neck cancer. The FDA has also concluded that the clinical development program for ADVEXIN therapy for recurrent head and neck cancer continues to meet the criteria for Fast Track designation. In conjunction with the new data, the new analyses, and other newly employed biological techniques, we hope to more specifically target recurrent head and neck cancer in patients using indicators known as biomarkers , as discussed further below under ADVEXIN Therapy as a Targeted

Molecular Therapy. We believe this approach will improve efficacy by identifying the patients most likely to benefit from Advexin therapy.

We submitted a SOPA Request to the FDA Division of Cellular and Gene Therapies proposing a rolling BLA for ADVEXIN therapy for the treatment of recurrent head and neck cancer, based primarily on data from our Phase 2 clinical trials. We have

proposed to the FDA that, since the basis of the proposed rolling BLA is Phase 2 clinical data utilizing surrogate endpoints, the rolling BLA could be evaluated under the provisions of Subpart H for Accelerated Approval. In order to fully explore all of the review and approval possibilities for ADVEXIN therapy, the FDA has requested we submit new data and analyses from the Phase 2 ADVEXIN therapy clinical trials for recurrent head and neck cancer and conduct efficacy analyses on one or both of our ongoing Phase 3 trials. Given that we have two ongoing Phase 3 clinical trials in recurrent head and neck cancer as discussed further below, we and the FDA are evaluating the most effective use of the data from these Phase 2 and 3 clinical trials in the review and approval of ADVEXIN therapy. Regulatory approval approaches may allow Accelerated Approval on the basis of Phase 2 clinical data with subsequent confirmatory data being provided by the Phase 3 clinical studies or, alternatively, a full approval based on data from Phase 2 and certain Phase 3 clinical trials. We have reached agreement with the FDA that biomarker evaluations as described in its recently announced Critical Path Initiative, which permits new product evaluation on the basis of specifically targeted (i.e., by prognostic or biologic parameters) clinical trials and/or patient populations, can be used in the ADVEXIN therapy approval process. This initiative also encouraged sponsors to examine novel approaches to define tumor responses that correlate with clinical benefit. We have employed several biomarker and response criteria to evaluate ADVEXIN efficiency as described below.

We have initiated the efficacy analysis of our ADVEXIN Phase 3 study. This analysis will involve comparing ADVEXIN therapy to methotrexate for the treatment of recurrent head and neck cancer. The prospective efficacy assessment of the randomized, controlled clinical trial is based upon analysis of biomarkers and clinical outcomes. The efficacy evaluation of the Phase 3 study will incorporate the biomarker analyses identified in Phase 2 clinical trials of ADVEXIN therapy of recurrent head and neck cancer. The Phase 3 Statistical Analysis Plan was finalized with input from the FDA. Introgen has followed advice from the FDA to accelerate its Phase 3 safety analysis and to perform an efficacy analysis for this study. An independent Data Safety Monitory Board review in 2006 noted no safety issues with the Phase 3 study. In the second quarter of 2007, Introgen completed the submission of its Phase 2 data to the FDA. These data contained information on response rate, survival and biomarker findings associated with the use of Advexin in recurrent head and neck cancer.

During 2007, we plan to complete the efficacy analyses of one or both of our two ongoing Phase 3 clinical trials for recurrent head and neck cancer, submit Phase 3 clinical data to the FDA and EMEA in support of our ADVEXIN registration program and complete filings with the EMEA in support of an Exceptional Circumstance Approval Application for Li-Fraumeni Syndrome cancers that are due to inherited abnormalities in the p53 tumor suppressor gene or p53 pathway that are the molecular targets of ADVEXIN therapy. We have noted a positive correlation between ADVEXIN therapy clinical activity and abnormal p53 protein levels in multiple patients with different types of cancer. We are continuing to analyze patient tissue samples, protein expression and other biomarker data obtained from previously conducted clinical trials investigating the use of ADVEXIN therapy in various solid cancers. We plan to include relevant data from this research in our submissions to regulatory agencies.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to achieve these regulatory milestones during the time period that we currently anticipate. We may encounter delays in the regulatory process relating to these milestones due to additional information requirements from regulatory authorities, unintentional omissions in our applications, additional government regulation or other delays in the review process. We may update our expectations regarding these regulatory milestones from time to time to reflect new information as it becomes available to us. *ADVEXIN Therapy as a Targeted Molecular Therapy* 

We identified a set of predictive indicators, commonly referred to as biomarkers, associated with high response rates and increased survival in Phase 2 clinical trials of ADVEXIN therapy in patients with recurrent head and neck cancer. These trials are discussed in more detail below under Other ADVEXIN Therapy Activities. These biomarkers support the use of ADVEXIN therapy as a targeted molecular therapy.

The FDA, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are undertaking the Oncology Biomarker Qualification Initiative to expedite the development of novel cancer treatments. These agencies define biomarkers as clinical or biological indicators of disease or therapeutic effects, which can be measured through dynamic imaging tests, laboratory tests on blood or tissue samples as well as by clinically defined parameters. This initiative was developed to employ biomarkers as a way of speeding the development and evaluation of new

cancer therapies.

The identification of predictive indicators of ADVEXIN therapy activity is responsive to these initiatives by predicting the patient populations most likely to benefit from a specific cancer therapy. A molecular biomarker predictive of ADVEXIN therapy activity is abnormal p53 function detected in tumor tissues by a routine immunohistochemistry laboratory test. The population we identified as

benefiting from ADVEXIN therapy includes patients who are less likely to respond to standard therapies such as chemotherapies and radiation.

The predictive biomarkers define target populations of patients with higher tumor response rates and increased survival following treatment with ADVEXIN therapy. In an analysis of 112 patients in the Phase 2 trial of recurrent head and neck cancer treated with the ADVEXIN therapy dose proposed for regulatory approval, the percentages of patients with tumor responses defined by reductions in bi-dimensional tumor area on CT scan of 50 percent, 25 percent, 10 percent or stable disease for more than 2 treatment cycles were 6 percent, 7 percent, 12 percent and 22 percent, respectively. Median survival for these responder populations were 41, 17, 15 and 10 months, respectively. There was a statistically significant increase in median survival for each of the responder populations compared to the 6 month median survival of the non-responders (p less than 0.0016). Spontaneous tumor remissions generally are not observed in recurrent head and neck cancer. The median survival for these ADVEXIN therapy responders compares favorably with the approximate six month survival time typically expected for recurrent head and neck cancer patients who have failed prior therapies.

The predictive abnormal p53 biomarker was associated with a statistically significant increase in tumor responses to ADVEXIN therapy. A reduction in tumor size was observed in 40 percent of patients with the abnormal p53 biomarker compared to none (zero percent) of the patients with p53 normal tumors. Tumor growth control lasting for a minimum of two treatment cycles was observed in 75 percent of patients with abnormal p53 tumors compared to 27 percent of patients with a normal p53 biomarker. Both the increased reduction in tumor size and tumor growth control associated with the abnormal p53 biomarker were statistically significant (p = 0.02). In addition, the abnormal p53 was a predictive biomarker for increased survival following ADVEXIN treatment. Median survival of patients with abnormal p53 was 11.6 months, compared to 3.5 months for patients with normal p53 (p = 0.0007). These biomarker analyses were conducted with pre-treatment samples from 28 patients on a completely blinded basis by an independent laboratory that was not aware of the clinical results of the study.

The targeted molecular therapy provided by ADVEXIN therapy is evidenced by its use to successfully treat a Li-Fraumeni Syndrome cancer patient on a compassionate use basis under a protocol authorized by the FDA. Li-Fraumeni Syndrome cancer patients have inherited defects in the p53 tumor suppressor gene that is the target of ADVEXIN therapy. Our treatment of a tumor in a Li-Fraumeni Syndrome patient with ADVEXIN therapy led to improvement of tumor-related symptoms and resulted in a complete response in the treated lesion as determined by positron emission tomography (PET) computerized tomography (CT) scans. PET-CT scans measure the metabolic activity of tumors and are being increasingly utilized in the management of cancer patients because they provide more sensitive assessments of treatment effects compared to conventional CT and magnetic resonance imaging scans.

This Li-Fraumeni Syndrome study defined important biomarkers to guide the administration of ADVEXIN therapy to patients with other cancers who display p53 pathway abnormalities. Our molecular analysis of biopsies of the Li-Fraumeni Syndrome tumor before and after treatment identified key markers of p53 pathway abnormalities that are used to predict and evaluate the effects of ADVEXIN therapy. These markers included detection of abnormal levels of p53 protein that identify aberrant p53 pathways and the induction of molecular markers of tumor growth control and tumor cell death that validate ADVEXIN therapy s mechanisms of action. We believe these biomarkers can be used to identify patients most likely to benefit from ADVEXIN therapy.

The EMEA Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products has granted ADVEXIN therapy an Orphan Medicinal Product Designation in Europe for the treatment of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome. This designation has been ratified by the European Commission. The Orphan Medicinal Product Designation in Europe confers a number of regulatory benefits to ADVEXIN therapy, including access to protocol assistance, reduced regulatory fees and a 10-year period of marketing exclusivity from the date of approval. We received this designation through Gendux AB, our wholly-owned subsidiary.

We have an agreement with EMEA to file for marketing approval for ADVEXIN therapy under the EMEA s Exceptional Circumstances provisions. The application will be for the use of ADVEXIN therapy for the treatment of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome. Exceptional circumstances provisions are designed by EMEA to facilitate access to needed treatments for certain Orphan Medicinal Products. A Marketing Authorization Application filed with the EMEA under these provisions can be reviewed on an expedited basis. This registration approach is more streamlined than EMEA s

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Conditional Approval procedures, which are similar to the FDA s Accelerated Approval regulations. As a result of the encouraging clinical findings in treating Li-Fraumeni Syndrome, we have made ADVEXIN therapy available on a compassionate use basis to qualified Li-Fraumeni Syndrome patients with tumors refractory to standard treatment.

Li-Fraumeni Syndrome is an inherited genetic disorder that greatly increases the risk of developing several types of cancer typically with initial occurrence at a young age. The majority of Li-Fraumeni Syndrome families have inherited mutations in the p53

tumor suppressor gene. The findings described above have been presented at the annual meetings of the American Society of Gene Therapy (ASGT) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). *Other ADVEXIN Therapy Activities* 

We performed a Phase 2 clinical trial of ADVEXIN therapy combined with neoadjuvant chemotherapy and surgery in women with locally advanced breast cancer. The results of this study were published in the journal *Cancer*. Objective clinical responses were seen following the combined therapy in 100% of the patients with a median of 80% reduction in tumor size. Following tumor shrinkage, complete tumor removal by subsequent surgery was achieved in 100% of the patients. At a median follow-up of 37 months (range, 30-41 months), four patients (30%) developed systemic recurrence and two patients died. The estimated breast cancer-specific survival rate at three years was 84%. There was no increase in systemic toxicity. Neoadjuvant treatments are administered prior to surgery and represent a novel and increasingly applied approach to making surgical tumor resections less invasive, improving outcomes and facilitating breast conservation.

We completed a Phase 2 clinical trial of ADVEXIN therapy administered as a complement to radiation therapy in non-small cell lung cancer. In the 19 patients who participated in the trial, combined ADVEXIN therapy and radiation treatment resulted in 63% biopsy-proven complete responses at three months, which is approximately four times the expected rate using radiotherapy alone. The results of this study were published in *Clinical Cancer Research*.

We performed a Phase 1/early Phase 2 clinical trial of ADVEXIN therapy for the treatment of advanced, unresectable, squamous cell esophageal cancer. Results of this trial in patients with esophageal cancer refractory to chemotherapy and radiation indicate three of the ten patients treated, or 30%, had negative biopsies after receiving ADVEXIN therapy. The median survival of the patients treated with ADVEXIN therapy was approximately twelve months, which compared favorably to historical controls in which a median survival of less than ten months was observed for patients who did not respond to standard treatments. Six patients, or 60%, were still alive one year after beginning ADVEXIN therapy. This clinical trial was performed at Chiba University in Japan.

We have comple