



NEWS RELEASE

Athersys Announces Upcoming Presentations at the International Society of Cell and Gene Therapy Virtual Conference

5/18/2020

Company will participate in three events at the largest global translation-focused cell and gene therapy meeting

CLEVELAND--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Athersys, Inc. (NASDAQ: ATHX) announced today its participation in several sessions at this year's International Society for Cell and Gene Therapy (ISCT) virtual conference taking place May 28 – 29, 2020. ISCT 2020 is the largest global translation-focused cell and gene therapy (CGT) meeting and is expected to draw delegates from more than 50 countries in the virtual event. Dr. Anthony Ting, Vice President of Regenerative Medicine and Head of Cardiopulmonary Programs and co-chair for the Strategies for Commercialization track at the ISCT 2020 virtual conference, will take an active role in three separate events.

Dr. Ting pre-recorded a talk titled "MultiStem® for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (MUST-ARDS study)" for the "State of the Art: Success and Failure of Cell Therapy Clinical Trials for Acute and Chronic Lung Diseases" session, which will be available for on-demand listening for all registered participants. Dr. Ting presented the data from the Company's completed Phase 1/2 acute respiratory distress (ARDS) study.

Dr. Ting will also serve as the chair for the live session titled “Strategies for Commercialization Plenary Session - Is Big Pharma Ready for Industrial Scale Cell and Gene Therapy?” taking place on May 29 at 8:00 AM PDT, in addition to speaking at the live session titled “ISCT CSO Global Showcase on COVID-19, Part II - A New Hope” on May 29 at 4:00 PM PDT. Dr. Ting will speak on the topic of Industry-led Cell Therapy Clinical Trials for COVID-19 that will include the Company’s recently initiated MACOVIA (MultiStem® Administration for COVID-19 Induced Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome) trial.

All sessions are only available to those that have registered for the ISCT Conference. Non-members who register will include a complimentary 2020 ISCT E-Membership. ISCT 2020 Paris Virtual will be accessible remotely and on-demand, including live and recorded, in addition to networking events, poster halls, and 1-on-1 partnering opportunities. A peer curated scientific program addressing timely and critical topics across the full cell and gene therapy development and translation spectrum, including 35 sessions with over 50 hours of both live and on demand streaming, and access to a global line-up of leading experts in CGT and six live broadcasted Plenary Sessions will focus on the latest translation advancements from basic research, pre-clinical studies and clinical trials for a variety of therapeutic modalities.

For more information and to register, please visit www.ISCT2020.com.

About the International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy

Established in 1992, the International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy (ISCT) is a global society of clinicians, regulators, researchers, technologists and industry partners with a shared vision to translate cellular and gene therapy into safe and effective therapies to improve patients’ lives worldwide.

ISCT is the global leader focused on pre-clinical and translational aspects of developing cell and gene-based therapeutics, thereby advancing scientific research into innovative treatments for patients. ISCT offers a unique collaborative environment that addresses three key areas of translation: Academia, Regulatory and Commercialization. Through strong relationships with global regulatory agencies, academic institutions and industry partners, ISCT drives the advancement of research into standard of care.

Comprised of over 1800 cell and gene therapy experts across five geographic regions and representation from over 60 countries, ISCT members are part of a global community of peers, thought leaders and organizations invested in cell and gene therapy translation. For more information about the society, key initiatives and upcoming meetings, please visit: www.isctglobal.org / [@ISCTglobal](https://twitter.com/ISCTglobal).

About Athersys

Athersys is an international biotechnology company engaged in the discovery and development of therapeutic product candidates designed to extend and enhance the quality of human life. The Company is developing its MultiStem® cell therapy product, a patented, adult-derived “off-the-shelf” stem cell product, initially for disease indications in the neurological, inflammatory and immune, cardiovascular, and other critical care indications and has several ongoing clinical trials evaluating this potential regenerative medicine product. Athersys has forged strategic partnerships and a broad network of collaborations to further advance the MultiStem cell therapy toward commercialization. More information is available at www.athersys.com. Follow Athersys on Twitter at www.twitter.com/athersys.

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