



April 25, 2013

## Athersys to Present at 12th Annual Needham Healthcare Conference

CLEVELAND, April 25, 2013 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Athersys, Inc. (Nasdaq:ATHX) announced today that Gil Van Bokkelen, Ph.D., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, will present at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Needham Healthcare Conference to be held at The Westin New York Grand Central from April 30 - May 1, 2013 in New York City.

Details of Athersys' participation are as follows:

**Event:** 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Needham Healthcare Conference

**Date:** Wednesday, May 1, 2013

**Time:** 9:20 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time

**Location:** The Westin New York Grand Central

The presentation will also be available via a live audio webcast at the following link: <http://wsw.com/webcast/needham58/athx/>

Following the presentation, a replay will be available through the Athersys website at [www.athersys.com](http://www.athersys.com) under the "Investors" section and will remain available for two weeks after the actual presentation date.

### About Athersys

Athersys is a clinical stage 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<sup>®</sup> cell therapy product, a patented, adult-derived "off-the-shelf" stem cell product platform for disease indications in the cardiovascular, neurological, inflammatory and immune disease areas. The Company currently has several clinical stage programs involving MultiStem, including for treating inflammatory bowel disease, ischemic stroke, damage caused by myocardial infarction, and for the prevention of graft versus host disease. Athersys has also developed a diverse portfolio that includes other technologies and product development opportunities, and has forged strategic partnerships and collaborations with leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as world-renowned research institutions in the United States and Europe to further develop its platform and products. More information is available at [www.athersys.com](http://www.athersys.com).

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