



February 11, 2013

## Athersys to Present at BIO CEO & Investor Conference

CLEVELAND, Feb. 11, 2013 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Athersys, Inc. (Nasdaq:ATHX) announced today that Gil Van Bokkelen, Ph.D., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, will present at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference to be held Monday, February 11, 2013, through Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at The Waldorf Astoria New York in New York City.

Details of Athersys' participation are as follows:

**Event:** 15<sup>th</sup> Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time  
**Location:** The Waldorf Astoria New York

The 15th Annual BIO CEO & Investor Conference assembles a select group of established biotech companies, as well as top public and private equity investors and members of the sell-side investment community, to explore the current investment landscape and opportunities in life sciences. In addition to plenary sessions and panel discussions on timely business topics and key therapeutic areas, the conference features presentations by over 130 leading biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, as well as a number of nonprofit and venture philanthropy organizations.

### 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).

The Athersys, Inc. logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=4548>

CONTACT: William (B.J.) Lehmann, J.D.

President and Chief Operating Officer

Tel: (216) 431-9900

[bjlehmann@athersys.com](mailto:bjlehmann@athersys.com)

Investor Relations:

Lisa M. Wilson

In-Site Communications

Tel: (917) 543-9932

[lwilson@insitecony.com](mailto:lwilson@insitecony.com)



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