

## Multimeric Biotherapeutics Awarded NCI Grant to advance its immuno-oncology program

SAN DIEGO, June 4, 2014 – Multimeric Biotherapeutics, Inc. ("Multimeric"), a biopharmaceutical company developing its proprietary TNF SuperFamily (TNFSF) ligands for the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases, announced today that it has been awarded a Phase I SBIR grant. This grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is entitled "Ovarian cancer therapy using CD40 Ligand (CD40L)" (1R43CA180323) and provides \$223,899 over a one-year period. The Principal Investigator is Richard Kornbluth, M.D., Ph.D., an authority on CD40L and other TNF SuperFamily (TNFSF) proteins. He is the Company's President & Chief Scientific Officer. The Co-Investigator is Elizabeth A. Repasky, Ph.D., an expert on cancer biology and the effectiveness of TNFSFs on tumor growth. She is the Dr. William Huebsch Professor of Immunology at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) in Buffalo, NY.

The basis for the grant's project is Dr. Repasky's pioneering observation that soluble CD40L has very strong anti-tumor effects on human ovarian cancer tumors grown in mice. Her work was published in the journal *Cancer Research* in 2001 and used a form of CD40L that is no longer made. Instead, Multimeric will use its new multi-trimer form of CD40L which is highly active and patent protected worldwide.

## About the MegaLigands™

MegaLigands are 2-trimer forms of the tumor necrosis factor super family (TNFSF) ligands produced by fusing the extracellular domains of any of the 19 members of the TNF SuperFamily with a scaffold protein consisting of the body of ACRP30 (adiponectin). The following molecules are currently sold as purified proteins for laboratory use: MegaCD40L™; MegaTNF™; MegaOX40L™; and MegaAPRIL™. MegaCD40L™ in particular has been used extensively by academic investigators as a vaccine adjuvant and cancer immunotherapy agent.

## About the UltraLigands™

UltraLigands are 4-trimer forms of the TNFSF ligands produced by fusing TNF SuperFamily ligands with a scaffold protein consisting of the body of surfactant protein D (SP-D). UltraCD40L<sup>™</sup> has been shown to be a powerful adjuvant for DNA vaccines as well as an effective cancer immunotherapy in mouse models. The following UltraLigands<sup>™</sup> are currently being developed: UltraCD40L<sup>™</sup>; Ultra4-1BBL<sup>™</sup>; UltraOX40L<sup>™</sup>; UltraGITRL<sup>™</sup>; UltraRANKL<sup>™</sup>; UltraLIGHT<sup>™</sup>; UltraCD70<sup>™</sup>; and UltraBAFF<sup>™</sup>.

## **About Multimeric**

Multimeric Biotherapeutics, Inc. was formed around technology invented by Dr. Richard Kornbluth when he was at the University of California San Diego (UCSD). Multimeric's lead product is MegaCD40L™, a highly active form of CD40 ligand (CD40L), which is the strongest immune stimulator made by the body. MegaCD40L™ is being developed to treat cancer and to create stronger vaccines. The company is funded by its founders, angel investors, and NIH grants. It operates out of fully equipped laboratory space in the San Diego Science Center. For more information, please visit the company website at <a href="https://www.multimericbio.com">www.multimericbio.com</a>