Neovacs' poster presentation at DDW 2010 highlights the continuing encouraging results in the Phase I/II clinical trial of TNFα Kinoid™ in Crohn's disease patients

Paris, May 4, 2010 – Neovacs (Alternext Paris: ALNEV) today published a summary of a poster presenting the latest clinical results achieved with the company's TNFα Kinoid™ immunotherapy in Crohn's disease patients (presented during Digestive Disease Week (DDW 2010), May 1st-5th in New Orleans, LA, USA).

With 19 patients enrolled, the preliminary results continue to be very encouraging:

- The Kinoid™ treatment's safety profile has been excellent to date. There have been no serious adverse events, unexpected infections or premature study withdrawals. A few patients have reported mild, transient, local or systemic reactions. The patients' immune systems respond normally to immune competence testing.
- TNFα Kinoid™ treatment at doses of 180 and 360 mcg induces the production of antibodies against TNFα. The response is transient, lasts about 3 months and can be boosted by additional TNFα Kinoid™ administration (after six months, in the present study). This recall response is also transient. Importantly, administration of the Kinoid does not produce a cellular immune response against TNFα.
- The data related to a potential therapeutic effect are highly encouraging, recognizing that the study was not designed to demonstrate efficacy. Twelve weeks into therapy, most patients showed a clinical response and over half were in clinical remission (as measured by the Crohn's Disease Activity Index). In all patients tested to date, the decreased levels of calprotectin (a protein associated with digestive tract inflammation) observed in clinical responders are also suggestive of a therapeutic effect at the intestinal mucosa level. These indications of a clinical response will need to be confirmed in controlled, double-blind studies.

The study's enrollment target of 21 patients is likely to be met in the current quarter. Full results should be available by the end of the year. Neovac's TNFα Kinoid™ is also in a Phase II clinical trial in patients suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. A second product candidate based on Neovacs' Kinoid™ technology (IFNα Kinoid) has recently entered clinical trials in lupus patients.

About Neovacs

Neovacs is a biotechnology company focused on an active immunotherapy technology platform (Kinoids™) with applications in autoimmune diseases and other chronic conditions. It was founded as a spin-off from Pierre & Marie Curie University in Paris by Professor Daniel Zagury, MD, one of the world's leading immunologists.

Neovacs' current portfolio consists of 3 drug candidates: TNFα-Kinoid™, IFNα-Kinoid™ and VEGF-Kinoid™. The company's lead immunotherapy program (TNFα-Kinoid™) is targeting TNFα-mediated chronic inflammatory diseases. TNFα-Kinoid™ is currently in a Phase I/II clinical trial in Crohn's disease patients and a Phase II trial in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients. The latter clinical study is also the focus of a collaboration with the diagnostics company BMD, with the goal of developing theranostic tools for personalized care in RA. At the end of 2008, TNFα- Kinoid™ was selected by Thomson Reuters as the most promising drug in Phase II clinical trials.

The company's second product candidate (IFNα Kinoid™, an immunotherapy targeting interferon alpha in lupus patients) is entering Phase I/II trials.

Neovacs' R&D has generated a broad patent estate.

For more information, visit the Neovacs web site at www.neovacs.com.

About DDW

DDW is the largest international gathering of physicians, researchers and academics in the fields of gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and gastrointestinal surgery. It is jointly sponsored by the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, the AGA Institute, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract. For more information, visit www.ddw.org.

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