

## **CPAM Conducts Experts' Forum to Analyze the Excorp Medical Bioartificial Liver in China**

November 4, 2009 Release  
Excorp Medical, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, USA

November 1, 2009, the China Health Care International Exchange & Promotion Association ('CPAM') organized and conducted an Experts' Forum on the subject of Bioartificial Liver technology in China and South Asia. The Forum focused on the nature of the bioartificial liver developed by Excorp Medical, Inc. in association with the University of Pittsburgh located in Pittsburgh, PA.

The Panel comprised the leading figures in artificial and bioartificial liver research in China.

The forum chair was **Duan Zhong-Ping, MD, PhD**, the Vice President of Beijing You'an Hospital, Capital Medical University. He also serves as president of the All-China Artificial Liver and Blood Purification Association.

The members of the forum included:

- Xue Yi-Long;** People's Liberation Army General Hospital 301 Hospital Research Office, Professor and Fellow, National "863" bio-artificial liver project research.
- Wang Huifen;** People's Liberation Army 302 Hospital, Director of Liver Failure Treatment Center, Chief Physician, National "973" researcher.
- Zhu Pengfei;** National Drug Assessment Center (SFDA), Director of Accreditation Bureau.
- Liu Xuhua;** Beijing You'an Hospital, Associate Professor, Deputy Director of Physicians, artificial liver support center experts, involved in many national and Beijing-related projects of clinical research.

The purpose of the Forum was to offer an independent, objective assessment of the bioartificial liver program. Prospects for bioartificial liver technology have already been surveyed in China and it has been determined that there is a substantial opportunity for such technology.

Currently there are three strategies for managing liver failure patients in China which include:

- 1) Pharmaceutical intervention
- 2) Non-bioartificial liver techniques (for example various forms of dialysis) and
- 3) Bioartificial liver systems.

Of these three methods only bioartificial liver systems can mimic the functions of the native liver and offer active metabolic removal of toxins. There may be as many as 1600 non-bioartificial liver detoxification centers in China, treating 16,000 patients. In the public hospital system, there are 820,000 acute-on-chronic patients and 50% of these patients die without intervention. There are less than 2000 transplants per year.

Excorp Medical, Inc. is interested in the China market due to its size, more facile clinical trials design and execution, and a realistic but disciplined environment in a developing country.

The panel will provide a written report on their findings which will include observations and recommendations. Some of these include:

- 1) Recommendations on the size of any clinical trials
- 2) Comparison of non-bioartificial to bioartificial liver systems
- 3) Demonstration of clinical safety and convenience, including non-interference with standard care and bio-safety of live pig liver cells

- 4) Determination by the SFDA of the appropriate regulator pathway and
- 5) Comprehensive analysis of costs

The forum estimates the market in China at US\$1.2 billion.

Excorp Medical, Inc. President & CEO, Daniel G. Miller, PhD, who attended the forum as an observer, was pleased with the content discussed and direction of the panel members' recommendations. Excorp Medical expects the rapid release of the formal consensus document and will provide the forthcoming information as soon as it is available.