



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Defyrus and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) sign a Collaborative Research Agreement to Jointly Pursue Adenovirus-vectored Vaccines and Broad Spectrum Antiviral Drug Development**

**Web Site Release**

**March 29, 2010**

**Toronto** - Defyrus Inc. today announced the signing of a Collaborative Research Agreement with the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), PHAC, in Winnipeg, Manitoba to pursue common goals in the research, development, testing and commercialization of adenovirus vectored vaccines and broad spectrum antiviral drugs for the treatment and prevention of viral hemorrhagic fever infections. Under the terms of this 3 year agreement, both parties will fund their internal R&D costs. Defyrus will manufacture GLP and cGMP-grade DEF201 [adenoviral-vectored human consensus interferon alpha], then provide it to NML for in vivo antiviral efficacy evaluation alone and in combined with NML's second generation Ebola vaccine (Ad5-CAGoptZGP) to explore synergies to further improve treatment efficacy. Defyrus was granted an exclusive option to license NML's Ebola vaccine intellectual property. NML has developed 3 well characterized in vivo models of Ebola infection within Canada's only high-containment (BSL-4) facility.

"The development of drugs to treat these deadly infectious viruses is facilitated through public/private partnerships like this CRA" stated Jeffrey Turner, President & CEO Defyrus Inc., "superior drug candidates are quickly and rigorously evaluated by world-class scientific talent like Dr. Gary Kobinger, Chief Special Pathogens Branch and his team working in state-of-the-art facilities".

#### **About Defyrus Inc**

Defyrus is a private, life sciences biodefence company that collaborates with military and public health R&D partners in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada to develop broad spectrum anti-viral drugs and immunopotentiators to improve vaccine performance as medical countermeasures to viral threats of military and public health interest. [www.defyrus.com](http://www.defyrus.com)

#### **About NML-PHAC**

As Canada's leading public health infectious disease laboratory, the National Microbiology Laboratory is responsible for the identification, control and prevention of infectious diseases. The NML is located at the Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health, the first facility in the world to have high containment laboratories for human and animal health in one facility. It is recognized as a leading facility in an elite group of centres around the world, equipped with laboratories ranging from biosafety level 2 up to level 4 designed to accommodate the most deadly infectious organisms. [www.nml-lnm.gc.ca](http://www.nml-lnm.gc.ca)

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