FDA Grants Orphan Drug Designation for CAN-3110 for the Treatment of Recurrent High-Grade Glioma

May 30, 2024

- *FDA Orphan Designation provides CAN-3110 certain developmental financial incentives, with potential for up to 7 years of marketing exclusivity in the United States, if approved*
- *CAN-3110 phase 1b data on the feasibility and safety of multiple doses of CAN-3110 will be featured in poster presentation at 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting*

NEEDHAM, Mass., May 30, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Candel Therapeutics, Inc. (Candel or the Company) (Nasdaq: CADL), a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing multimodal biological immunotherapies to help patients fight cancer, today announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Orphan Drug Designation to CAN-3110, a next generation oncolytic viral immunotherapy, for the treatment of recurrent high-grade glioma (rHGG). Glioblastoma (GBM) is the most common and aggressive form of high-grade glioma.

CAN-3110 was previously granted Fast Track Designation by the FDA for the treatment of rHGG. Candel is currently evaluating CAN-3110 in a multi-institutional phase 1b clinical trial in rHGG. Results from Arm A of the ongoing phase 1b clinical trial in rHGG exploring the clinical and biomarker activity of a single dose administration of CAN-3110 were published in *Nature*, demonstrating a strong anti-tumoral response associated with extended survival.[1] The Company will present data on the feasibility and safety of multiple doses of CAN-3110 in patients with rHGG, supported by the Break Through Cancer Foundation, in a trials-in-progress poster presentation at the 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting.

“Building on the momentum of the FDA’s Fast Track Designation, recently granted to this program, the Orphan Drug Designation for CAN-3110 further reinforces the potential of this therapy and underscores the urgent need for novel and effective treatments for patients with rHGG,” said Paul Peter Tak, MD, PhD, FMedSci, President and Chief Executive Officer of Candel. “This designation not only reinforces our commitment to offering new hope and potential patient treatment options, but it also enables us to leverage development incentives and accelerate our efforts to evaluate new indications in the clinic. We are continuing our work in the phase 1b clinical trial of CAN-3110 and look forward to sharing further clinical updates in the second half of 2024.”

E. Antonio Chiocca, M.D., Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Professor at Harvard Medical School, and Principal Investigator on the phase 1b clinical trial, said: “We are grateful to the FDA for recognizing the urgent need for new treatments in rHGG. Patients, and their families, affected by this disease, face immense challenges that the standard of care and conventional therapies have failed to adequately address. The early clinical data suggests that CAN-3110's unique dual mechanism of action, combining oncolysis and immune activation, has the potential to overcome these challenges for rHGG patients.”

About Orphan Drug Designation

Orphan Drug Designation is granted by the FDA to drugs or biologics intended to treat a rare disease or condition, defined as one that affects fewer than 200,000 people in the United States. Orphan Drug Designation provides certain financial incentives to support clinical development, and the potential for up to seven years of marketing exclusivity for the product for the designated orphan indication in the United States if the product is ultimately approved for its designated indication.

About CAN-3110

CAN-3110 is a first-in-class, replication-competent herpes simplex virus-1 (HSV-1) oncolytic viral immunotherapy candidate designed with dual activity for oncolysis and immune activation in a single therapeutic. Its activity is designed to be conditional to the expression of Nestin in cancer cells. CAN-3110 is being evaluated in a phase 1b clinical trial in patients with recurrent high-grade glioma (rHGG). In October 2023, the Company announced that *Nature* published results from this ongoing clinical trial. CAN-3110 was well tolerated with no dose-limiting toxicity reported. In the clinical trial, the investigators observed median overall survival after a single CAN-3110 injection of more than 12 months in this therapy-resistant condition.[1] The Company and academic collaborators are currently evaluating the effects of multiple CAN-3110 injections in rHGG, supported by the Break Through Cancer Foundation. CAN-3110 has previously received FDA Fast Track Designation for the treatment of rHGG.

Details on the CAN-3110 ASCO poster are as follows:

The trials-in-progress poster presentation will focus on cohort C of the ongoing phase 1b clinical trial of CAN-3110 in patients with

rGBM, the most common form of rHGG. Previously presented data showed the ability of a single CAN-3110 injection to double median overall survival (mOS) in the rGBM population, as compared to contemporary control cohorts. Patients presenting with seropositivity to HSV1, reached mOS of 14 months, largely exceeding expected survival of 6 to 9 months or less for this population.

In cohort C, supported by the Break Through Cancer Foundation, two cohorts of 12 patients will receive up to six injections of CAN-3110 over a four-month period. Cohort C is currently exploring the safety and tolerability of CAN-3110 in patients with rGBM. Patients in cohort C are treated with up to six doses of CAN-3110 delivered by stereotactic injections on days 0, 15, 30, 60, 90 & 120, along with concomitant biopsies over the four-month treatment period.

Two sub-cohorts (1&2) of patients who will receive $1x10^7$ pfu or $1x10^8$ pfu per injection of CAN-3110 have been planned for six patients per cohort, using a Bayesian optimal interval (BOIN) design for dose ranging.

- Six patients have accrued, completing cohort 1; no dose-limiting toxicities or severe adverse events were observed.
- More than 300 core biopsies were obtained from all six patients across the planned time points.
- Biopsies were processed for "-omic" analyses, including single-cell RNA sequencing, proteomics/phophoproteomic /immunopeptidomics, metabolomics, spatial transcriptomics, and cell profiling.

ASCO Presentation details are as follows:

- **Trials-in-Progress Poster Presentation Title:** Longitudinal stereotactic injections of oncolytic immunoactivating rQNestin34.5v.2 (CAN-3110) with concomitant biopsies for "-omic" analyses in recurrent glioblastoma (GBM)
- **Presenter:** David A. Reardon, MD, Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School; Clinical Director, Center for Neuro-Oncology at Dana Farber Cancer Institute
- **Session Title:** Poster Session – Central Nervous System Tumors
- **Session Date/Time:** Saturday, June 1, 2024; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM CT

About Candel Therapeutics

Candel is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing off-the-shelf multimodal biological immunotherapies that elicit an individualized, systemic anti-tumor immune response to help patients fight cancer. Candel has established two clinical stage multimodal biological immunotherapy platforms based on novel, genetically modified adenovirus and herpes simplex virus (HSV) gene constructs, respectively. CAN-2409 is the lead product candidate from the adenovirus platform and is currently in ongoing clinical trials in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) (phase 2), borderline resectable PDAC (phase 2), and localized, non-metastatic prostate cancer (phase 2 and phase 3). CAN-3110 is the lead product candidate from the HSV platform and is currently in an ongoing phase 1b clinical trial in rHGG. Finally, Candel's enLIGHTEN™ Discovery Platform is a systematic, iterative HSV-based discovery platform leveraging human biology and advanced analytics to create new viral immunotherapies for solid tumors.

For more information about Candel, visit: www.candeltx.com

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes certain disclosures that contain "forward-looking statements," within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended, including, without limitation, express or implied statements regarding the timing and advancement of development programs, including the timing and availability of additional data, key data readout milestones, and expectations regarding the therapeutic benefit of the Company's programs, including the potential for CAN-3110 to extend survival of patients with rHGG; and expectations regarding the potential benefits conferred by Orphan Drug Designation and Fast Track Designation. The words "may," "will," "could," "would," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "intend," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "project," "potential," "continue," "target" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. Any forward-looking statements in this press release are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and important factors that may cause actual events or results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by any forward-looking statements contained in this press release, including, without limitation, those risks and uncertainties related to the timing and advancement of development programs; the Company's ability to continue as a going concern; expectations regarding the therapeutics benefit of the Company's programs; that final data from the Company's pre-clinical studies and completed clinical trials may differ materially from reported interim data from ongoing studies and trials; the Company's ability to efficiently discover and develop product candidates; the Company's ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval of product candidates; the Company's ability to maintain its intellectual property; the implementation of the Company's business model, including strategic plans for the Company's business and product candidates, and other risks identified in the Company's filings, with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) including the Company's most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC, and subsequent filings with the SEC. The Company cautions you not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date they are made. The Company disclaims any obligation to publicly update or revise any such statements to reflect any change in expectations or in events, conditions, or circumstances on which any such statements may be based, or that may affect the likelihood that actual results will differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statements contained in this press release represent the Company's views only as of the date hereof and should not be relied upon as representing its views as of any subsequent date.

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[1] Ling AL, et al. Nature. 2023;623(7985):157-166.