UNIQUE ALCIDE® FORMULATION FOR BLOOD PLATELET DISINFECTION

NORWALK,CT, April 13, 1987 - Dr. Robert C. Valeri, Director of the Naval Blood Research Laboratory at Boston University Medical School, has been carrying out studies with a unique Alcide® formulation developed by Alcide Corporation (NASDAQ:ALCD) of Norwalk, Connecticut, for the disinfection of platelets. Preliminary experimental results obtained using this formulation indicate feasibility for the approach.

Platelets are cells in blood that are involved in clotting and the repair of damaged blood vessels. They are used primarily as transfusion products in patients undergoing cancer therapy. Recently, there have been increasing reports of transmission of microbial infections in recipients of platelets. A product which is capable of disinfecting platelet concentrates would reduce the chance of transmitting infection through transfusion and could potentially lead to an extension of platelet shelf life.

In related studies conducted by Dr. Valeri, whole baboon blood was treated with this Alcide® formulation within a range of concentrations similar to that used for the current platelet studies. Following treatment with the Alcide® formulation, various blood components including platelets, red cells, and clotting proteins were isolated and tested. The results indicated no significant loss of their in vitro activities or in vivo survival, as evidenced by reinfusion experiments in baboons.

Alcide's patented compound kills bacteria, viruses, and fungi on or shortly after contact and offers a uniquely potent yet biocompatible approach to broad spectrum microbial disinfection. In a letter published in the November 28, 1985, issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, Dr. P.S. Sarin, Deputy Chief of the Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology at the National Cancer Institute, and collaborators from the Yale University School of Medicine and the Company reported that Alcide's LD™ disinfectant system can completely inactivate the virus responsible for AIDS and its related syndromes (HTLV-III/LAV virus) in the presence of cultured mammalian cells and at concentrations which are non-toxic to these cells.

As a follow-up to the studies on bacterial disinfection of platelets, the Company is planning to evaluate this Alcide® formulation for inactivation of several viruses in the presence of platelets. These viruses include Herpes Simplex Virus Type I, cytomegalovirus, and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV; formerly, HTLV-III/LAV) responsible for AIDS and its related syndrome.

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