

**PRESS RELEASE
FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

Publication of ChondroCelect pivotal trial results in the American Journal of Sports Medicine

Leuven (BELGIUM) – February 5, 2008 – TiGenix (EURONEXT: TIG), the biomedical company that focuses on innovative local treatments for damaged and osteoarthritic joints announces the publication of the ChondroCelect® TIG/ACT/01/2000 clinical study in a top-level orthopaedic journal.

The publication entitled: "Characterized chondrocyte implantation results in better structural repair when treating symptomatic cartilage defects of the knee in a randomized controlled trial versus microfracture" by D. Saris, J. Vanlauwe *et al.* appears as first article in the February issue of the American Journal of Sports Medicine, Vol. 36, No. 2, pp. 235-246 and is pre-published online since January 24. The American Journal of Sports Medicine is the official journal of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM). It is one of the highest ranked, peer-reviewed orthopaedic and sport sciences journals.

This manuscript describes the positive outcome of a landmark trial comparing characterized chondrocyte implantation with ChondroCelect® to microfracture, the current standard of care for symptomatic cartilage defects in the knee. This multicentre, prospective, randomized, controlled study, in which a total of 118 patients have been treated, was designed to assess structural repair and improvement of clinical outcome.

One year after treatment, characterized chondrocyte implantation was associated with repair tissue that is superior to that after microfracture. The short-term clinical outcome was similar for both treatments. Importantly, the authors suggest that the superior structural outcome may result in improved long-term clinical benefit with characterized chondrocyte implantation. Therefore, further long-term follow-up is ongoing.

The first authors, Dr. Saris and Dr. Vanlauwe, are excited about the positive outcome of this landmark trial and emphasize its high methodological quality "*This study qualifies for submission to regulatory agencies, a condition for broad patient access, and sets new standards for developing cell based products, moving the field of cartilage repair therapies to the next level.*" comments Dr. Vanlauwe.

"*Although the results of the study have already been presented at various orthopaedic conferences, this peer-reviewed publication underlines the importance of these findings for the orthopaedic community*" stated Mr. Gil Beyen, CEO of TiGenix.

The publication can be consulted online at:

<http://ajs.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/36/2/235?ijkey=HBm6.l6RQ.lFc&keytype=ref&siteid=amjsports>

For more information, please contact

Gil Beyen
Chief Executive Officer
+32 16 39 60 60
gil.beyen@tigenix.com

Kris Motmans
representative of MC-Services Group
Corporate Communications
+32 16 39 60 63
+32 473 74 20 57
kris.motmans@tigenix.com

About TiGenix

TiGenix NV (Euronext: TIG) is a late-stage biomedical company that focuses on innovative local treatments for damaged and osteoarthritic joints. The Company is exploiting the power of regenerative medicine to develop durable treatments, validated through controlled clinical trials, for these indications. Based in Leuven, Belgium, TiGenix was founded as a spin-off from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and the Universiteit Gent.

TiGenix is developing a portfolio of products that address specific musculoskeletal problems. The lead indication among these is cartilage damage, which is a debilitating affliction affecting the mobility and functioning of patients. Western societies are characterised by ageing populations that place an increasing emphasis on high quality of life and life-long mobility, and, as such, cartilage problems represent a large and growing unmet medical need. Current therapies do not provide satisfying, long-term durable repair and TiGenix therefore believes there is a need for more effective treatments for cartilage damage.

About ChondroCelect

ChondroCelect is TiGenix' lead product for cartilage repair, an innovative cell-based medicinal product focusing on durable repair of cartilage defects of the knee. The product is used in combination with autologous chondrocyte implantation (ACI), a surgical procedure to treat cartilage defects by using patient's own cells. Cartilage defects of the knee are very common and the spontaneous healing capacity of cartilage is limited. Patients having had a traumatic cartilage injury at a younger age are at risk of developing osteoarthritis (OA) later in life. By focusing on the regeneration of stable hyaline-like cartilage, ChondroCelect aims at realizing durable repair of cartilage defects and postponing the progression towards OA. ChondroCelect has successfully completed a randomised Phase III clinical trial and will be launched in Europe and/or in the United States, pending necessary regulatory approvals.

Forward-looking information

This document contains forward-looking statements and estimates with respect to the anticipated future performance of TiGenix and the market in which it operates. Certain of these statements, forecasts and estimates can be recognised by the use of words such as, without limitation, "believes", "anticipates", "expects", "intends", "plans", "seeks", "estimates", "may", "will" and "continue" and similar expressions. They include all matters that are not historical facts. Such statements, forecasts and estimates are based on various assumptions and assessments of known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which were deemed reasonable when made but may or may not prove to be correct. Actual events are difficult to predict and may depend upon factors that are beyond the Company's control. Therefore, actual results, the financial condition, performance or achievements of TiGenix, or industry results, may turn out to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements, forecasts and estimates. Given these uncertainties, no representations are made as to the accuracy or fairness of such forward-looking statements, forecasts and estimates. Furthermore, forward-looking statements, forecasts and estimates only speak as of the date of the publication of this document. TiGenix disclaims any obligation to update any such forward-looking statement, forecast or estimates to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto, or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement, forecast or estimate is based, except to the extent required by Belgian law.