

## TiGenix awarded European Union grant

**Leuven (BELGIUM) – June 10, 2008 – TiGenix (EURONEXT: TIG) announced today that it has been awarded a EUR 1.2 million grant from the European Union for its participation in TREAT-OA, a research consortium focused on the development of novel diagnostics and treatments for osteoarthritis.**

The TREAT-OA consortium brings together a selected team of academics, clinicians and industry experts. This five-year research program represents a large-scale, integrated and trans-disciplinary project that aims to get better insights into the pathogenic, diagnostic and prognostic factors of osteoarthritis resulting in improved diagnostic and/or intervention strategies for this disease. Osteoarthritis is the most common cause of disability in Europe. There are currently no reliable clinical biochemical markers for diagnosis or prognosis nor are there any drugs available that can cure, reverse or halt the disease. The European Union's Seventh Framework Program is supporting TREAT-OA with a total of EUR 18.2 million.

TiGenix will contribute its *in vitro* assay development skills and clinical network to the consortium and will participate in the functional gene analysis to identify genes and biochemical markers associated with the risk and progression of osteoarthritis and to identify targets for pharmacological intervention.

*"We are pleased to be part of this high-level consortium. It is clearly a recognition of our leadership position in the field of cartilage damage and osteoarthritis. This collaboration and the financial support from the EU enables us to accelerate our internal discovery activities for novel treatment options for joint diseases",* said Gil Beyen, CEO of TiGenix.

### **For more information, please contact**

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## **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.*

## **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.*