

**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

**USA PATENT FOR MIDKINE TO TREAT HEART FAILURE**

- **USA patent granted for use of midkine to treat heart failure**
- **Patent coverage for midkine as a chronic treatment for cardiac disease**
- **Global patent family already in force in Europe and Japan**

**SYDNEY, Wednesday, 21 January 2015: Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)** advises that the USA Patent Office has granted the Company's patent application 11/720,983 entitled "Composition for treating or preventing myocardial disorder or heart failure". The granted claims cover the use of midkine (MK) as a treatment for heart failure which commonly follows non-fatal heart attacks.

In published studies using *in vivo* animal models, MK treatment following heart attack potently promotes new blood vessel growth in the affected tissue (angiogenesis), limits cardiac dysfunction, promotes ventricular tissue repair and increases long term survival rates. Significantly, MK is effective even where treatment initiation is delayed for weeks after infarct.

"This patent reinforces Cellmid's comprehensive intellectual property position in using MK therapeutically", said Cellmid CEO Maria Halasz. "Through several global patent families Cellmid's patent coverage now extends across a number of related mechanisms of action" she added.

"Midkine could become an important agent in the treatment of heart failure" said Head of Product Development, Darren Jones. "In an acute setting MK prevents cardiomyocyte death at the time of the heart attack. In the longer term MK promotes beneficial fibrosis and angiogenesis in the cardiac muscle in the weeks following a heart attack" he added.

Cellmid's equivalent patents have already been granted in Europe and Japan.

Cellmid holds the most significant intellectual property assets related to MK worldwide. Cellmid's patent portfolio currently includes 87 patents in 20 patent families, which cover the use of MK and anti-MK agents for therapeutic purposes in a number of diseases, as well as the use of MK as a diagnostic marker in cancer and other disorders.

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**Cellmid Limited (ASX: CDY)**

Cellmid is an Australian biotechnology company with lead drug candidates in oncology. The Company is developing innovative novel therapies and diagnostic tests for a number of cancer indications, in particular solid tumours. Cellmid holds the largest and most comprehensive portfolio of intellectual property related to the novel oncology target midkine and midkine antagonists globally. The Company's most advanced development programmes involve using its anti-midkine antibodies in addition to commercialising midkine as a biomarker for the early diagnosis and prognosis of cancer. For further information please see [www.cellmid.com.au](http://www.cellmid.com.au).

**Midkine (MK)**

Midkine is a growth factor that is highly expressed during embryonic development. Midkine modulates many important biological interactions such as cell growth, cell migration and cellular adherence. These functions are relevant to cancer, inflammation, autoimmunity, ischemia, nerve growth/repair and wound healing. Midkine is barely detectable in healthy adults and only occurs as a consequence of the pathogenesis of a number of different disorders. Midkine expression is often evident very early in disease onset, even before any apparent physical symptoms. Accordingly, midkine is an important early marker for diagnosing cancers and autoimmune diseases. Finally, midkine is only present in a disease context, and targeting midkine is not expected to harm normal healthy tissues.