



MELIOR PHARMACEUTICALS AWARDED GRANT FOR ADVANCING PULMONARY THERAPEUTIC IN COVID-19 PHASE 2 CLINICAL TRIAL

- **Melior’s therapeutic candidate, tolimidone, is:**
 - **Expected to mitigate the probability and severity of COVID-19 subjects developing severe lung complications**
 - **A repositioned drug that has been demonstrated to be safe and well-tolerated in previous clinical studies**

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September 15, 2020 Exton, PA – Melior Pharmaceuticals (Melior) has been awarded a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s COVID-19 Vaccines, Treatments and Therapies (CV-VTT) Program, which is designed to support rapid advancement of promising COVID-19 therapies. The planned study is intended to recruit 428 subjects who were recently diagnosed with COVID-19, have early symptoms, but are not hospitalized. Tolimidone is expected to significantly mitigate the number of COVID-19 subjects who develop respiratory distress and the severity of respiratory distress if that should occur. Tolimidone will be taken as an orally administered pill once a day.

Tolimidone activates an enzyme that is responsible for maintaining the pulmonary barrier and preventing the leakage of fluid into the lungs, as occurs in those COVID-19 subjects who develop the runaway immune response known as “cytokine storm.” The drug has demonstrated significant protection against pulmonary distress in animal models of cytokine storm. As with all of Melior’s drug candidates, this is a repositioned drug that has previously been shown to be safe and well-tolerated in previous clinical studies.

“We are pleased that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has recognized tolimidone as a promising candidate to combat COVID-19,” said Andrew Reaume, CEO of Melior Pharmaceuticals. “We are proud to be able to advance a candidate to help address this global pandemic.”

About Melior

Melior Discovery and its sister company, Melior Pharmaceuticals, are leaders in pharmaceutical drug repositioning using the unique *theraTRACE*® platform comprised of multiplexed *in vivo* disease models. Melior is using these capabilities to build an internal pipeline of development candidates and also partners with pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies to apply the *theraTRACE*® platform and its in-depth *in vivo* pharmacology expertise to their development candidates. Melior Discovery and Melior Pharmaceuticals are privately held and located in Exton, PA. For more information, visit www.meliordiscovery.com and www.meliorpharma.com.



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