

## **Stempeutics partners with Cipla to create greater access to stem cell medicines**

- ✓ Stempeutics has signed a distribution agreement with Cipla Limited for treating Critical Limb Ischemia due to Atherosclerotic Peripheral Arterial Disease (CLI-PAD)
- ✓ Through this partnership, the companies will leverage their expertise to increase access to these innovative medicines for patients in India.
- ✓ CLI-PAD is characterized by narrowing of arteries in the legs limiting blood flow to the muscles due to the build-up of fatty deposits called plaque
- ✓ Causes include smoking, diabetes, obesity, high cholesterol or age related factors
- ✓ It is a serious condition that requires immediate treatment to re-establish blood-flow to the affected area to preserve the limb from amputation
- ✓ Stempeucel® - a stem cell therapy product, offers new treatment option for CLI-PAD. About 50 lakhs people suffer from CLI-PAD in India
- ✓ DCGI has given permission to conduct Phase 3 trial for CLI-PAD

**India, Bengaluru, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018:** Stempeutics Research, a group company of Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG), announced today that it has signed an out-licensing deal with Cipla Limited for Stempeucel® product for CLI-PAD indication. Under this agreement, Cipla will get the exclusive marketing rights for five years in India for CLI-PAD with Stempeutics manufacturing & supplying the product to Cipla. The product is expected to be available in Indian market in the beginning of 2020 after undergoing the Phase 3 Clinical trial in India, which is expected to commence in 2018.

Earlier Stempeutics has successfully completed Preclinical studies and Phase 1/2 clinical trial in India & the outcomes have been published in the peer-reviewed Journal of Translational Medicine.

**Mr BN Manohar, CEO of Stempeutics said,** “Although alternate treatments exist for CL-PAD, only 50% of patients can be managed with contemporary vascular techniques, while satisfactory clinical outcomes are evident in about 25% of the patients. Stempeucel® has significant potential to overcome limitations of traditional treatment approaches for CLI due to (a) Anti-inflammatory properties (b) Ability to promote neovascularization and (c) promote healing of non-healing ischemic ulcers. We are extremely happy to collaborate with Cipla in developing Stempeucel® for CLI-PAD treatment”.

Speaking on the licensing deal with Cipla, **Dr Raviraja, N S Director Business Development, Stempeutics, said** “We are progressing well towards our goal of bringing the first stem cell based product for CLI-PAD treatment in India in the near future. The most common treatments for CLI are characterized by high rates of primary amputations, multiple procedures and high rates of procedure-related complications. In severe cases of CLI, the disease not only affects

the quality of life but also increases the economic burden of patients and their family. Stempeucel® is a breakthrough treatment option for CLI-PAD which directly addresses the root cause of the disease, unlike other drugs which typically treat the symptoms and not the disease itself. India has the potential to manufacture stem cells at an affordable cost and Stempeutics has a patented technology to achieve this goal. We are looking forward for a similar licensing deal with a major pharma on Diabetic Foot Ulcer indication”.

#### **About Critical Limb Ischemia:**

CLI is the most serious form of Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD). PAD patients have severe blockage of the arteries of the lower extremities, leading to markedly reduced blood-flow and ulceration, often leading to lower-limb amputation. Worldwide there are about 25 million patients affected with CLI, yet there are no effective therapies. Mortality rates are very high - the 5 year mortality rate is 67%. Overall, approximately 40% and 50% of CLI patients will lose their leg within 6 – 12 months and approximately 15% will require contralateral amputation within 2 years.

#### **About Stempeutics:**

Stempeutics is an advanced clinical stage Biotech Company based out of Bangalore. It was founded by Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG) in 2006 and later entered into an alliance with Cipla in 2009. Stempeutics strength lies in developing innovative stem cell products by nurturing cutting edge research and clinical applications through dedicated efforts of its highly qualified team. Its goal is to develop novel stem cell drugs addressing major unmet medical needs with an India first global next approach.

#### **About Cipla Ltd.:**

Cipla is a global pharmaceutical company which uses cutting edge technology and innovation to meet the everyday needs of all patients. For over 80 years, Cipla has emerged as one of the most respected pharmaceutical names in India as well as across more than 80 countries. Our portfolio includes over 1500 products across wide range of therapeutic categories with one quality standard globally.

Whilst delivering a long-term sustainable business, Cipla recognises its duty to provide affordable medicines. Cipla’s emphasis on access for patients was recognised globally for the pioneering role played in HIV/AIDS treatment as the first pharmaceutical company to provide a triple combination anti-retroviral (ARV) in Africa at less than a dollar a day and thereby treating many millions of patients since 2001. Cipla’s research and development focuses on developing innovative products and drug delivery systems. For more information, please visit [www.cipla.com](http://www.cipla.com)

**About Manipal Education & Medical Group:**

Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG) is one of the leaders in the country, in the field of education and healthcare services, with a global footprint. MEMG, through its subsidiaries, provides education and healthcare services in India and internationally. It manages universities and professional institutions, including medical colleges, teaching hospitals, and medical science and technology institutions through which it provides bachelor's and master's degree programs in various streams. It also operates a facility management company, Manipal Integrated Services (MIS) covering student accommodation & hostel management and several other services including food and catering; engineering and maintenance and security and housekeeping. The company also manages healthcare institutions, super-specialty care hospitals, rural maternity and child welfare homes. In addition, the company researches and develops stem cell technologies in various medicine and treatment areas. MEMG International India Pvt. Ltd. was founded in 1953 and is based in Bengaluru, India with education colleges and campuses in Antigua, Dubai, Malaysia, and Nepal.

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