



ERASMUS MC BIOMEDICAL FUND CO-FOUNDS VULNERABLE PLAQUE COMPANY

Rotterdam, October 25, 2007 - The Erasmus MC Biomedical Fund announced today the incorporation and the closure of the seed financing round of Cavadis B.V. Co-founders of Cavadis are the University Medical Centers of Utrecht and Rotterdam and scientists from the departments of experimental cardiology and bioinformatics from the respective Medical Centers.

Cavadis is a spin-off company from the University Medical Center Utrecht and the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam. Cavadis' goal is to deliver diagnostic and therapeutic tools for the treatment of patients who are prone to develop unstable coronary syndromes due to the presence of vulnerable plaques. Cavadis' technology platform is based on the scientific data derived from the Athero-Express, a biobank which contains more than 1,500 well-characterized atherosclerotic plaques with associated clinical information including follow-up data. Cavadis' access to state-of-the art bioinformatics enables it to unravel the raw medical, histological and biochemical data derived from the Athero-Express. This will result in the discovery of biomarkers for new diagnostic products and imaging products for vulnerable plaque as well as new targets for drug development in this indication. A first strategic collaboration with a top 10 pharma company, including milestone payments, has already been closed.

"Cavadis is the unique result of successful co-operation between two leading Dutch Medical Centers. It learns that Medical Centers in the Netherlands can perfectly complement each other and, by doing so, can form companies like Cavadis" said Tom Schwarz, partner at Erasmus MC Biomedical Fund and interim CEO at Cavadis. "I am excited to be part of such an enthusiastic team of founders and I am confident that Cavadis is bound to become a player of world class. Our first strategic partnership validates that assumption."

"Over the past years we have built the Athero-Express biobank to its current proportions. Through our joint effort with the department of bioinformatics of the Erasmus MC Rotterdam headed by professor Peter van der Spek, we are now able to assess the huge amount of data derived from the Athero-Express and look for new clues in our fight against vulnerable plaques" said Gerard Pasterkamp, professor at the laboratory of experimental cardiology at the Utrecht and Chief Scientific Officer at Cavadis.

About the Erasmus MC Biomedical Fund (www.erasmusmcfund.nl)

The Erasmus MC Biomedical Fund is an independent venture capital fund focusing on early stage companies and (university) spin-outs in the biotechnology and biomedical field with a presence in the Rotterdam region. The fund targets companies that are developing commercially promising products and technologies in life sciences, including pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, information technology and other high technology opportunities that offer venture capital returns.

About Cavadis (www.cavadis.com)

Cavadis is a Dutch biotechnical company specialized in the discovery of biomarkers for progression of atherosclerotic disease. The company's successful search for biomarkers is based on a new concept in the field of research of the atherosclerotic plaque vulnerability.

The detection and validation of Cavadis' commercialized biomarkers is facilitated by state of the art bioinformatics. All Cavadis plaque vulnerability biomarkers have been discovered and validated in human longitudinal studies with hard clinical endpoints as a read-out. The innovative concept of Cavadis' biomarker search is expected to lead to a breakthrough in clinically applicable diagnostic testing and improvement of patient healthcare.

Tom Schwarz

Tel: + 31 (0) 6 53279243

E-mail: tschwarz@erasmusmcfund.nl