SP-SAP Treatment for Chronic Pain. . . in non-Humans

ATS recently licensed SP-SAP for development as a chronic pain therapeutic in humans. Much progress has been made in the past three months to prepare the pre-IND package for a meeting with the FDA. This meeting has been requested and the FDA has assigned a meeting date of October 2nd. The purpose of this meeting will be to present data and determine the next steps for moving SP-SAP into human clinical trials.

Marlow Russell and Codi Sansone
Companions to Brian and Jessica

Part of the data that will be presented at the pre-IND meeting will be from the veterinary clinical trial now going on with SP-SAP in companion dogs with bone cancer. We are very encouraged by the mid-term results of this trial and are hopeful that we can find a veterinary pharmaceutical company that will market this chronic pain drug for use in animals.

As part of the veterinary development, we hope to begin a trial in cats in the near future. Felines have a unique need because they are intolerant to treatment with standard non-steroidal, non-inflammatory medications, due to the way their livers function.

Check the October issue for more updates on SP-SAP.

ATS Receives SBIR Phase I Grant

ATS begins work on an exciting new line of targeting products with a newly funded grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. The grant is entitled “Inhibition of Neurotransmission in Specific Neuronal Populations” and proposes to develop a new tool set for the understanding of cell function and systems biology.

In extensive work over the last decade, it has become clear that biologically active molecules can be inserted into specific cell types through targeting to molecules on the cell surface. The new project will direct this technology to specific neuronal cell types with the purpose of temporarily inhibiting their capacity of releasing neurotransmitters.

Inhibition of neurotransmitter release would be a short-term phenomenon, because slowly, over time, normal function would resume. This would be about a one-month process to move from inhibition back to normal function.

The demonstration of efficacy would usher in a new technology with applications as research reagents. Targeted agents could be used to shut down neuronal sub-types, allowing observation of the effect and greater understanding of the function of the cell in systems biology, while the return to homeostasis and function would act as a control for the experiment.