



**ASX ANNOUNCEMENT  
11 November 2008**

## **Canadian Trial of VitroGro® to Start Monday**

Biomedical company, **Tissue Therapies Limited (ASX: TIS)** announced today that Health Canada has approved the clinical trial of VitroGro® for the treatment of diabetic, venous and pressure ulcers.

All preparations for the human trial have been completed, including patient pre-qualification to accelerate recruitment, and the first patients will start VitroGro® treatment in Toronto on Monday 17 November 2008.

The trial will be conducted by a world-class clinical team headed by renowned wound-care specialist Professor Gary Sibbald (*profile attached*).

CEO of Tissue Therapies, Dr Steven Mercer said the Health Canada approval was an important milestone for the Company and was supported by positive clinical research data from Australia.

He said results from the current human trial underway at the Vascular Research Laboratory in Fremantle had been exceptional, and bode well for the outcomes of the Canadian trial.

“Trial results of VitroGro® on patients suffering from debilitating venous ulcers have so far been very positive, demonstrating its rapid wound healing properties and, as yet there have been no indication of adverse reactions from its application.

“Significantly, conventional treatments for venous ulcers had proved unsuccessful in each of the first four patients, and significant improvements were made within days of VitroGro® being applied to the wound areas.”

Dr Mercer said that in 2007 Health Canada classified VitroGro® as a ‘topical biologic’, making the clinical regulatory requirements for product assessment similar to those required for approval of a medical device, rather than a pharmaceutical.

He said the classification means the time and costs of clinical trials and regulatory approvals are substantially less than required for pharmaceuticals.

“The expected positive results from the human trials in Australia and Canada, combined with our product classification, are likely to lead to the commercialisation of VitroGro® within two years for widespread use on chronic ulcers - a market estimated to be worth US\$4 billion annually worldwide.”

Chief Scientific Officer of Tissue Therapies, Professor Zee Upton said receiving human trial data that reflected the success achieved in the laboratory was encouraging.

“It is a wonderful feeling to see the practical application of so much scientific effort pay off with patients being treated with VitroGro®,” she said.

“This is the stuff biological scientists dream of, particularly when we are working towards the ability to accelerate chronic wound healing and relieve a huge number of people of the pain, disability, social isolation and often literally threats to life and limbs these chronic wounds cause.”

Results are expected to be released during the trial, starting in late 2008, with final results available during the first half of 2009.

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### **About Tissue Therapies Limited**

Tissue Therapies Limited is an Australian company developing biomedical technologies for wound healing, tissue repair and various cell culture applications.

The Company has worldwide exclusive rights to commercialise VitroGro®, a technology developed by tissue engineering experts at the Institute for Health and Biomedical Innovation at QUT for enhancing cell growth and migration. VitroGro® has particular commercial applications in wound healing, tissue regeneration, stem cell therapies and other cell culture uses.

Based on its VitroGro® technology, Tissue Therapies is developing more effective medical treatments for wound healing including chronic ulcers and burns.

Tissue Therapies also provides cell culture reagents to enhance the growth of mammalian cells for emerging cell-based therapies, along with research and industrial cell culture markets internationally.

**More information:** [www.tissuetherapies.com](http://www.tissuetherapies.com)

### **About Professor Gary Sibbald:**

Dr Sibbald is Professor of Public Health Sciences and Medicine at the University of Toronto. He trained as a dermatologist and internist with special interest in wound healing and education. He is currently the Director of Medical Education at Women's College Hospital and was formerly the Director of Continuing Education for the Department of Medicine and Chair of the Continuing Education Committee for the Faculty of Medicine. Professor Sibbald is a board member and-coordinator of the Canadian Association of Continuing Health Education and is Chair of the Accreditation Committee for The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. He is a past Chair of the Cambridge Conference on Medical Education.

Presently, Professor Sibbald is the Director of the Wound Healing Clinic at the Women's College Hospital. He established an interdisciplinary education model for wound care as co-founder, previous chairman and a five-time annual meeting Chair of the Canadian Association of Wound Care. Professor Sibbald established the International Interdisciplinary Wound Care Course (IIWCC) at the University of Toronto in 1999. This course is the first University of Toronto continuing education course to offer a certificate of completion and combine residential weekends with self-study and an elective that relates new knowledge to everyday practice. This course is currently being re-evaluated as part of a new Professionals Masters Program in the Department of Public Health Sciences.

He is co-editor of the fourth edition of Chronic Wound Care: A Clinical Source Book for Healthcare Professionals and was the Chairman for the 3rd Meeting of the World Union of Wound Healing Societies held in Toronto, June 4th to 8th 2008. Professor Sibbald has published over 100 articles and book chapters.