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MALE CONTRACEPTION INITIATIVE AWARDS $600k IN RESEARCH GRANTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MALE CONTRACEPTIVE PRODUCTS

Development collaborations include University of Minnesota, University of Nevada, National Research Council in Argentina and Monash University in Australia

DURHAM, NC – Male Contraception Initiative (MCI), a private non-profit foundation, announces the award of four grants totalling $600,000 to academic recipients for the development of a new reversible non-hormonal birth control pill for men. The awardees include Dr. Patricia Cuasnicu of the Institute of Biology and Experimental Medicine-National Research Council, Argentina; Dr. Gunda Georg of the University of Minnesota’s Institute for Therapeutics Discovery and Development; Dr. Wei Yan of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine; and Dr. Sabatino Ventura of the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Parkville, Australia.

Each project team will evaluate and develop a new drug candidate that is expected to diversify the types of male contraceptives entering the drug development pipeline. Each project focuses on a non-hormonal approach, developing methods that have the lowest potential for side effects and highest potential for effectiveness. The proposals for the two-year awards were evaluated by an international expert review panel.

MCI has secured additional funding in 2018 through an anonymous donor to fuel the development of new male contraceptive methods. “We’re excited to expand our role in the funding and development of male contraceptive targets,” said Logan Nickels, Director of Operations and Programs for MCI. “This is our first round of seed grants, which are designed for early-stage research to demonstrate the capacity for success, and prepare products for larger funding efforts and clinical trials in the future.”

About Male Contraception Initiative (MCI): MCI’s mission is to facilitate research & development of male contraceptives for use by people around the world, and to build awareness about the demand for and status of new male contraception options.

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