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**Quintessence | Biosciences**

## **Quintessence Biosciences Announces Expansion of Cancer Clinical Trial for QBI-139**

MADISON, WISCONSIN – Quintessence Biosciences, Inc. announced today the expansion of the Phase 1 clinical trial of its drug candidate, QBI-139, in patients with late-stage solid tumors. The study will be available through The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

Unlike conventional chemotherapies, the EVade™ Ribonuclease technology provides an opportunity to attack RNA in cancer cells, an exciting new drug target, with QBI-139, which is nearly identical to a human protein, pancreatic ribonuclease 1. In preclinical disease models, QBI-139 has shown significant tumor growth inhibition against human colorectal, pancreatic, non-small cell lung, prostate, and ovarian solid tumors.

“QBI-139 is an exciting new drug that has demonstrated broad activity in pre-clinical models,” said Jennifer J. Wheler, M.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Investigational Cancer Therapeutics and Principal Investigator for the study at M. D. Anderson. “We are excited to work with Quintessence on this first in human study of an RNA targeting therapeutic.”

“We are pleased to be able to work with M.D. Anderson, a world-renowned cancer research institution,” said Quintessence Biosciences President Dr. Laura Strong. “Ribonuclease therapies are poised to fill a need for drugs that attack cancer by alternative means than chemotherapies or protein targeted therapies.”

### **Contact Information**

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### **About Quintessence Biosciences, Inc.**

Quintessence Biosciences, Inc. ([www.quintbio.com](http://www.quintbio.com)) is a private biopharmaceutical company focused on development of proprietary cancer therapies based on the EVade™ Ribonuclease technology. Quintessence’s first product candidate, QBI-139, is in a Phase 1 clinical trial. The company also has a pipeline of other EVade™ Ribonuclease products in preclinical research.

### **About QBI-139**

QBI-139 is a potent anticancer agent based on the EVade™ Ribonuclease technology. The technology provides an opportunity to attack RNA, an exciting new drug target, in cancer cells with analogs of the human pancreatic ribonuclease 1. In preclinical disease models, QBI-139 has shown a strong tolerability profile and outstanding tumor growth inhibition *in vivo* against human colorectal, pancreatic, non-small cell lung, prostate, and ovarian solid tumors. The website <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov> outlines basic information for the ongoing Phase I human clinical trial of QBI-139.

### **About The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center**

Celebrating more than six decades of Making Cancer History®, The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is located in central Houston on the sprawling campus of the Texas Medical Center. It is one of the world’s most respected centers devoted exclusively to cancer patient care, research, education and prevention.

M. D. Anderson Cancer Center was created in 1941 as a component of The University of Texas System. The institution is one of the nation’s original three comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of 40 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers today.

In 2009, U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Hospitals” survey ranked M. D. Anderson as the top hospital in the nation for cancer care. M. D. Anderson has achieved the top ranking six times in the past eight years and has ranked as one of the top two hospitals for cancer care for 20 years, since the magazine began its annual survey in 1990.