

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 27, 2007

Contact: Laura Strong  
(608) 441-2950  
[LauraS@Quintbio.com](mailto:LauraS@Quintbio.com)

## Award of Two Federal Grants to Support Quintessence Biosciences' Development of EVade™ Ribonuclease Technology

Quintessence Biosciences, Inc. today announced the receipt of two federal grants to support further development of the EVade™ Ribonuclease (RNase) technology. The National Cancer Institute awarded Quintessence Biosciences two Phase 1 Small Business Innovation Research grants totally more than \$280,000 to advance two additional EVade™ Ribonuclease products into in-vivo testing.

The first NCI grant of \$125,607 will allow Quintessence Biosciences to pursue second generation Evade™ RNases that have a different pharmacokinetic profile than the first generation EVade™ RNases, which includes QBI-139, our current lead drug candidate. The pharmacokinetics of a drug refers to the fate of a drug once the drug enters the body, including how a drug is absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and excreted. In addition, the company received \$157,739 from NCI to pursue antibody EVade™ RNase conjugates. These conjugates offer an opportunity to enhance the efficacy of EVade™ RNases using a targeting mechanism.

"These awards are significant," according to Ralph Kauten, CEO, "not only for the funding they provide to help us strengthen the pipeline of products at Quintessence Biosciences and extend our ribonuclease franchise, but also because they further validate the EVade™ Ribonuclease approach to cancer therapy."

The company is currently preparing for the Phase I human clinical trial of QBI-139, a promising new cancer therapy based on the EVade™ technology, that displays exceptional safety characteristics in non-human testing. Quintessence hopes to begin Phase I clinical trials by the end of March, 2008. "By the time we complete the QBI-139 Phase 1 testing, we may well have two additional EVade™ Ribonuclease therapies ready for testing in humans," Kauten noted. "Clearly, these products would enhance the value of the company's platform technology and strengthen our position in the marketplace."

Dr. Laura Strong, president of Quintessence Biosciences, recently honored by the Wisconsin Biotechnology and Medical Device Association, as one of five Rising Stars, recently presented the results of non-human toxicology results for QBI-139 at the annual joint meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC). The AACR-NCI-EORTC International Conference is the premier international meeting featuring novel cancer therapeutics. "The advancement of QBI-139 closer to the clinic, and the broad efficacy and the novel mechanism of action of our technology were of great interest to the attendees," commented Dr. Strong. "Our two federal grants are yet another way in which our EVade™ RNase technology is gaining acceptance as a potential new cancer therapy," she added.