

## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/USA & International

### Immunocal® Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Trials announced

**Montreal, June 1 2000:** -- **Immunotec Research Ltd.** announces a multi-site Immunocal® Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS) Trial. The single-blind placebo controlled trial will be conducted with 75 CFIDS patients in Canada, the United States and United Kingdom over a 30-week period.

Dr. Roger Mazlen, MD, FACN, is the principal investigator. “Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome can be a devastating disease, which is exacerbated by the fact that it is an under-served patient area,” says Mazlen. “Immunocal has demonstrated certain benefits in previous research \*, and we look forward to verifying its efficacy within a larger patient cohort”.

Dr. Mazlen is Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, variously with Divisions of Hypertension, Atherosclerosis and Metabolism and currently in Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Mount Sinai Medical Center and School of Medicine, New York – among many other appointments. He is a Fellow of the American College of Nutrition, and has done extensive research in the field of CFIDS \*\*.

R.E.D. Laboratories NV in Belgium will conduct several novel blood tests for the trial including *in vitro* measurement of RNase L (an important enzyme in the antiviral pathway), and detection of Human Herpesvirus VI (HHV-6) subtypes using the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).

“The impetus for this initiative arose from our initial research into the syndrome,” says John Molson, Vice-President, Research and Development, **Immunotec Research Ltd.** “At that time we were very privileged to collaborate with a prominent US clinician credited with co-discovering the syndrome in 1992.”

“We were intrigued with the data generated in this study, and feel it warrants further exploration,” continues Molson. “We are very pleased to be able to collaborate with Dr. Mazlen, whom we respect for his expertise and knowledge in the field of CFIDS, as well as his experience in overseeing clinical trials.”

Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome is recognized as one of the most common chronic illnesses in the world, estimated to affect between two and four million people in Europe and North America combined.

“The clinical scientist who co-discovered the syndrome in 1992 was the first to show that glutathione depletion appears to be partly responsible for dysregulation of the immune system observed in the syndrome,” says Dr. Gustavo Bounous, Medical Director of **Immunotec Research Ltd.** “In addition, the drop of the intestinal mucosal barrier in the advanced phase of this disease was also found to be related to glutathione deficiency. He showed that an important subset of CFIDS patients benefited from this glutathione-promoting whey protein diet.”

The development of Immunocal was the result of studies initiated in 1978, by Dr. Gustavo Bounous, MD, FRCSC, career investigator of the Medical Research Council of Canada. While a tenured Professor at the McGill University Faculty of Medicine in Montreal, his research led to the discovery that an undenatured whey protein concentrate sustains glutathione levels in the lymphocyte therefore guaranteeing an optimal immune response \*\*\*.

**Immunotec Research Ltd.** is a privately held corporation based in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The company is engaged in research, development and commercialization of milk derived products. The company’s flagship product, a specially prepared Whey Protein Isolate, is sold throughout the United States and internationally under the trademark Immunocal®; in Canada it is sold under the trademark HMS-90®.

-30-

**For further information or interviews, please contact:**

Joy Williams, Robert Allen & Associates (416) 532-3211; [jwilliams@pegasus.ca](mailto:jwilliams@pegasus.ca)

Mitch Abrahams : (212) 875-9930; [tilthecure@aol.com](mailto:tilthecure@aol.com)

John Molson, Immunotec Research Ltd.: (450) 424-9992 x 234;

[jmolson@immunocal.com](mailto:jmolson@immunocal.com)

**Additional sources of information:**

Dr. Roger Mazlen: <http://members.aol.com/rgm1/private/mazlen.htm>

\* Dr. R. Mazlen/Dr. P. Cheney: <http://users.aol.com/rgm1/private/cheney.htm>

\*\* Dr. P. Cheney workshop: <http://virtualhometown.com/dfwcfids/medical/orlandows.html>

\*\*\* Dr. G. Bounous research: [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/htbin-post/Entrez/query?form=4&db=m&term=bounous+g&dispmax=20&relentrezdate=No+Limit](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/htbin-post/Entrez/query?form=4&db=m&term=bounous+g&dispmax=20&relentrezdate=No+Limit)

Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome: [www.chronicillnet.org](http://www.chronicillnet.org) and [www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2000/05/12/ED48765.DTL](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2000/05/12/ED48765.DTL)

R.E.D. Laboratories: [www.redlabs.com](http://www.redlabs.com)