



**BioMarker
STRATEGIES**

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BioMarker Strategies Awarded \$1.5 Million National Cancer Institute Contract to Develop Companion Diagnostic Test to Select Optimal Therapy for Melanoma Patients

Two-year SBIR Phase II contract follows the Company's successful completion of a \$200,000 SBIR Phase I contract

Baltimore, MD—September 25, 2013 – BioMarker Strategies today announced that the National Cancer Institute (NCI) has awarded the company a \$1.5 million Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Phase II contract to develop PathMAP™, a pathway-based companion diagnostic test to facilitate the selection of optimal therapy for individual patients with melanoma.

“Targeted therapies now exist, including the BRAF inhibitor vemurafenib, that can help melanoma patients keep their cancer in check,” said Dr. Douglas Clark, Founder and CEO of BioMarker Strategies. “The challenge is to determine which individual patients are most likely to benefit from which therapy or combination of therapies. PathMAP™ is a pathway-based companion diagnostic assay that uses a patient’s live tumor cells to provide better information, including patient resistance to therapy, to support targeted therapy selection for individual melanoma patients.”

It is estimated that in 2013 over 75,000 Americans will be diagnosed with melanoma and almost 10,000 will die of advanced metastatic disease.

The NCI SBIR Phase II award will support BioMarker Strategies’ refinement of the PathMAP™ assay and *ex vivo* protocols previously developed under an NCI SBIR Phase I contract, and will also support PathMAP™ test validation in human clinical samples.

About BioMarker Strategies

BioMarker Strategies has developed its novel SnapPath® live tumor cell processing system to generate PathMAP™ profiles of solid tumors to promote improved cancer drug development and better inform selection of targeted therapies for cancer patients. PathMAP™ profiles are phosphoprotein-based, phenotypic profiles derived from *ex vivo* exposure of fresh solid tumor samples to targeted therapies in the SnapPath® device. These functional profiles provide information about the activated signal transduction network of live tumor cells that are not possible using static, traditional biomarkers from dead, fixed tumor tissue. The Company recently

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published data from its preclinical and clinical collaboration in advanced melanoma in PlosOne. The company is located at the Johns Hopkins Science + Technology Park in Baltimore. The development of the SnapPath® system was supported with significant funding from the National Cancer Institute. For more information about BioMarker Strategies, please refer to www.biomarkerstrategies.com.

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Forward Looking Statement

This press release may contain "forward-looking statements" (within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995) that inherently involve risk and uncertainties. BioMarker Strategies generally uses words such as "believe," "may," "could," "will," "intend," "expect," "anticipate," "plan," and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. One should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. BioMarker Strategies' actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements for many unforeseen factors. Although BioMarker Strategies believes the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, they relate only to events as of the date on which the statements are made, and future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements may not meet these expectations. The company does not intend to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this press release to conform these statements to actual results or to changes in the company's expectations, except as required by law.