

ASX/Media Release

Benitec and City of Hope Human Trial Update

6 May 2009, Melbourne, Australia: Leading developer of RNA interference (RNAi)-based therapeutics Benitec Limited (ASX: BLT) announced today that Dr John Zaia had presented an update on City of Hope's HIV human stem cell study at an international conference in San Diego, USA.

Findings from the trial were presented at the International Society of Cell Therapy conference held in San Diego May 3-6 2009 by John A. Zaia M.D. the Aaron D. and Edith Miller Endowed Chair for Gene Therapy and chair of virology, Beckman Research Institute of City of Hope. City of Hope is a biomedical research and treatment facility located northeast of Los Angeles.

The presentation was entitled "Current status of Gene Therapy for HIV/AIDS" and was an update and confirmation of the previously presented encouraging results.

"These study results show that we can deliver gene modified cells which have the potential to limit the HIV infection. If we can continue to develop this approach and successfully apply it to other AIDS patients, then genetic therapy for HIV could become a reality", said Sue MacLeman, CEO Benitec Limited.

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About Benitec

Benitec is an Australian biotechnology company focused on licensing its extensive intellectual property portfolio and developing therapeutics to treat serious diseases using its proprietary ddRNAi technology. For additional information, please visit www.benitec.com.

About City of Hope

City of Hope is a leading research and treatment center for cancer, diabetes and other life threatening diseases. Designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center, the highest honor bestowed by the National Cancer Institute, and a founding member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, City of Hope's research and treatment protocols advance care throughout the nation. City of Hope is located in Duarte, Calif., just northeast of Los Angeles, and is ranked as one of "America's Best Hospitals" in cancer and urology by *U.S. News & World Report*. Founded in 1913, City of Hope is a pioneer in the fields of bone marrow transplantation and genetics. For more information, visit www.cityofhope.org.