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**Phase II SBIR Grant Will Fund Development of EVade™ Ribonucleases:
Support for the Next Generation of Drug Candidates from Quintessence Biosciences, Inc.**

Quintessence Biosciences, Inc. today announced the receipt of a Phase 2 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Cancer Institute to support the development of next generation drugs based on the EVade™ Ribonuclease (RNase) technology. This new class of drugs works by a novel mechanism – the destruction of RNA. The grant provides funds to carry a second generation of EVade™ RNase that has a distinct pharmacokinetic profile towards human clinical trials. 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. “Quintessence is pleased to have the National Cancer Institute as a partner in the development of these novel cancer therapies,” said Ralph Kauten, CEO of Quintessence Biosciences.

About Quintessence Biosciences, Inc.

Quintessence Biosciences, Inc. 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 currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial (www.clinicaltrials.gov). The company also has a pipeline of other EVade™ Ribonuclease products in preclinical research. For more information, visit www.quintbio.com.

About QBI-139

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 pancreatic, non-small cell lung, prostate, and ovarian solid tumors.

About the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

The goal of the NCI is to eliminate the suffering and death due to cancer. The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs are NCI's engine of innovation for developing and commercializing novel technologies and products to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer. The SBIR & STTR Programs are one of the largest sources of early-stage technology financing in the United States. We welcome entrepreneurs and small business leaders to this website to explore grant and contract funding opportunities and a new spirit of collaboration with the NCI. For more information, visit <http://sbir.cancer.gov/>.