



## **NUCLEABIOMARKERS**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **NUCLEA BIOMARKERS ESTABLISHES RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH CLARK UNIVERSITY INVOLVING HERMANSKY-PUDLAK SYNDROME**

**Pittsfield and Worcester, Massachusetts....December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007....Nuclea Biomarkers, LLC** announced today announced today that it has established an agreement with Clark University in Worcester with the Department of Biology to create a research animal model for Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome. The collaboration will involve Tim Lyerla, Ph.D., a Professor of Biology and Researcher in the Department of Biology of Clark University. Dr Lyerla will conduct research studies on HPS animal models for testing of drugs for treating HPS. The collaboration will establish animal and cell models for inflammation that can be used to test efficacy of anti-inflammation agents. The collaboration will develop an “immorto” mouse and establish an alveolar cell line. Using these new research platforms under the agreement Clark and Nuclea will identify biomarkers associated with HPS and potentially other forms of inflammation.

“We are very excited about the establishment of this collaboration with Clark University and Dr. Lyerla’s Laboratory “ states Patrick Muraca, President and CEO. “This new collaboration further extends Nuclea’s mission in the discovery of new biomarkers”, Muraca states.

The term of the collaboration between Nuclea Biomarkers and Clark is for twelve (12) months with a five year option to renew the agreement.

Nuclea Biomarkers, LLC is a biotechnology services company that has developed a novel technology platform to greatly improve the efficiency of genomics, pharmacogenomics and drug discovery research. Using the company’s extensive and growing libraries of genetic, molecular and clinical information, research professionals in pharmaceutical, diagnostic and other life-

sciences companies are able to focus time and money on the most promising paths for diagnosing and treating a broad range of diseases.

Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome: The various types of HPS are rare genetic diseases worldwide. However, HPS type 1 is the most common single gene disorder in Puerto Rico, being most prevalent in the northwestern quadrant of the island. Epidemiologic studies report that in this region, 1 out of 1,800 persons have the syndrome. In this area, approximately 1 out of 21 persons carry the gene encoding for HPS. On the other hand, HPS type 3 is more prevalent in the central mountainous region of the island. In Puerto Rico, 5 out of 6 patients with OCA have the syndrome. For this reason, in Puerto Rico, a patient with OCA has the syndrome until proven otherwise.