

## **April 02, 2009- Company Update**

### **Affectis Pharmaceuticals strengthens its IP position**

Martinsried, Germany - Affectis Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company developing innovative drugs to treat depression and schizophrenia, has been granted two additional patents by the European Union.

The first patent, EP 1 469 072, relates to the broad and novel use of agonists targeting the ion channel P2X7 for the treatment of depression and bipolar affective disorders. A second patent, EP 1 473 367, focuses on the use of polymorphisms in P2X7 for the diagnosis of mood disorders.

The patents are supported by human association studies involving more than 2.000 depressed patients from Canada and Germany, as well as significant additional biological data validating P2X7's role in the etiology of depression.

P2X7 may be one of a very small number of human depression genes, and the development of therapeutics acting on the target has the potential to radically improve the treatment of depression. With the granting of these comprehensive patents, Affectis has secured exclusive right in Europe to this entire therapeutic approach