



For Immediate Release  
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## **Dr. Raghu Mirmira Named to DiaKine Therapeutics' Scientific Advisory Board**

*Dr. Mirmira is a pioneer in gene therapy diabetes research*

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (May 1, 2007) -- DiaKine Therapeutics, Inc., a developer of drugs designed to treat diabetes and other immune-related diseases via a novel approach, today announced the appointment of Dr. Raghu Mirmira to its Scientific Advisory Board.

Dr. Mirmira is an expert in understanding the molecular mechanisms that are relevant to the formation of islet cells within the pancreas. His lab is studying the specific transcription factors, the timing of their expression, their target genes and their structural properties in developing islet cells.

"I am pleased to extend my working relationship with Dr. Jerry Nadler by joining the DiaKine Scientific Advisory Board," said Dr. Mirmira. "I believe that the approach taken by DiaKine to modulate the negative autoimmune influencers of islet cells has the potential to help wipe out diabetes."

"Dr. Mirmira is a colleague and one of the leading international experts in islet cell gene research," said Dr. Nadler, DiaKine's Chief Scientific Officer. "His understanding of the mechanism of islet cell function is important as we develop drugs which arrest autoimmune damage to insulin producing cells."

"We are very pleased to have Dr. Mirmira as an advisor to the Company and value his contributions as we work to bring our immune modulating diabetes products to market," said Keith Ignatz, President, and CEO of DiaKine.

Dr. Mirmira has a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and M.D. degree from the University of Chicago. He did his postdoctoral training in the laboratory of Dr. Michael German at the University of California, San Francisco. He received the Thomas R. Lee Career Development Award from the American Diabetes Association to investigate how insulin-producing cells form. Dr. Mirmira also sits on major review committees for the National Institutes of Health, American Diabetes Association and the Juvenile

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Diabetes Research Foundation.

Drugs being developed by Diakine modulate cytokines, part of the body's immune system, which sometimes mistakenly attack normal organs and tissue and cause diseases such as diabetes and multiple sclerosis. Research by Dr. Nadler and his collaborators published in 2006 showed that controlling certain cytokines can arrest the progression of, or reverse, type 1 diabetes in an animal model.

**About DiaKine --**

DiaKine Therapeutics, Inc. is a development-stage company commercializing novel immune modulators initially targeting the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases such as diabetes and related complications. These new drugs regulate cytokines, part of the body's immune system, which mistakenly attack tissue and cause inflammation. The Company designed its first product, IsletLife-LSF Media 1, to improve the viability and insulin producing capabilities of harvested islet cells prior to transplant. IsletLife-LSF Media thus can potentially improve the success rate of the procedure. Additional therapeutics under development by DiaKine include: adjunct therapy to islet cell transplants, halting the progression of type 1 diabetes in newly diagnosed adults, treatment and prevention of Latent Autoimmune Diabetes of Adults (LADA), treatment and prevention of insulin requiring type 2 diabetic, treatment and prevention of diabetes complications. For more information, visit [www.diakine.com](http://www.diakine.com).

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