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## **Capricor Announces Exclusive License of Cardiac Stem Cell Intellectual property**

Baltimore, Maryland. – July 18, 2006. Capricor Inc. ([www.capricor.com](http://www.capricor.com)), announced today that the company has exclusively licensed two key patent estates that cover cardiac stem cells. The patents were licensed from the University of Rome La Sapienza and from Johns Hopkins University.

The Rome technology was discovered in the laboratory of Dr. Alessandro Giacomello. His group discovered that biopsies taken from adult heart tissue yielded cells that behaved like stem cells, namely that they could be grown and expanded in culture without apparent limit. These cells were unique however, in that they had a propensity to return to their heart muscle role, something that has only been achieved with limited success in other stem cell systems. Intellectual property filed on the inventions related to this technology cover the cells themselves, the method of production and the therapeutic applications.

Capricor has also exclusively licensed Dr. Eduardo Marbán's work with similar cell technology. The John's Hopkins University IP seamlessly complements the Rome patents in covering instrumental method and composition of matter claims that will be fundamental to the commercialization of the cardiosphere derived cell or CDC heart therapy. These exclusive licenses place Capricor in a very strong competitive position with regards to other regenerative medicine companies working on cardiac therapies.

Capricor continues to collaborate with both the University of Rome and John's Hopkins University to expand and strengthen its cardiac stem cell portfolio. Terms for the technology license agreements were not disclosed. Capricor is now in a position to pursue and finalize funding opportunities for a Series A seed investment, which are expected to close by the end of 2006.

Capricor Inc., located in Baltimore, Maryland, is a leading biotechnology company that specializes in discovering, developing, and commercializing biotherapeutics for the treatment of heart diseases. Capricor's mission is to revolutionize the treatment of cardiac disease by translating novel stem cell science into therapeutics that halt and reverse the disease process for patient's, their families, and society in general.

***Translating today's cardiac research innovations  
into tomorrow's heart therapies***