Actelion Awards Grants to 2009 ENTELLIGENCE™ Young Investigators for Research in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH)

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA – December 2009: Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc. and the ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee recognized four young researchers and their mentors for their efforts in advancing research in PAH. Each researcher will receive a 12-month mentored grant, funded by Actelion. The announcement was made at an awards luncheon, during which the recipients of the 2009 awards gave an overview of their proposed work.

“These outstanding young investigators are on the cutting edge of PAH research, and are helping change the way we diagnose and treat PAH,” said Ronald J. Oudiz, MD, ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee Chairman and Professor of Medicine and Director of the Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

The 2009 award winners, their mentors, and the supported projects are:

Daniel J. Kass, MD, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University
Mentor: Jahar Bhattacharya, MBBS, DPhil
Project Title: Targeting the MetAP2 Pathway in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

Sean E. McLean, MD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Mentor: Cam Patterson, MD, MBA
Project Title: Smooth-Muscle Cell Related Vascular Remodeling in Pulmonary Hypertension in Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia

Alexander R. Opotowsky, MD, MPH, Children’s Hospital Boston and Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Mentor: Michael J. Landzberg, MD
Project Title: The Epidemiology and Determinants of Hospitalizations in Pulmonary Hypertension in the United States

Michael Eric Yeager, PhD, University of Colorado, Denver School of Medicine
Mentor: D. Dunbar Ivy, MD
Project Title: Circulating Mesenchymal Precursors in Severe PAH and the Role of Endothelin-1 in their Recruitment and Differentiation into Fibrocytes

Actelion and the ENTELLIGENCE Steering Committee congratulate these individuals and look forward to presentations of their work.
About ENTELLIGENCE
The ENTELLIGENCE program was established by Actelion in 2005 to support basic science and clinical research related to PAH. The program, part of Actelion’s on-going commitment to endothelin research, provides funding to an independent steering committee to advance the understanding of PAH and, ultimately, improve treatment of this progressive and fatal disease through research grants to young investigators.

The 2010 ENTELLIGENCE grant award process has begun. For more information regarding the ENTELLIGENCE Young Investigators Award Program, please refer to the Web site, www.ENTELLIGENCEMD.org.

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2009 Award Winners
Front left to right: Daniel J. Kass, MD
Michael Eric Yeager, PhD
Alexander R. Opotowsky, MD, MPH
Sean E. McLean, MD
Ronald J. Oudiz, MD  
Program Chairman

Michael Eric Yeager, PhD  
2009 Award Winner

D. Dunbar Ivy, MD  
Mentor