



THORNE RESEARCH ACQUIRES EXCLUSIVE GLOBAL RIGHTS TO NOVEL ADVANCED FORMULATION OF COENZYME Q10

All-natural softgel formulation QCell™ shown to be more absorbent and bioavailable compared to other coenzyme Q10 supplements.

SANDPOINT, IDAHO, August 12, 2011 – Thorne Research, Inc., a leader in developing and manufacturing pure, high-quality nutritional supplements marketed through licensed health-care practitioners, has acquired the exclusive global rights to market QCell™, an advanced formulation Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10) supplement formerly marketed under the brand name Q-Best®.

"The important role that CoQ10 plays in human health has been long established, and factors including disease, aging, and treatment with certain drug therapies can all reduce levels of naturally-occurring CoQ10 in humans. Certain formulations of CoQ10 have presented challenges in absorption, limiting their potential benefits to patients. QCell is based on an advanced formulation that significantly improves absorption and bioavailability to improve patient outcomes," said Andrew Heyman, MD, Department of Family Medicine, University of Michigan.

QCell has a unique, tri-lipid, gel-based formulation that has been shown to increase absorption rates by up to 10-fold in comparison to dry-powder formulation CoQ10 supplements. The proprietary QCell formulation enables the softgel to prevent crystallization, an after-effect of some CoQ10 formulations that can disrupt the absorption process when metabolized in humans. QCell was developed based in part on research conducted by William Judy, PhD., director of the Southeastern Institute of Biomedical Research and a globally-recognized expert on the role of CoQ10 in human health.

"The science behind CoQ10 is based on more than 40 years of basic and clinical research, and with its improved absorption and bioavailability QCell sets the standard against which all other CoQ10 supplements will be rated in the years ahead," Dr. Heyman added.

CoQ10 is produced naturally by the human body and plays a key role in the basic functioning of cells, including cell metabolism and energy production. CoQ10 levels have been shown to decrease with age and to be low in patients with certain chronic diseases such as heart conditions, muscular dystrophies, Parkinson's disease, cancer, diabetes, and AIDS. Treatment with some prescription drugs can also lower CoQ10 levels. In research studies CoQ10 has been shown to play a role in supporting heart function, nervous system activity, and skeletal

muscle repair and growth. In addition, CoQ10 supplements are widely used for the nutritional support of cancer patients and individuals who have cardiovascular disease.

“Together with our recent alignment with Helsinn Pharmaceuticals, the addition of QCell to our portfolio represents another major milestone in our efforts to develop and market the finest supplements for a range of health needs, including supportive care in the oncology market,” said Paul Jacobson, CEO, Thorne Research.

Following a transition period in global product marketing for QCell, Thorne Research will be the exclusive provider of this CoQ10 formulation worldwide. Financial terms of the deal were not released.

About Thorne Research

Since 1984, Thorne Research has set the standard for exceptional quality manufacturing and formulation of premium hypoallergenic dietary supplements available through licensed health-care practitioners. With more than 280 products, Thorne Research is recognized by health-care practitioners as a global leader in providing dietary supplements of the highest quality and purity. With locations in Sandpoint, Idaho, and Greenwich, Connecticut, Thorne Research operates a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility and employs more than 170 people. Further information on Thorne is available at www.thorne.com.

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