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CaroGen Corporation
Farmington, CT

Press Release: CaroGen Corporation Announces Issuance of U.S. Composition of Matter Patent for **AVIDIO** its ground breaking immunotherapy platform for cancer and infectious diseases.

CaroGen, a spin-off from Yale University School of Medicine and a developer of first-in-class and transformative immunotherapies for cancer and infectious diseases, today announced that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has issued its first composition of matter patent (Patent#10435712, issue date October 8, 2018) for its Artificial Virus (AV) for Infectious Diseases (ID) and Immuno/Oncology (IO) platform dubbed “**AVIDIO**”.

CaroGen’s CEO and Co-founder, Bijan Almassian, PhD, stated, “Receiving such a broad patent claims by the USPTO is great welcome news as we are advancing our first **AVIDIO**-based immunotherapy CARG-201 for potential cure of patients chronically infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) into human clinical trials and investigating **AVIDIO** based immunotherapies for colon and other cancer targets in collaboration with academic institutes.”

“**AVIDIO** is built from components of two different non-human based viruses. It is safe, self adjuvanting and can be engineered to deliver multiple DNA sequences for antigens, cytokines, peptides and check point inhibitors such as sh-RNA rendering it to work through multiple mechanism of immune responses including Toll-Like Receptors (TLRs), T cell and antibody responses in preclinical models. **AVIDIO** could potentially overcome the deficiencies of other immunotherapy approaches in cancer and infectious diseases that are effective but have narrow mechanism of actions,” said Valerian Nakaar, Ph.D., Vice President Research and Development.

About CaroGen:

CaroGen based in Farmington, CT is creating a portfolio of immunotherapies for infectious diseases and cancer using its **AVIDIO** immunotherapy platform, discovered at Yale University School of Medicine by renowned virologist, Professor John Rose, PhD, which is licensed by CaroGen for worldwide use. CaroGen initial focus has been on developing a potential cure for chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. CaroGen has completed preclinical proof-of concept in HBV animal models and selected a clinical candidate CARG-201 and plans to file an Investigational New Drug (IND) application with the FDA and initiate human clinical trials in 2020. CaroGen also is exploiting its **AVIDIO** platform technology to create novel immunotherapies for colorectal and ovarian cancers in collaboration with academic institutes.

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