



For immediate release

## **Article Discusses Potential Applications of Ocular Iontophoretic Delivery of Macromolecules**

Salt Lake City, UT – April 26, 2009. A peer reviewed journal published an article presenting research from a study which used Aciont's Visulex<sup>®</sup> ocular iontophoretic system in the non-invasive delivery of a macromolecule. The article presents the clearance, migration, and distribution data of Galbumin<sup>™</sup> following ocular iontophoretic Visulex treatment. The study provides insights into ocular delivery of macromolecular drugs similar in shape and size to ranibizumab (Lucentis<sup>®</sup>) and Macugen<sup>®</sup>, both of which are widely studied and used in the treatment of sight-threatening eye diseases.

The publication was titled, "Transscleral iontophoretic and intravitreal delivery of a macromolecule: Study of ocular distribution *in vivo* and postmortem with MRI"; it was published in *Experimental Eye Research*, Volume 88, Issue 3, March 2009, Pages 418-425; and it was authored by researchers Sarah A. Molokhia, Eun-Kee Jeong, William I. Higuchi and S. Kevin Li. Dr. Molokhia collaborated on the study with Dr. S. Kevin Li, the principle investigator of the NEI/NIH research grant which, as one of its several objectives, funded the development of the real time pharmacokinetic MRI technique used in the study at the University of Utah.

"The study provides important insights into the distribution and clearance of macromolecular therapeutic agents in ocular drug delivery," Dr. Li said. "It also provides a framework of optimal iontophoretic conditions to facilitate the passage of macromolecules through various transscleral barriers that lead to the posterior segment of the eye," he added. The Visulex iontophoretic ocular application device utilizes a limited surface area interface with the eye and operates under electrical current levels known to be acceptable for human use. The net result produces an optimal current density condition that permits the penetration of a macromolecule transsclerally to the posterior segment of a rabbit eye.

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Aciont Inc. is a specialty biopharmaceutical company endeavoring to become the world leader in commercializing localized, non-invasive, controlled and sustained release back of the eye therapeutics for sight threatening diseases such as severe uveitis, diabetic macular edema and age-related macular degeneration. Aciont's goal is to provide ophthalmologists substantially greater freedom in treating and/or preventing chronic eye diseases through optimal drug dosing and improved patient/physician compliance. Aciont is located in Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information, visit the company's website at [www.aciont.com](http://www.aciont.com).

Source: Aciont Inc.

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