

Edward J. Benz Jr., M.D., CEO Emeritus, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Joins Advantagene Board of Directors

Auburndale, MA, October 4, 2017—Advantagene, Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing a novel immunotherapy platform for the treatment of cancers, announced today that Edward J. Benz, Jr. M.D., President and CEO Emeritus, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, has been appointed to its Board of Directors. Dr. Benz is also currently the Richard and Susan Smith Professor of Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics, Professor of Pathology, and Faculty Dean, Oncology, at Harvard Medical School, as well as a member of the Governing Board of Dana-Farber/Children's Cancer Center.

“We couldn’t be more pleased that Dr. Benz agreed to join our leadership team” said Dr. Estuardo Aguilar-Cordova, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Advantagene. “Ed’s decades of experience across all aspects of real-world oncology and its impact on patients, their families and communities adds an invaluable perspective to our Board of Directors. We appreciate his willingness to serve and look forward to benefitting from his insight and leadership experience as we look to drive our immuno-oncology programs toward approval.”

Dr. Benz recently retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. During his sixteen-year tenure at Dana-Farber, one of the world’s leading patient care and research centers, the institute experienced exponential growth. Under Dr. Benz’s leadership, the number of patients seeking treatment at Dana-Farber tripled, annual revenues swelled from \$265 million to more than \$1 billion and private donations increased to over \$200 million a year. The institute’s medical and research staff grew and flourished and has earned a world-class reputation for conducting translational research that leads to significant improvements in the prognosis, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

Dr. Benz maintains an active research program examining the molecular basis and genetics of inherited blood disorders. Dr. Benz was an Associate Editor of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, has authored more than 300 articles, books, chapters, reviews and abstracts, and has co-edited several standard medical texts. Prior to his role at Dana-Farber, Dr. Benz served as the Chairman, Department of Medicine and Sir William Osler Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, as well as Physician-in-Chief at Johns Hopkins Hospital. He has served as President of the American Society of Hematology, the Association of American Cancer Institutes, the American Society of Clinical Investigation and the American Clinical and Climatological Association. Over the course of his career, Dr. Benz has received numerous awards including the Margaret L. Kripke Legend Award, the American Society of Hematology Mentoring Award in Basic Science, and Leon Resnick Award for Research.

About Advantagene, Inc.

Advantagene is a Massachusetts based biotechnology company developing its proprietary Gene Mediated Cytotoxic Immunotherapy (GMCI™) platform technology for the treatment of solid

tumors. GMCI™ is designed as a low toxicity immunotherapy that stimulates a patient's immune system to generate a robust response against his or her individual cancer. The company is conducting clinical studies with GMCI™ in lung, pancreas, prostate and brain cancers. Ongoing studies include a registration clinical trial with its lead candidate, ProstAtak®, under a Special Protocol Assessment approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, for the treatment of localized prostate cancer patients with intermediate to high risk disease choosing radiation therapy. If proven efficacious, ProstAtak® will be the first and only therapeutic pharmaceutical available for localized prostate cancer patients. For more information about Advantagene and its GMCI™ cancer immunotherapy program please visit www.advantagene.com.

Contact

Media & Investor Relations

Advantagene, Inc.

440 Lexington Avenue

Auburndale, MA 02466

(617) 916-5445

info@advantagene.com

Released October 5, 2017