



## Living Cell Technologies Limited

**ACN:** 104 028 042  
**ASX:** LCT  
**OTCQB:** LVCLY

### ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

## LCT Signs Service Agreement with NZeno, Secures Pig Cells for NTCELL<sup>®</sup> Trial

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### Highlights

- **LCT signs Services Agreement with New Zealand biotech NZeno to obtain tissue from pathogen-free pigs for third clinical trial of NTCELL<sup>®</sup> in Parkinson's disease**
- **NTCELL<sup>®</sup> clinical trial for people with early-mid stage Parkinson's disease likely to be first xenotransplantation trial carried out in Australia after earlier NZ trials**
- **1st trial participants expected to receive treatment in 2024 as LCT advances treatment for disease affecting more than 10 million people worldwide.**

**Sydney, Australia & Auckland, New Zealand - 24 January 2022** – Living Cell Technologies (ASX: LCT) has achieved another key milestone, signing a Services Agreement with New Zealand biotechnology company NZeno Limited for it to breed and maintain pigs to provide tissue for the company's upcoming third clinical trial of NTCELL<sup>®</sup> in Parkinson's disease.

NZeno maintains the only herd derived from designated pathogen-free (DPF) pigs found on New Zealand's sub-Antarctic Auckland Islands. The choroid plexus tissue for the previous two clinical trials of NTCELL<sup>®</sup>, in 2012 and 2015, were obtained from pigs in this herd.

LCT Executive Chairman, Bernie Tuch, said: "Securing access to NZeno's DPF herd was a critical milestone as LCT progresses the next clinical trial of NTCELL<sup>®</sup> in Parkinson's disease. We look forward to advancing this next stage of the process as quickly as possible for the benefit of all stakeholders."

Once the choroid plexus tissue is obtained from the pigs, it will be sent to a Sydney laboratory where the conditions for manufacturing NTCELL<sup>®</sup> will be reviewed. This requires digestion of the tissue into single cell clusters and their subsequent encapsulation, a strategy that negates the need for anti-rejection treatment in the trial. LCT has patented IMMUEP<sup>™</sup> technology for encapsulation.

For the clinical trial, the tissue from NZeno will be sent to a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) facility, where it will be manufactured into NTCELL<sup>®</sup> under conditions suitable for the tissue to be used clinically.

Last December, LCT appointed Dr Belinda Di Bartolo as Chief Operating Officer to lead the planning and preparation for this clinical trial.

The NTCELL® clinical trial for people with early-mid stage Parkinson’s disease is likely to be the first xenotransplantation trial carried out in Australia after earlier trials were conducted in New Zealand. It will require the approval of the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

“The transplantation of living cells from pigs into humans is quite different from implanting pig organs, such as a heart, as recently reported in the media,” Professor Tuch said.

“The risk to the recipients with encapsulated cells is much lower, and our patients will not need to take anti-rejection drugs. Moreover, the pigs being used in our trial are natural animals and are not being genetically manipulated.”

The first trial participants are expected to receive treatment in 2024.

More than 10 million people worldwide are living with Parkinson’s disease, including 1 in every 308 Australians, with the disease costing the Australian community an estimated \$10 billion per year.\*

### **NZeno agreement**

The agreement with NZeno includes the establishment of a dedicated suite at NZeno’s facility for the housing of pigs, to be used for the clinical supply of porcine choroid plexus tissue to LCT, together with a surgical facility and maintenance of a dedicated herd of Auckland Island derived pigs.

A fee of NZ\$250,000 (approx. A\$234,000) per annum is payable to NZeno for the ongoing maintenance of the dedicated pig facility and pig herd. A milestone payment of NZ\$500,000 (payable in cash or securities) is due upon successful regulatory approval for the LCT trial to commence, with a further milestone payment of NZ\$500,000 (payable in cash or securities) upon successful completion of the LCT trial and approval for commercialisation

Post-trial, a royalty is payable annually on gross revenue derived by LCT from all NTCELL® sales incorporating porcine tissue calculated at the rate of 2.5%, up to a maximum of NZ\$2,500,000.

Initial upfront payments until completion of the LCT trial comprise NZ\$250,000 within 10 working days of the agreement being signed; an additional NZ\$100,000 upon LCT’s approval for NZeno to establish the dedicated pig facility and surgical facility; and a further four progress payments of NZ\$100,000 each, with the final payment on satisfactory completion of the two facilities.

Authorised for release by the Board of Living Cell Technologies Limited.

**– Ends –**

*\* Source: Parkinson’s Foundation (US); Parkinson’s Australia*

**For further information:** [www.lctglobal.com](http://www.lctglobal.com)

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## **About NTCELL®**

NTCELL® is an alginate coated capsule containing clusters of neonatal porcine choroid plexus cells that are sourced from a unique herd of designated pathogen-free pigs bred from stock originally discovered in the remote sub-Antarctic Auckland Islands. Choroid plexus cells are naturally occurring 'support' cells for the brain and secrete cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), which contains a range of factors that support nerve cell functions and protective enzymes that are crucial for nerve growth and healthy functioning. In NTCELL®, the porcine choroid plexus cells are coated with LCT's proprietary technology IMMUPEL™ to protect them from attack by the immune system. Therefore, no immunosuppressive regimen needs to be administered to recipients.

## **About Living Cell Technologies**

Living Cell Technologies Limited (ASX: LCT) is an Australasian biotechnology company that has focused on discovering and developing novel treatments for debilitating conditions such as diabetes and Parkinson's disease. LCT has secured initial funding for a third clinical with NTCELL® (alginate coated capsule containing clusters of neonatal porcine choroid plexus cells) after completing Phase IIa and IIb clinical studies in Parkinson's disease. In a Phase IIb trial of NTCELL®, there was not a statistically significant difference between the groups who received NTCELL® and the placebo group at the 26-week study endpoint. However, at 24 months post-implant a clinically relevant effect was observed (<-6.45 points from baseline) in two of the three treatment groups. In the third clinical trial LCT will seek to alter the rate of disease progression in early-to-mid stage Parkinson's disease.

LCT has out-licensed DIABECCELL (alginate coated capsule containing neonatal porcine pancreatic cells) to Diatranz Otsuka Limited to continue the development of a cell therapy for type 1 diabetes in return for a royalty arrangement. LCT continues to seek new product project opportunities and also interactions that leverage its financial assets. LCT is listed on the Australian (ASX: LCT) and US (OTCQB: LVCLY) stock exchanges. The company is incorporated in Australia, with its operations based in Australia and New Zealand.

For more information visit [www.lctglobal.com](http://www.lctglobal.com) or follow @lctglobal on Twitter.

## **About NZeno**

NZeno is a New Zealand biotechnology company, with expertise in maintaining designated pathogen free (DPF) pigs and developing gene edited pigs suitable as a source of tissues for human xenotransplantation. It currently maintains pigs at its facility at Southland, New Zealand.

For more information, refer to <https://nzeno.nz/>

## **Forward-looking statements**

This document may contain certain forward-looking statements, relating to LCT's business, which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "promising," "probable", "plans," "anticipated," "will," "project," "believe," "forecast," "expected," "estimated," "targeting," "aiming," "set to," "potential," "seeking to," "goal," "could provide," "intends," "is being developed," "could be," "on track," or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential filings or marketing approvals, or potential future sales of product candidates. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no assurance that any existing or future regulatory filings will satisfy the FDA's and other health authorities' requirements regarding any one or more product candidates, nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any health authorities for sale in any market or that they will reach

any particular level of sales. In particular, management's expectations regarding the approval and commercialisation of the product candidates could be affected by, among other things, unexpected clinical trial results, including additional analysis of existing clinical data, and new clinical data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays, or government regulation generally; our ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing pressures; and additional factors that involve significant risks and uncertainties about our products, product candidates, financial results and business prospects. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialise, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. LCTis providing this information and does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or developments or otherwise.