

## Poiesis Therapeutics Selected as a Finalist for CONNECT's 30th Annual Most Innovative New Product Awards



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**Products to treat dry-eye and fungal disease are the first of novel nanoparticle-based medicines being developed in portfolio of pet medications**

**Company is using data from innovative human drugs to efficiently bring better quality healthcare to the veterinary market**

**SAN DIEGO, September 18, 2017** — Poïesis Therapeutics, a biotechnology start-up in the pet health industry, announced today that its Novel Nanoparticle-Based Medicines have been selected as a finalist in CONNECT's 2017 Most Innovative New Product Awards. CONNECT, a premier innovation company accelerator in San Diego that creates and scales great companies in the technology and life sciences sectors, continues its thirty-year tradition of celebrating innovation leaders in the local San Diego community.

As its initial products, Poïesis is developing innovative nanoparticle formulations of Amphotericin B to combat systemic fungal infections and Cyclosporine A to treat Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca (Dry Eye). In initial studies, the nanoparticle formulations have shown longer and more robust efficacy through enhanced delivery and pharmacokinetic properties, and a significant reduction of undesirable side effects.

"I am honored that our novel nanoparticle formulations have been chosen among the finalists in the 2017 Most Innovative New Product Awards," said Jessica Dugan, DVM, MBA, Co-Founder, President and CEO of Poïesis Therapeutics. "Our goal in developing these translational medicine products is to use data from innovative human drugs to efficiently bring better quality healthcare to the veterinary market where new therapeutics are so badly needed to treat companion animals."

This award follows two other earlier competitions in which Poïesis was also chosen, the first as a finalist to compete in the San Diego Venture Group's Annual VC PitchFest & Business Plan Competition and the second as a company chosen for the CONNECT Springboard accelerator program which Poïesis completed earlier this year. Like the MIP Awards, both SDVG PitchFest and CONNECT Springboard relied on a rigorous, multi-step competitive selection process involving repeated evaluations by entrepreneurs in residence and life science domain experts.

The prestigious Most Innovative New Product Awards presentation and dinner is a CONNECT signature event, held annually to honor San Diego's stars of innovation along with their newly launched groundbreaking products. This year, the event will be held on the evening of November 30 at Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine, 3777 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego, CA 92122. Each of the Finalists will be featured in the Innovation Showcase and the Winner in each category will be announced live during the dinner.

"We're thrilled to be celebrating our 30th year of celebrating the life-altering products and services

that are being created in San Diego,” said Greg McKee, President & CEO of CONNECT. “These companies are raising the bar of our flourishing innovation economy and continuing to grow San Diego’s presence on the international stage as a hub of successful life science and tech companies.”

In choosing the MIP finalists, a series of expert panels evaluated nearly 100 submissions and then chose the finalists across 10 categories, including: Cleantech, Sustainability, and Energy; Defense, Aerospace, and Transportation; Information Communications Technologies; Life Science Diagnostics and Research Tools; Life Science Products, Clinical Stage; Medical Devices; Robotics and Unmanned Vehicles; Software and Digital Media; Mobile Apps; and Sport and Active Lifestyle Technologies.

Finalists in each category were then asked to pitch their product to a panel of distinguished judges who chose the winner following a question and answer period.

For a complete list of finalists and additional information, please visit the Most Innovative New Product Awards Website. [connect.org/events/MIP2017](http://connect.org/events/MIP2017)

### **ABOUT POÏESIS THERAPEUTICS**

Poïesis Therapeutics Inc. is a pet health biotechnology start-up focused on in-licensing clinical stage human therapeutics and developing them for dogs, cats and horses.

[www.poesistherapeutics.com](http://www.poesistherapeutics.com)

### **ABOUT CONNECT**

CONNECT is a premier innovation company accelerator in San Diego that creates and scales great companies in the technology and life sciences sectors. By creating an environment in which entrepreneurs and C-suite executives have access to the people, capital, and technology resources they need for success, CONNECT has assisted in the formation and development of more than 3,000 companies since 1985. Widely regarded as one of the world’s most successful organizations linking entrepreneurs and C-suite executives with the resources they need for the commercialization of innovative products and services; our program has been modeled in more than 50 regions around the world. [www.connect.org](http://www.connect.org)

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