<!-- /* Font Definitions */ @font-face {font-family:"Cambria Math"; panose-1:2 4 5 3 5 4 6 3 2 4; mso-font-alt:"Calisto MT"; mso-font-charset:0; mso-generic-font-family:roman; mso-font-pitch:variable; mso-font-signature:-1610611985 1107304683 0 0 159 0;} @font-face {font-family:Calibri; panose-1:2 15 5 2 2 2 4 3 2 4; mso-font-alt:"Planet Benson 2"; mso-font-charset:0; mso-generic-font-family:swiss; mso-font-pitch:variable; mso-font-signature:-1610611985 1073750139 0 0 159 0;} /* Style Definitions */ p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal, div.MsoNormal {mso-style-unhide:no; mso-style-qformat:yes; mso-style-parent:""; margin:0in; margin-bottom:.0001pt; mso-pagination:widow-orphan; font-size:11.0pt; font-family:"Calibri","sans-serif"; mso-fareast-font-family:Calibri; mso-fareast-theme-font:minor-latin; mso-bidi-font-family:"Times New Roman";} .MsoChpDefault {mso-style-type:export-only; mso-default-props:yes; font-size:10.0pt; mso-ansi-font-size:10.0pt; mso-bidi-font-size:10.0pt;} @page WordSection1 {size:8.5in 11.0in; margin:1.0in 1.0in 1.0in 1.0in; mso-header-margin:.5in; mso-footer-margin:.5in; mso-paper-source:0;} div.WordSection1 {page:WordSection1;} -->

Funding Will Support Muscular Dystrophy Research

(West Windsor, NJ) – U.S. Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) today announced a $300,000 federal Small Business Innovation & Research (SBIR) grant for TRIM-edicine, Inc., a North Brunswick-based biotechnology firm. The grant was awarded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant will support research of a protein that has shown the ability to promote muscle cell membrane repair for the treatment of muscular dystrophy and other degenerative diseases.

“This grant will help TRIM-edicine create jobs to continue their cutting-edge research,” Holt said. “Funding for this research project is a sound investment in New Jersey’s economy and one that may lead to breakthroughs for individuals suffering from muscular dystrophy.”

“This funding will help address unmet medical needs for muscular dystrophy. Because of this grant we will likely hire additional staff to help with the research,” said Dr. Jianjie Ma, Ph.D, founder and Chief Executive Officer of TRIM-edicine.

Muscular dystrophies are a family of genetic disorders that all involve progressive muscle weakness due to degeneration of the muscle fibers that includes the most common inherited disease, Duchene Muscular dystrophy. Many of these diseases involve either fragility of the

membranes that surround muscle cells or a compromised ability to reseal those membranes following damage to the cells. The SBIR grant, awarded by the NIH's , Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases will help TRIM-edicine develop a therapeutic application of a novel protein, mitsugumin 53 (MG53) that can boost the capacity for muscle cell membrane repair to treat various types of muscular dystrophy and other degenerative diseases such as heart failure, respiratory diseases and traumatic injury.

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