Biostage Appoints to its Scientific Advisory Board Christine Finck, MD, Executive Vice President, Surgeon-in-Chief at Connecticut Children's Medical Center

HOLLISTON, Mass., Jan. 31, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Biostage, Inc. (OTCQB: BSTG), a biotechnology company developing bioengineered organ implants to treat life-threatening conditions of the esophagus, bronchus and trachea, today announced the appointment of Christine Finck, MD, FACS to its Scientific Advisory Board.

The Scientific Advisory Board's role is to provide scientific guidance and governance for Biostage's research and development programs. Dr. Finck joins Co-Chairmen Joseph Vacanti, MD and Stephen Badylak DVM, PHD, MD on the advisory board.

Dr. Vacanti commented, "We are pleased to welcome Dr. Finck to Biostage's Scientific Advisory Board. As a pioneering researcher in regenerative medicine Dr. Finck brings experienced scientific credentials to the Scientific Advisory Board's efforts to shape and guide the product development at Biostage, and as a leading pediatric surgeon she brings exceptional practical knowledge of the clinical challenges of esophageal atresia being addressed by the Company's organ implant technology."

Dr. Finck stated, "This is an exciting chance to contribute to the direction and rigor of the science conducted by Biostage while working with Dr. Vacanti and Dr. Badylak, two scientific giants in the field. I also foresee many great opportunities for this board to leverage its collective knowledge to impact the quality of life of complex patients suffering from esophageal diseases through the development of Biostage's technology."

Jim McGorry, Chief Executive Officer of Biostage, commented, "Dr. Finck is a great fit for Biostage's Scientific Advisory Board. Our vision is to bring together the best scientific and surgical minds focused on dramatically improving the surgical treatment of kids and adults with diseases of the esophagus. Biostage will continue to expand our Scientific Advisory Board toward this vision."

About Dr. Finck

Christine Finck, MD, FACS is the Executive Vice President, Surgeon-in-Chief and Peter Deckers Endowed Chair of Surgery at Connecticut Children's Medical Center and Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Surgery at University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She has served as Chief of the Division of Pediatric Surgery since 2007 and is an associate professor of pediatrics and surgery at UCONN Health. Most recently, she took on the role of Surgeon-in-Chief, advocating for various clinical, academic and research efforts across the institution and serving as a mentor to pediatric research investigators.

Through her own research, Dr. Finck is revolutionizing health outcomes of pediatric and neonatal diseases, most specifically spearheading efforts focused on identifying and treating those that affect the lungs and esophagus. Those innovations were recognized by The Group on Women in Medicine and Science, who awarded Dr. Finck the Outstanding Clinical Scientist Woman Faculty Award.

Dr. Finck received her bachelor's degree from Boston University and her medical degree from SUNY Upstate Medical University at Syracuse. She completed a surgery residency at SUNY Upstate Medical University at Syracuse and a pediatric surgery fellowship at Arkansas Children's Hospital.

About Biostage, Inc.

Biostage is a biotechnology company developing bioengineered organ implants based on the Company's Cellframe™ technology which combines a proprietary biocompatible scaffold with a patient's own stem cells to create Cellspan organ implants. Cellspan implants are being developed to treat life-threatening conditions of the esophagus, bronchus or trachea with the hope of dramatically improving the treatment paradigm for patients. Based on its preclinical data, Biostage has selected life-threatening conditions of the esophagus as the initial clinical application of its technology.

For more information, please visit www.biostage.com and connect with the Company on Twitter and LinkedIn.

Forward-Looking Statements:

Some of the statements in this press release are "forward-looking" and are made pursuant to the safe harbor provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These "forward-looking" statements in this press release include, but are not limited to, statements relating to development expectations and regulatory approval of any of the Company's products, including those utilizing its Cellframe technology, by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the European Medicines Agency or otherwise, which expectations or approvals may not be achieved or obtained on a timely basis or at all; or success with respect to any collaborations, clinical trials and other development and commercialization efforts of the Company's products, including those utilizing its Cellframe technology, which such success may not be achieved or obtained on a timely basis or at all. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause results to differ materially from the statements set forth in this press release, including, among other things, the Company's ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval for its products; plus other factors described under the heading "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 or described in the Company's other public filings. The Company's results may also be affected by factors of which the Company is not currently aware. The forward-looking statements in this press release speak only as of the date of this press release. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to such statements to reflect any change in its expectations with regard thereto or any changes in the events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.

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