

GERON CORP  
Form 10-K  
February 28, 2008

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-K**

- ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007**
- or**
- TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Commission File Number: 0-20859**

**GERON CORPORATION**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**Delaware**  
*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**75-2287752**  
*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)*

**230 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025**  
*(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)*

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 473-7700**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Stock, \$0.001 par value**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

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Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.  x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer" and "large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  o

Accelerated filer  x

Non-accelerated filer  o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes  o  
No  x

The aggregate market value of voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$527,017,603 based upon the closing price of the common stock on June 30, 2007 on The Nasdaq Global Market. Shares of common stock held by each officer, director and holder of five percent or more of the outstanding Common Stock have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

As of February 22, 2008, there were 76,473,015 shares of common stock outstanding.

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:

Document	Form 10-K Parts
Portions of the Registrant's definitive proxy statement for the 2008 annual meeting of stockholders to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days of the Registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2007	II, III

### Forward-Looking Statements

This annual report on Form 10-K, including "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in Item 7, contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions that, if they never materialize or prove incorrect, could cause the results of Geron Corporation (Geron) to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties referred to above include, without limitation, risks inherent in the development and commercialization of Geron's potential products, dependence on collaborative partners, need for additional capital, need for regulatory approvals or clearances, the maintenance of Geron's intellectual property rights and other risks that are described herein and that are otherwise described from time to time in Geron's Securities and Exchange Commission reports including, but not limited to, the factors described in Item 1A, "Risk Factors", of this report. Geron assumes no obligation and does not intend to update these forward-looking statements.

## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### Overview

Geron is developing first-in-class biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of cancer and chronic degenerative diseases, including spinal cord injury, heart failure and diabetes. We are advancing telomerase targeted

therapies, including an anti-cancer drug and a cancer vaccine, through multiple clinical trials. We are also the world leader in the development of human embryonic stem cell-based therapeutics, with our spinal cord injury treatment anticipated to be the first such product to enter clinical development.

We were incorporated in 1990 under the laws of Delaware. Our principal executive offices are located at 230 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, California 94025. Our telephone number is (650) 473-7700.

We make available free of charge on or through our Internet website our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and all amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Internet website address is [www.geron.com](http://www.geron.com). Information on our website is not incorporated by reference and does not form a part of this report.

## **Major Technology Platforms**

### ***Telomeres and Telomerase: Role in Cellular Aging and Cancer***

Cells are the building blocks for all tissues in the human body and cell division plays a critical role in the normal growth, maintenance and repair of human tissue. However, in the human body, most cell division is a limited process. Depending on the tissue type, cells generally divide only 60 to 100 times during the course of their normal lifespan.

We and our collaborators have shown that telomeres, located at the ends of chromosomes, are key genetic elements involved in the regulation of the cellular aging process. Our work has shown that each time a normal cell divides, telomeres shorten. Once telomeres reach a certain short length, cell division halts and the cell enters a state known as replicative senescence or aging. Thus, this shortening of the telomeres effectively serves as a molecular "clock" for cellular aging. We and others have shown that when the enzyme telomerase is introduced into normal cells, it can restore telomere length "reset the clock" thereby increasing the functional lifespan of the cells. Importantly, it does this without altering the cells' biology or causing them to become cancerous. Human telomerase, a complex enzyme, is composed of a ribonucleic acid (RNA) component, known as hTR, a protein component, known as hTERT, and other accessory proteins. In 1994, we cloned the gene for hTR, and in 1997, with collaborators, cloned the gene for hTERT.

Our work and that of others has shown that telomerase is not present, or is present at very low levels, in most normal cells and tissues, but that during cancer progression, telomerase is abnormally reactivated in all major cancer types. We have shown that while telomerase does not cause cancer (which is caused by mutations in oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes), the continued presence of telomerase enables cancer

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cells to maintain telomere length, providing them with indefinite replicative capacity. We and others have shown in various tumor models that inhibiting telomerase activity results in telomere shortening and causes aging or death of the cancer cell.

Although telomerase is expressed in nearly all cancer cells, it is not expressed in most normal cells. That gives telomerase the potential of being both a universal as well as a highly specific cancer target. This specificity means that drugs and biologics that attack cancer cells by targeting telomerase may leave other cells unaffected, and thus should have fewer side effects than conventional chemotherapeutic agents that typically attack both cancer and non-cancer cells.

We are developing anti-cancer therapies based on telomerase inhibitors, telomerase therapeutic vaccines and, through a licensee, telomerase-based oncolytic (cancer-killing) viruses. Through our licensees, we also intend to develop products using telomerase as a marker for cancer diagnosis, prognosis, patient monitoring and screening.

We are also researching compounds that transiently activate telomerase in senescent cells to restore cell function for treatment of injuries and chronic diseases.

**Human Embryonic Stem Cells: A Potential Source for the Manufacturing of Replacement Cells**

Stem cells generally are self-renewing primitive cells that can develop into functional, differentiated cells. Human embryonic stem cells (hESCs), which are derived from very early stage embryos called blastocysts, are unique because:

- they are pluripotent, which means they can develop into all cells and tissues in the body, and
- they self-renew indefinitely in the undifferentiated state because they express high levels of telomerase.

The ability of hESCs to divide indefinitely in the undifferentiated state without losing pluripotency is a unique characteristic that distinguishes them from all other stem cells discovered to date in humans. We have demonstrated that hESCs express telomerase continuously, a characteristic of immortal cells. Other stem cells such as blood or gut stem cells express telomerase at very low levels or only periodically; they therefore age, limiting their use in research or therapeutic applications. hESCs can be expanded in culture indefinitely and hence can be banked for scaled product manufacture.

We intend to use human embryonic stem cell technology to:

- enable the development of transplantation therapies by providing standard starting material for the manufacture of cells;
- facilitate pharmaceutical research and development practices by providing cells for disease models and screening, and for assigning function to newly discovered genes; and
- accelerate research in human developmental biology by identifying the genes that control human growth and development.

**Commercial Opportunities for Our Major Technology Platforms**

**Oncology**

Cancer is a group of diseases characterized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. The American Cancer Society estimated that approximately 1.4 million new cancer cases were diagnosed in 2007. Overall annual costs associated with cancer in 2006 were an estimated \$206.3 billion in the United States alone. Because telomerase is detectable in more than 30 human cancer types and in the great majority of cancer samples studied, we believe that telomerase-based drugs could overcome the limitations of current cancer therapies and potentially be broadly applicable and highly specific drug treatments for cancer.

We, our collaborators and our licensees are developing a range of anti-cancer therapies, including anti-cancer therapies based on telomerase inhibitors, telomerase therapeutic vaccines and telomerase-based oncolytic (cancer-killing) viruses, and diagnostics based on telomerase detection. We believe telomerase is an ideal target for cancer therapeutics and diagnostics because it appears to be universal (expressed in all major types of cancers studied to date), specific (not expressed in most normal cells), and critical (required for long-term survival of cancer cells). We believe that we have the dominant patent

position in the field of telomerase. Whether it is achieved by us or by our collaborators and licensees, we believe that progress in the development of any of these telomerase-based cancer therapeutics will further validate the importance of telomerase as a cancer target and therefore benefit all of our telomerase cancer programs.

<b>Product</b>	<b>Product Description</b>	<b>Disease Treatment</b>	<b>Development Stage</b>
GRN163L	Telomerase Inhibitor	Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)	Phase I Trial

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GRN163L	Telomerase Inhibitor	Solid Tumors	Phase I Trial
GRN163L	Telomerase Inhibitor	Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer	Phase I Trial
GRN163L	Telomerase Inhibitor	Multiple Myeloma	Phase I Trial
GRNVAC1	Telomerase Cancer Vaccine	Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML)	Phase II Trial

Licensees	Product Description	Disease Treatment	Development Stage
Merck & Co.	Telomerase Cancer Vaccine	Prostate and Solid Tumors	Phase I Trial
Roche Diagnostics	Telomerase Diagnostic	Bladder Cancer	Preclinical Development
Sienna Cancer Diagnostics	Telomerase Diagnostic	Bladder Cancer	Preclinical Development
Cell Genesys, Inc.	Oncolytic Virus		Research

*Telomerase Inhibition (GRN163L).* Telomerase activation is necessary for most cancer cells to replicate indefinitely and thereby enable tumor growth and metastasis. One of our strategies for the development of anti-cancer therapies is to inhibit telomerase activity in cancer cells. Inhibiting telomerase activity should result in telomere shortening and therefore cause aging and death of cancer cells. Recent data show that telomerase can protect tumor cells from genomic instability and other forms of cellular stress, suggesting that inhibiting telomerase can cause a more rapid suppression of tumor growth than predicted by telomere loss alone. Because telomerase is expressed at very low levels, if at all, in most normal cells, the telomerase inhibition therapies described below are expected to be less toxic to normal cells than conventional chemotherapy.

We have designed and synthesized a special class of short-chain nucleic acid molecules, known as oligonucleotides, which target the template region, or active site, of telomerase. Our work has focused on two of these oligonucleotides, called GRN163 and GRN163L, and we have demonstrated that they have highly potent telomerase inhibitory activity at very low concentrations in biochemical assays, various cellular systems and animal studies.

Our compounds GRN163 and GRN163L are direct enzyme inhibitors, not antisense compounds. They are smaller (lower molecular weight) than typical antisense compounds or other oligonucleotide drug candidates, and we expect them to be administered either locally or systemically. *In vitro* and *in vivo* studies indicate that the compounds do not inhibit other critical nucleic acid-modifying enzymes and do not appear to be toxic to normal cells at concentrations expected to inhibit telomerase in tumor cells. Both compounds use a special thiophosphoramidate chemical backbone, for which we acquired key patents in March 2002 from Lynx Therapeutics.

We and our collaborators have tested GRN163 *in vitro* on 14 different cancer cells and demonstrated significant inhibition of telomerase activity in all of them. Research by our collaborators has shown that these compounds inhibit the growth of malignant human glioblastoma (brain cancer) cells, prostate cancer cells, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, hepatocellular carcinoma (liver cancer), melanoma, lung, breast, ovarian and cervical cancer cells in animals.

GRN163L is identical in structure to GRN163 except that it has a lipid molecule permanently attached to one end of the molecule, which increases potency and improves its pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties. The improved pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic characteristics of GRN163L suggest that it should be effective in inhibiting telomerase in tumor cells when administered intermittently (e.g., once per week). GRN163L is a potent inhibitor of telomerase and was selected as our

lead compound to take forward into the clinic. Inhibition of telomerase activity by GRN163L in cancer cells results in telomere shortening, and leads to cell cycle arrest or apoptosis. GRN163L is a 13-mer oligonucleotide N3'-P5' thio-phosphoramidate (NPS oligonucleotide) that is covalently attached to a C16 (palmitoyl) lipid moiety. GRN163L binds directly with high affinity to the template region of the RNA component of human telomerase (hTR), which lies in the active or catalytic site of hTERT, the telomerase reverse transcriptase. GRN163L binding to hTR results in direct, competitive inhibition of telomerase enzymatic activity.

GRN163L has been characterized preclinically and shown to inhibit telomerase in human tumor cells of many cancer types, in both cell culture systems and animal models. These studies continue to demonstrate broad anti-tumor activity of GRN163L, alone and in combination with other anti-tumor agents including chemotherapy and radiotherapy, and support the potential utility of GRN163L in the treatment of patients with hematologic and solid tumor malignancies.

After completing a series of animal toxicology and preclinical efficacy studies of GRN163L in 2005, we prepared and submitted an Investigational New Drug (IND) application to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to begin human clinical trials of GRN163L in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). We received FDA concurrence to begin human studies and are currently enrolling patients in this study. In 2006, under our existing GRN163L IND, we initiated a second Phase I study in patients with solid tumor cancers. At the end of 2006, we presented data at two international cancer meetings on the low-dose cohorts of these studies. The data did not identify specific safety issues that precluded testing at higher doses and demonstrated the expected pharmacokinetic properties after multiple intravenous infusions of the drug. We also presented important new data showing that GRN163L is active against tumor stem cells taken from patients with multiple myeloma. Based on this finding, as well as data showing synergy between GRN163L and a drug widely used to treat multiple myeloma, we initiated an additional Phase I study of GRN163L as a single agent in multiple myeloma in 2007. We also initiated a Phase I study in non-small cell lung cancer in 2007, testing GRN163L in combination with standard regimens of paclitaxel/carboplatin. This lung cancer trial is the first to study GRN163L in combination with standard chemotherapy.

*Telomerase Therapeutic Vaccine (GRNVAC1).* The goal of therapeutic cancer vaccines is to "teach" the patient's own immune system to attack cancer cells while sparing other cells. This is done by repeatedly exposing the immune system to a substance (antigen) that is specific to cancer cells in a way that subsequently induces an immune response to any cells that express that antigen on their surface. We believe that the characteristics of telomerase make it an ideal antigen for cancer vaccines.

At Duke University Medical Center, a Phase I/II clinical trial in prostate cancer patients concluded in March 2005 and additional Phase I/II optimization trials for patients with hematologic, prostate and renal cancers concluded in 2006. The Duke Phase I/II clinical trials used an *ex vivo* process in which dendritic cells (the body's most powerful antigen-presenting cells) were isolated from the patient's blood, pulsed with RNA for the telomerase protein component, and then injected into the patient's skin, where they traveled to the lymph nodes and instructed cytotoxic T-cells to kill tumor cells that express telomerase on their surface. Data from these early human clinical trials confirmed and optimized the safety and immunological activity of telomerase vaccine therapies.

The first clinical trial at Duke University Medical Center was designed to enroll up to a total of 24 patients with metastatic prostate cancer, up to 12 of whom would receive three weekly vaccinations (low-dose group), and up to 12 of whom would receive six weekly vaccinations (high-dose group). Twenty-three patients were enrolled and treated, and results of this study for 20 patients (12 of the low-dose group and eight of the high-dose group) were published in the *Journal of Immunology* in March 2005. As reported by the investigator, none of the patients in either group had significant treatment-related adverse effects. All but one of the patients in the low-dose group showed a significant cellular immune response specific to telomerase. The eight patients in the high-dose group all showed very robust cellular immune responses to telomerase based on tests assessing the generation of telomerase-specific cytotoxic CD-8+ T-lymphocytes, as well as telomerase-specific CD-4+ lymphocytes. The immune responses in the high-dose group were strong as well as specific: peak responses were 1-2% of circulating CD-8+ T-cells having anti-telomerase activity. Circulating cancer cells were also measured before and after vaccination. The data suggested that of the ten subjects who had elevated levels of circulating prostate cancer cells before vaccination, nine of these ten had their levels reduced or cleared transiently after vaccination.

Serum PSA was measured before, during and multiple times after vaccination to calculate PSA doubling time as a surrogate marker for treatment response. No significant change in PSA doubling time after vaccination was reported in the low-dose group. A highly significant increase in PSA doubling time was reported in the high-dose group, suggestive of a clinical response to vaccination.

Several small additional Phase I/II trials for patients with prostate cancer, hematologic malignancies and renal cell carcinoma were performed at Duke in order to optimize the vaccination process. In the trials, a number of parameters were tested, including (i) the pre-vaccination administration of an approved compound to potentially augment vaccine potency; (ii) the use of a second approved compound applied to the vaccine injection site to potentially enable the use of dendritic cells produced by an alternative manufacturing process and; (iii) the use of boost vaccinations to potentially enhance the durability of the anti-telomerase immune response. Additionally, we brought the vaccine manufacturing process in-house for further optimization and transferred it to a contract manufacturer. In 2006, we filed our own IND to initiate a Phase II clinical trial of the telomerase vaccine using the prime/boost vaccination protocol in patients with acute myelogenous leukemia (AML). We received FDA concurrence for that IND in December 2006 and have initiated multiple trial sites. We began treating AML patients under this protocol in late 2007.

In 2004, we acquired rights from Argos Therapeutics, Inc. (formerly Merix) to commercialize the *ex vivo* dendritic cell processing technology used in the Duke clinical trials for telomerase and other defined tumor-specific antigens. We own the rights to the telomerase antigen and its use in therapeutic vaccines.

In 2006, we licensed rights from Immunomic Therapeutics, Inc. to the LAMP antigen targeting sequence for use in cancer vaccines. The LAMP sequence causes an antigen to which it is attached to be taken up by the lysosomal subcellular compartment of the cell. This has been shown to increase presentation on MHC class II molecules, which in turn, can produce greater CD4+ T-cell responses against the antigen and a more potent and longer lasting overall immune response.

Also in 2006, we entered into a worldwide exclusive license and collaboration agreement with the University of Oxford to produce dendritic cells from hESCs. The scalable production of dendritic cells from hESCs could serve as an alternative to isolating dendritic cells from each patient, and possibly as a broadly useful vaccine delivery vehicle. In another form, dendritic cells may act to block an immune response against an antigen by teaching the immune system not to attack it — a process known as “tolerizing” the individual to that antigen. Since the same pluripotent hESC line could be used to generate both tolerizing dendritic cells and therapeutic cells, co-administration of these two cell populations could potentially circumvent immune rejection without the need for immunosuppressive drugs.

In July 2005, we entered into a worldwide exclusive research, development and commercialization license agreement with Merck & Co., Inc. for cancer vaccines targeting telomerase by methods other than dendritic cell delivery. In addition, Merck acquired an exclusive option to negotiate a separate agreement for our autologous dendritic cell-based telomerase vaccine. On December 31, 2007, Merck’s option to our dendritic cell-based vaccine technology expired and Geron retains all product rights for all indications using both autologous and hESC-derived dendritic cells. In December 2007, Merck filed an IND to initiate a clinical trial for their cancer vaccine candidate that targets telomerase.

*Oncolytic Virus (OV1060 / CG5757)*. A third telomerase-based anti-cancer therapeutic strategy utilizes viruses that have been manipulated or engineered to have oncolytic, or cancer-killing, properties, enabling them to selectively target and destroy cancer cells that express telomerase. We cloned the promoter region of the telomerase gene and have shown that it can be used to regulate genes required for the virus to replicate within the cancer cell. Our data indicate that when tumor cells are infected with the virus, the telomerase promoter is active and the virus multiplies or replicates within the cancer cells and causes the rupture and death of the tumor cells. When these same engineered viruses infect normal somatic cells, the telomerase promoter is inactive and there is no killing effect and the virus dissipates. This selective lytic effect on cancer has been demonstrated *in vitro* in seven different tumor types: prostate, liver, lung, pancreatic, colorectal, breast and ovarian cancers. These *in vitro* results have been extended to animal models of liver and prostate cancer with similar effects against the animals’ tumors while sparing normal cells.

We initially granted a non-exclusive license to Genetic Therapy, Inc. (GTI), a subsidiary of Novartis AG, to use our telomerase promoter technology to develop an oncolytic virus product. Subsequently, GTI's oncolytic virus business including our license to GTI was acquired by Cell Genesys, Inc., which also has its own oncolytic virus program and has continued the research and development of a potential oncolytic virus product.

*Cancer Diagnostics (Telomerase Plus Test and TBT).* Telomerase is a broadly applicable and highly specific marker for cancer because it has been detected in more than 30 human cancer types and in the great majority of cancer samples studied. We believe that the detection of telomerase may have significant clinical utility for cancer diagnosis, prognosis, monitoring and screening. Current cancer diagnostics apply only to a single or limited number of cancer types because they rely on molecules expressed only by particular cancer types. However, telomerase-based diagnostics could potentially address a broad range of cancers.

We have developed several proprietary assays for the detection of telomerase which are based on its activity or the presence of its RNA or protein components. The first-generation assay is the Telomeric Repeat Amplification Protocol (TRAP) assay which can be used to detect telomerase activity in human tissue or cells, including clinical samples. The second-generation assays detect the presence of hTR and hTERT in human tissues and body fluids. We own issued patents for the detection of telomerase activity and the components of telomerase, including patents for the TRAP assay and diagnostic methods based on telomerase detection. To date, our licensees have commercialized 13 research-use-only kits that incorporate our technology.

We have granted an exclusive license to Roche Diagnostics (Roche) to develop and commercialize PCR (polymerase chain reaction) and ELISA (Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent Assay) based methods to detect telomerase for *in vitro* cancer diagnosis. Roche is also licensed to sell telomerase detection assays for the research-use-only market. Roche is investigating the utility of an assay for telomerase for detecting bladder cancer, with potential utility in early detection screening and monitoring of patients for recurrence. Patients who have had bladder cancer now periodically undergo invasive cystoscopy to screen for recurrence.

In 2007, we granted a license to Sienna Cancer Diagnostics (Sienna), an Australian company, to develop and commercialize methods other than PCR and ELISA to detect telomerase for *in vitro* cancer diagnosis. Sienna's lead product in development is a non-invasive assay that utilizes Sienna's proprietary Telomerase Biosensor Technology (TBT) to detect telomerase activity in urine for the diagnosis of bladder cancer. In consideration for the license, we received an equity interest in Sienna and are entitled to receive royalties on future product sales.

### **Telomerase Activation**

We are researching drug candidates to treat various degenerative diseases by the controlled activation of telomerase. Data published by us and others has indicated that cellular aging caused by shortening telomeres, which occurs in numerous tissues throughout the human body, causes or contributes to chronic degenerative diseases and conditions including anemia, HIV/AIDS, liver disease, macular degeneration (a chronic disease of the eyes often leading to vision loss), atherosclerosis (narrowing of arteries which reduces blood flow to internal organs) and impaired wound healing. Controlled activation of telomerase in normal cells can restore telomere length or slow the rate of loss, improve functional capacity, and increase the proliferative lifespan of cells.

Our approach to the therapeutic use of telomerase activation has included both small molecule drug discovery and biological methods of restoring telomerase. We have applied proprietary gene transfer technologies, gene expression systems and small molecule screening technology to discover therapeutic agents to target, postpone and modulate the destructive genetic changes that occur in senescent cells.

In March 2005, we and the Biotechnology Research Corporation (BRC), a subsidiary of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, established a joint venture company in Hong Kong called TA Therapeutics, Ltd. (TAT). TAT conducts research and was established to commercially develop products that utilize telomerase activator drugs to restore the regenerative and functional capacity of cells in various organ systems that have been impacted by senescence, injury or chronic disease. Pursuant to the joint venture agreement with BRC (the Agreement), we provide scientific leadership, development expertise, intellectual property and capital to TAT. BRC provides scientific leadership, a research team, capital and laboratory facilities to TAT. We and BRC each initially owned 50% of TAT. On June 15, 2007, we amended the joint venture agreement with BRC and increased our ownership in TAT from 50% to 75%. Under the amended agreement, we have the ability to control the operations of TAT and have rights to the intellectual property developed by TAT.



### **Human Embryonic Stem Cell Therapies**

The two properties of hESCs, their immortality and pluripotency, enable the development of a potential new mode of commercialization for cell-based products and therapeutics, namely the development of "off-the-shelf" products available on demand. We have developed proprietary methods to grow, maintain, and scale the culture of undifferentiated hESCs that use feeder cell-free and serum-free media with chemically defined components. Moreover, we have developed scalable processes to differentiate these cells into therapeutically relevant cells. We have developed cryopreserved formulations of hESC-derived cells to enable our business model of delivering "on demand" cells for therapeutic use. We are now testing six different hESC-derived therapeutic cell types in animal models. In four of these cell types we have demonstrated efficacy, as evidenced by durable engraftment or functional improvements of the treated animals. From these studies, we are now advancing development of two hESC-based therapeutics to clinical testing. The most advanced hESC-derived product, GRNOPC1, which contains oligodendroglial progenitor cells, is targeted for the treatment of spinal cord injury. Geron's second hESC product, GRNCM1, is a population of cardiomyocytes, the contractile cells of the heart, which is intended for the treatment of patients with myocardial disease. Geron also has made substantial progress in deriving pancreatic islet  $\beta$  cells for diabetes, osteoblasts for osteoporosis, chondrocytes for osteoarthritis, hepatocytes for liver failure and ADME drug testing, and dendritic cells for two applications, including cancer immunotherapy and graft acceptance (to prevent immune rejection of the other cell types used in therapeutic applications). We own or have licenses to intellectual property covering core inventions and enabling technology in this field.

<b>Product</b>	<b>Product Description</b>	<b>Disease Treatment</b>	<b>Development Stage</b>
GRNOPC1	hESC-Derived Oligodendrocytes	Spinal Cord Injury	Preclinical
GRNCM1	hESC-Derived Cardiomyocytes	Heart Disease	Preclinical
GRNIC1	hESC-Derived Islets	Type 1 Diabetes	Research
	Osteoblasts	Osteoporosis	Research
	Chondrocytes	Osteoarthritis	Research
	Hepatocytes	Liver Disease and ADME	Research
		Toxicology Testing	
	Immature Dendritic Cells	Immune Rejection	Research
GRNVAC2	Mature Dendritic Cells	Cancer Immunotherapy	Product development

*Oligodendrocytes for Spinal Cord Injury (GRNOPC1).* The major neural cells of the central nervous system typically do not regenerate after injury. If a nerve cell is damaged due to disease or injury, there is no treatment at present to restore lost function. Patients worldwide suffer from injury to the nervous system or disorders associated with its degeneration. In the case of spinal cord injuries, patients are often left partly or wholly paralyzed because nerve and supporting cells in the spinal cord have been damaged and cannot regenerate. Such patients are permanently disabled, often institutionalized and may require life support.

Embryonic stem cell-derived neural cells have been used by researchers to treat nervous system disorders in animal models. In the case of spinal cord injuries, neural cells derived from animal embryonic stem cells and injected into the spinal cord injury site produced significant recovery of the animal's ability to move and bear weight.

To apply those observations to humans, we have now derived oligodendroglial progenitor cells (GRNOPC1) from hESCs in culture and tested them in a rat model of spinal cord injury. In our collaboration with researchers at the University of California, Irvine, we have shown in animal models that GRNOPC1 can improve functional locomotor behavior after implantation in the injury site seven days after injury. Histological analysis also provided evidence for the engraftment and function of these cells. These data were published in May 2005 in the *Journal of Neuroscience*. We have developed functional cryopreserved formulations of GRNOPC1 that can be readily implemented in clinical trials and have initiated cGMP production of GRNOPC1. We have completed IND-enabling studies for hESC-derived oligodendrocytes for application in spinal cord injury. Upon FDA concurrence of the IND and Institutional Review Board approval at each clinical trial site, we expect to initiate a Phase 1 clinical trial.

*Cardiomyocytes for Heart Disease (GRNCM1).* Heart muscle cells (cardiomyocytes) do not regenerate during adult life. When heart muscle is damaged by injury or decreased blood flow, functional contracting heart muscle is replaced with nonfunctional scar tissue. Congestive heart failure, a common consequence of heart muscle or valve damage, affects approximately 5.0 million people in the United States. This year, it is estimated that about 1.2 million people will have a heart attack, which is the primary cause of heart muscle damage.

We can potentially treat heart disease by using cardiomyocytes derived from hESCs. Researchers have demonstrated proof-of-concept of this approach in mice. Mouse embryonic stem cells have been used to derive mouse cardiomyocytes. When injected into the hearts of recipient adult mice, the cardiomyocytes repopulated the heart tissue and stably integrated into the muscle tissue of the adult mouse heart. In human medicine, it is therefore possible that hESC-derived cardiomyocytes could be developed for cellular transplantation therapy in humans suffering from congestive heart failure and the damage caused by heart attacks. We have derived human cardiomyocytes from hESCs (GRNCM1) using a process that can be scaled for clinical production. GRNCM1 has normal contractile function and responds appropriately to cardiac drugs. We have transplanted these cells into animal models of myocardial infarction in which the cells engraft and improve the left ventricular function compared to those animals receiving injections without cells. These results were published in *Nature Biotechnology* in August 2007. In 2008, we will continue our large animal studies of GRNCM1.

*Islet Cells for Diabetes (GRNIC1).* It is estimated that there are as many as one million Americans suffering from Type 1 Diabetes (Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus). Normally, certain cells in the pancreas, called the islet  $\beta$  cells, produce insulin which promotes the uptake of the sugar glucose by cells in the human body. Degeneration of pancreatic islet  $\beta$  cells results in a lack of insulin in the bloodstream which results in diabetes. Although diabetics can be treated with daily injections of insulin, these injections enable only intermittent glucose control. As a result, patients with diabetes suffer chronic degeneration of many organs, including the eye, kidney, nerves and blood vessels. In some cases, patients with diabetes have been treated with islet  $\beta$  cell transplantation derived from cadavers. However, poor availability of suitable sources for islet  $\beta$  cell transplantation and the complications of the required co-administration of immunosuppressive drugs make this approach impractical as a treatment for the growing numbers of individuals suffering from diabetes.

We have derived insulin-producing cells (i.e. similar to pancreatic islet  $\beta$  cells) from hESCs and are working to improve the yield of islet cells and characterize their secretion of insulin in response to glucose. We are transplanting the islets to animal models of diabetes and early results show prolonged survival of cells in the engrafted animals and the detection of human insulin in their blood. The derivation method and characterization of our hESC-derived islets was published in *Stem Cells* in August 2007.

*Osteoblasts for Osteoporosis and Non-Union Bone Fractures.* Osteoporosis, or loss of bone density, is a common condition associated with aging and hormonal changes in post-menopausal women. In addition to skeletal deformities, back pain and loss of height, the disease causes over 1.5 million fractures per year in the United States alone. These fractures often occur after minimal trauma and if severe, as in hip fracture, carry mortality rates as high as 24% for patients age 50 and over. Nearly one in five hip fracture patients ends up in a nursing home. Total health care costs for osteoporosis and its complications are estimated at \$18 billion per year in the United States.

The primary cause of the disease is metabolic bone loss (mediated by osteoclasts - cells which resorb bone) that is incompletely compensated by new bone formation (mediated by osteoblasts - cells which form new bone). Osteoblast activity declines over the human lifespan and fails to keep pace with the increasing activity of osteoclasts, resulting in progressive loss of bone density leading to fracture, pain and deformity.

We have made osteoblasts from hESCs and are now conducting preclinical tests in animals. If these preclinical tests are successful, we may test the cells in patients with non-union fractures (fractures of the long bones of the leg or arm that do not heal) or in patients with severe refractory osteoporosis.

*Chondrocytes for Osteoarthritis.* Osteoarthritis, or Degenerative Joint Disease, is an extremely common condition characterized by degradation of cartilage in joints, often accompanied by bone remodeling and bone overgrowth at the affected joints. The disease affects an estimated 21 million adults in the United States, mostly after age 45. The disease has many causes, but the end result is a structural degradation of joint cartilage and a

failure of chondrocytes (cartilage-forming cells) to repair the degraded

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cartilage collagen matrix. We have derived chondrocytes from hESCs and, if *in vitro* and animal testing results are positive, we may test these cells in patients with osteoarthritis by injecting them directly into the affected joints.

*Dendritic Cells for Cancer Immunotherapy and to Enable Therapeutic Graft Acceptance.* The hematopoietic system (the circulating cells of blood) is one of the tissues of the human body that can replenish itself throughout life. One of the cell types produced by the hematopoietic system is the dendritic cell. Dendritic cells, depending on their type, can either induce or downmodulate immune responses. Therefore, dendritic cells derived from hESCs can be used for two purposes: (i) to upregulate immune responses to particular antigens such as telomerase for cancer immunotherapy applications; and (ii) to prevent rejection of hESC-derived therapeutic grafts.

We are now developing procedures to differentiate hESCs to dendritic cells which will subsequently be used in both *in vitro* and animal models to assess their immunotherapeutic and immunomodulatory activity.

### **Products for Research and Development**

*Immortalized Cells for Research.* Scientists study specific cells from targeted tissues in order to understand their biological function. For these studies, cells are usually isolated from tissue and maintained in culture. The progressive changes in biological activity, morphology and proliferation as a result of normal cell aging in tissue culture potentially limit the utility of these cells in serial experiments and long-term research. Because of these limitations, most research laboratories utilize transformed cell lines for their studies. Cells can be transformed by using viruses which ultimately cause the cells to grow indefinitely in culture. However, such immortalized cell lines have abnormal characteristics compared to non-transformed cells. For this reason, they are not good models of normal tissue in the human body.

Telomerase-immortalized cells may be ideal for use in biological research because these cells proliferate indefinitely and function in culture in the same manner as the normal, mortal cells from which they were derived. Moreover, telomerase-immortalized cells can function in the body to form normal tissue and their capacity to differentiate into mature tissue is maintained. The ability of these cells to maintain normal physical and biological characteristics while retaining proliferative capacity allows them to be a constant source of cells for repeat and long-term studies of the function of cells both in culture and in the body. Telomerase-immortalized cells can be used to study any of the normal biological pathways in cells and can be used to screen for factors which influence the appropriate function of those cells. Moreover, cells taken from diseased tissues which are then telomerase-immortalized in culture can be used to explore the mechanism of the disease process and to develop interventions to prevent or treat that disease.

We are making telomerase-immortalized cell lines commercially available to the research market and to companies for basic research and for use in drug discovery and biologics production applications. We have granted royalty-bearing licenses to the American Type Culture Collection and Lonza Walkersville, Inc. (formerly Cambrex BioSciences) under which these organizations will produce and sell telomerase-immortalized cells for both academic research and commercial drug discovery.

*hESC-Derived Hepatocytes for Drug Screening and Toxicology.* Three of the major hurdles of pharmaceutical drug development are: (i) identifying compounds with activity in diseased tissue; (ii) understanding the metabolism and biodistribution of the compound; and (iii) determining the potential toxic side effects of the compound. Undesirable activity of a compound being evaluated as a drug candidate in any one of these areas can impact the development and commercialization of the drug. The earlier in development that a compound is found to have undesirable characteristics, the faster these characteristics can be potentially corrected. This potentially translates into reduced costs and time in drug development, and less harmful patient exposure in clinical trials.

Many prospective new drugs fail in clinical trials because of toxicity to the liver or because of poor uptake, distribution or elimination of the active compound in the human body. Much of the efficacy and safety of a drug will depend on how that drug is metabolized into an active or inactive form, and on the toxic metabolites that

might be generated in the process. Hepatocytes, the major cells of the liver, metabolize most compounds and thereby can be used to predict many pharmacological characteristics of a drug.

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There are no completely effective systems available today to accurately predict the metabolism or toxicity of a compound in human livers. Rat and mouse metabolism models only approximate human metabolism. The development of several drugs has been terminated late in human clinical trials because rodent systems utilized early in the development process failed to predict that the drug would be toxic to humans. Human hepatocyte cell lines available today do not have the same attributes as their normal counterparts in the body and must be transformed in order to maintain their proliferative capacity in culture. Access to fresh primary human liver tissue for use in toxicity studies is very limited and substantial variability can be observed depending on the individual donor, the time and process of collection and the culture conditions for the experiments.

We are developing methods to derive standardized functional hepatocytes (liver cells) from hESCs to address the significant unmet need for a reliable predictor of the metabolism, biodistribution and toxicity of drug development candidates. If we are successful, these cells would provide a consistent source of normal human liver cells that can reliably predict how a new drug will affect the livers of the people who take it. We believe that an unlimited supply of human hepatocytes, which retain normal drug-metabolizing enzyme activity, would address one of the largest bottlenecks in new drug research and accelerate the drug development process. In addition, the availability of hepatocytes from numerous individuals would allow a more thorough understanding of the effects of a drug candidate on a specific individual, promoting development of the field of pharmacogenomics - the study of how a compound's activity varies with an individual's genetic make-up. Our scientists have succeeded in demonstrating that hepatocyte-like cells derived from hESCs express normal markers of hepatocyte function, including Phase 1 and Phase 2 drug-metabolizing enzymes. We have been awarded a U.S. patent covering human hepatocytes derived from hESCs and a second U.S. patent covering the use of hESC-derived hepatocytes for drug screening.

#### ***Nuclear Transfer: Agriculture/Xenotransplantation/Biologics***

Nuclear transfer is a method for producing animals whose nuclear genetic material is derived solely from a donor cell from an individual animal (clones). In this process, the nucleus containing the chromosomal DNA is removed from the animal egg cell and subsequently replaced with a nucleus from a donor somatic (non-reproductive) cell. Fusion between the resulting egg cell and the donor somatic nucleus results in a new cell which gains a complete set of chromosomes derived entirely from the donor nucleus. Mitochondrial DNA, providing some of the genes for energy production, resides outside the nucleus and is provided by the egg. After a brief culture period that enables the reconstituted egg cell to initiate embryonic development, the early embryo is implanted into the uterus of a female animal, where it can fully develop and result in the live birth of a cloned offspring animal. The offspring is essentially a genetic clone of (genetically identical to) the animal from which the donor nucleus was obtained.

In early 1997, Dr. Ian Wilmut and his colleagues at the Roslin Institute were the first to demonstrate, with the birth of Dolly the sheep, that the nucleus of an adult cell can be transferred to an enucleated egg to create cloned offspring. The birth of Dolly was significant because it demonstrated the ability of egg cell cytoplasm, the portion of the egg outside of the nucleus, to reprogram an adult somatic nucleus. Reprogramming enables the adult somatic cell nucleus to express all the genes required for the full embryonic development of the animal. In addition to sheep, the technique has been used to clone mice, rats, goats, cattle, rabbits, cats and pigs from donor cells and enucleated eggs from each respective animal species. In 1999, we acquired Roslin Bio-Med Ltd., a commercial subsidiary of the Roslin Institute, and an exclusive license to the use of nuclear transfer technology for multiple applications in animal and human biology.

*Agriculture.* Our nuclear transfer technology can be used for applications in agriculture that could improve livestock by producing unlimited numbers of genetically identical animals with superior commercial qualities. Such applications can be extended to major agricultural sectors, such as beef, dairy, pork and poultry, to provide large numbers of animals with superior characteristics of disease resistance, longevity, growth rate or product quality. In January 2008, the FDA issued its final risk assessment concluding that meat and milk from healthy cloned animals and their offspring are as safe as those from ordinary animals, effectively removing the last U.S. regulatory barrier to the marketing of meat and milk from cloned cattle, pigs and goats.

*Transgenic Animals.* Our nuclear transfer technology can be applied to clone animals that have been genetically engineered to produce proteins for human therapeutic or industrial use. For example, herds which carry the genes to make human antibodies could be cloned, thereby allowing for the large-scale production of therapeutic antibodies or vaccines.

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*Xenotransplantation.* Our nuclear transfer technology can be used for applications in xenotransplantation to create animals whose cells, tissues or organs could be used in human organ transplantation settings. This approach could be used either as a bridge to human organ transplantation or as a long-term therapy.

In previous years, we granted a number of licenses to our nuclear transfer technology to companies who are utilizing it for applications in agriculture and production of biologicals. In 2005, following successes in three patent interference proceedings, we formed a joint venture company, Start Licensing, Inc. (Start), with Exeter Life Sciences, Inc. Start is exclusively focused on managing and licensing intellectual property rights for animal cloning, including our nuclear transfer technology and rights conveyed to Start by Exeter Life Sciences. We received an upfront license payment when Start was created and own 49.9% of Start. We will be entitled to a proportionate share of any revenues distributed by Start. We have retained all rights for use of nuclear transfer technology in human cells.

### ***Patents and Proprietary Technology***

A broad intellectual property portfolio of issued patents and pending patent applications supports our product development and out-licensing activities. We currently own or have licensed over 160 issued or allowed United States patents, 290 granted or accepted foreign patents and 415 patent applications that are pending around the world.

Our policy is to seek appropriate patent protection for inventions in our principal technology platforms — telomerase and human embryonic stem cells — as well as ancillary technologies that support these platforms or otherwise provide a competitive advantage to us. We achieve this by filing patent applications for discoveries made by our scientists, as well as those that we make in conjunction with our scientific collaborators and strategic partners. Typically, although not always, we file patent applications in the United States and internationally through the Patent Cooperation Treaty. In addition, where appropriate, we try to obtain licenses from other organizations to patent filings that may be useful in advancing our scientific and product development programs.

Our telomerase platform is the mainstay of our oncology program and it serves as the basis for other product opportunities. Our patent portfolio includes over 110 issued or allowed United States patents, 170 granted or accepted foreign patents and over 155 patent applications pending worldwide relating to our telomerase product opportunities. The foundational patents include those covering the cloned genes that encode the RNA component (hTR) and the catalytic protein component (hTERT) of human telomerase. Related issued and pending patents cover cells that are immortalized by expression of recombinant hTERT, cancer diagnostics based on detecting the expression of telomerase in cancer cells, the use of hTERT as a cancer vaccine, the use of the hTERT promoter to power cancer-killing genes and viruses, and telomerase inhibitors for use as cancer therapeutics. We own issued patents that cover the sequences of GRN163 and GRN163L, as well as patents covering the chemistry that is used to build these oligonucleotides. We have a license to the dendritic cell-loading technology used in our telomerase cancer vaccine. Recently filed patent applications covering the telomerase-activating compounds TAT1 and TAT2 that we discovered in collaboration with our colleagues at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology have been exclusively licensed to our majority-owned subsidiary, TAT, for therapeutic applications.

Our human embryonic stem cell platform is protected by patents rights that we either own or have licensed. The patents that we have licensed include foundational hESC patents that arose from work that we funded at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. We have also filed patent applications to protect technologies developed by our scientists in our ongoing efforts to develop products based on hESCs. By way of example, these patent applications cover technologies that we believe will facilitate the commercial-scale production of hESCs, such as methods for growing the cells without the need for cell feeder layers. Patent applications that we own or have licensed also cover cell types that can be made from hESCs, including hepatocytes (liver cells), cardiomyocytes (heart muscle cells), neural cells (nerve cells, including dopaminergic neurons and oligodendrocytes),

chondrocytes (cartilage cells), pancreatic islet  $\beta$  cells, osteoblasts (bone cells), hematopoietic cells (blood-forming cells) and dendritic cells. Currently our portfolio includes over 230 patent applications pending around the world covering various aspects of our stem cell technology. Examples of granted stem cell patents that we own include, U.S. Patent Nos. 6,458,589 and 6,506,574 relating to hESC-derived hepatocytes; 7,326,572 relating to hESC-derived islet cells; 6,800,480 relating to the feeder-free growth of hESCs; and 6,833,269 covering methods of producing neural cells from hESCs.

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A third technology platform, nuclear transfer, is protected in part by the patent rights that we purchased in 1999 with the acquisition of the U.K. company Roslin Bio-Med, which we now operate as Geron Bio-Med. 18 United States patents have now issued or been allowed, and 48 foreign patents have been granted or accepted. In addition, we have more than 25 pending patent applications worldwide relating to nuclear transfer. As discussed above, these patent rights are now a major asset of Start Licensing, Inc., the joint venture company that we created in 2005 for the purpose of managing and licensing intellectual property rights for animal cloning.

We endeavor to monitor worldwide patent filings by third parties that are relevant to our business. Based on this monitoring, we may determine that an action is appropriate to protect our business interests. Such actions may include the filing of oppositions against the grant of a patent in overseas jurisdictions, and the filing of a request for the declaration of an interference with a U.S. patent application or issued patent. Similarly, third parties may take similar actions against our patents. By way of example, in 2005 we were involved in interference proceedings that we had initiated at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office involving patents and patent applications for nuclear transfer technology; judgments in those actions were entered in our favor. We are currently also involved in patent opposition proceedings before the European Patent Office, the Australian Patent Office and the New Zealand Patent Office, both as the party holding the opposed patent, and in opposition to patents granted or proposed to be granted to another entity.

### **Government Regulation**

Regulation by governmental authorities in the United States and other countries is a significant factor in the development, manufacture and marketing of our proposed products and in our ongoing research and product development activities. The nature and extent to which such regulation applies to us will vary depending on the nature of any products which may be developed by us. We anticipate that many, if not all, of our proposed products will require regulatory approval by governmental agencies prior to commercialization. In particular, human therapeutic products are subject to rigorous preclinical and clinical testing and other approval procedures of the FDA and similar regulatory authorities in European and other countries. Various governmental statutes and regulations also govern or influence testing, manufacturing, safety, labeling, storage and recordkeeping related to such products and their marketing. The process of obtaining these approvals and the subsequent compliance with appropriate statutes and regulations require the expenditure of substantial time and money, and there can be no guarantee that approvals will be granted.

### **FDA Approval Process**

Prior to commencement of clinical studies involving humans, preclinical testing of new pharmaceutical products is generally conducted on animals in the laboratory to evaluate the potential efficacy and safety of the product candidate. The results of these studies are submitted to the FDA as a part of an IND application, which must become effective before clinical testing in humans can begin. Typically, human clinical evaluation involves a time-consuming and costly three-phase process. In Phase I, clinical trials are conducted with a small number of people to assess safety and to evaluate the pattern of drug distribution and metabolism within the body. In Phase II, clinical trials are conducted with groups of patients afflicted with a specific disease in order to determine preliminary efficacy, optimal dosages and expanded evidence of safety. (In some cases, an initial trial is conducted in diseased patients to assess both preliminary efficacy and preliminary safety and patterns of drug metabolism and distribution, in which case it is referred to as a Phase I/II trial.) In Phase III, large-scale, multi-center, comparative trials are conducted with patients afflicted with a target disease in order to provide enough data to demonstrate the efficacy and safety required by the FDA. The FDA closely monitors the progress of each of the three phases of clinical testing and may, at its discretion, re-evaluate, alter, suspend, or terminate the testing based upon the data which have been accumulated to that point and its assessment of the risk/benefit ratio to the patient. All adverse events must be reported to the FDA. Monitoring of all aspects of the study to minimize risks is a continuing process.

The results of the preclinical and clinical testing on non-biologic drugs and certain diagnostic drugs are submitted to the FDA in the form of a New Drug Application (NDA) for approval prior to commencement of commercial sales. In the case of vaccines or gene and cell therapies, the results of clinical trials are submitted as a Biologics License Application (BLA). In responding to a NDA or BLA,

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the FDA may grant marketing approval, request additional information or refuse to approve if the FDA determines that the application does not satisfy its regulatory approval criteria. There can be no assurance that approvals will be granted on a timely basis, if at all, for any of our proposed products.

### **European and Other Regulatory Approval**

Whether or not FDA approval has been obtained, approval of a product by comparable regulatory authorities in Europe and other countries will be necessary prior to commencement of marketing the product in such countries. The regulatory authorities in each country may impose their own requirements and may refuse to grant an approval, or may require additional data before granting it, even though the relevant product has been approved by the FDA or another authority. As with the FDA, the regulatory authorities in the European Union (EU) and other developed countries have lengthy approval processes for pharmaceutical products. The process for gaining approval in particular countries varies, but generally follows a similar sequence to that described for FDA approval. In Europe, the European Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products provides a mechanism for EU-member states to exchange information on all aspects of product licensing. The EU has established a European agency for the evaluation of medical products, with both a centralized community procedure and a decentralized procedure, the latter being based on the principle of licensing within one member country followed by mutual recognition by the other member countries.

### **Other Regulations**

We are also subject to various United States federal, state, local and international laws, regulations and recommendations relating to safe working conditions, laboratory and manufacturing practices and the use and disposal of hazardous or potentially hazardous substances, including radioactive compounds and infectious disease agents, used in connection with our research work. We cannot accurately predict the extent of government regulation which might result from future legislation or administrative action.

### **Scientific Consultants**

We have consulting agreements with a number of leading academic scientists and clinicians. These individuals serve as key consultants or as members of [clinical focus group panels] with respect to our product development programs and strategies. They are distinguished scientists and clinicians with expertise in numerous scientific fields, including embryonic stem cells, nuclear transfer and telomere and telomerase biology, as well as developmental biology, cellular biology and molecular biology.

We use consultants to provide us with expert advice and consultation on our scientific programs and strategies, as well as on the ethical aspects of our work. They also serve as important contacts for us throughout the broader scientific community.

We retain each consultant according to the terms of a consulting agreement. Under such agreements, we pay them a consulting fee and reimburse them for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in performing their services for us. In addition, some consultants hold options to purchase our common stock, subject to the vesting requirements contained in the consulting agreements. Our consultants are employed by institutions other than ours, and therefore may have commitments to, or consulting or advisory agreements with, other entities or academic institutions that may limit their availability to us.

### **Executive Officers of the Company**

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to our executive officers:

Name	Age	Position
Thomas B. Okarma, Ph.D., M.D.	62	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
David L. Greenwood	56	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary
Fabio M. Benedetti, M.D.	42	Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer Oncology
David J. Earp, Ph.D., J.D.	43	Senior Vice President, Business Development and Chief Patent Counsel
Calvin B. Harley, Ph.D.	55	Chief Scientific Officer
Melissa A. Kelly Behrs	44	Senior Vice President, Therapeutic Development, Oncology
Jane S. Lebkowski, Ph.D.	52	Senior Vice President, Regenerative Medicine

**Thomas B. Okarma, Ph.D., M.D.**, has served as our President, Chief Executive Officer and a member of our board of directors since July 1999. He is also a director of Geron Bio-Med Limited, a United Kingdom company and our wholly-owned subsidiary, and TA Therapeutics, Ltd., a Hong Kong company and our majority-owned subsidiary. From May 1998 until July 1999, Dr. Okarma was the Vice President of Research and Development. From December 1997 until May 1998, Dr. Okarma was Vice President of Cell Therapies. Dr. Okarma currently serves on the Board of BIO and was Chairman of the Board of Overseers of Dartmouth Medical School from 2000 to 2007. From 1985 until joining us, Dr. Okarma, the scientific founder of Applied Immune Sciences, Inc., served initially as Vice President of Research and Development of Applied Immune Sciences and then as chairman, chief executive officer and a director of Applied Immune Sciences, until 1995 when it was acquired by Rhone-Poulenc Rorer. Dr. Okarma was a Senior Vice President at Rhone-Poulenc Rorer from the time of the acquisition of Applied Immune Sciences until December 1996. From 1980 to 1992, Dr. Okarma was a member of the faculty of the Department of Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Okarma holds a A.B. from Dartmouth College, a M.D. and Ph.D. from Stanford University and an executive M.B.A. from Stanford Graduate School of Business.

**David L. Greenwood** has served as our Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary since August 1995 and our Executive Vice President since January 2004. He is also a director of Geron Bio-Med Limited, our majority-owned subsidiary TA Therapeutics, Ltd., our joint venture Start Licensing, Inc., and Clone International, an Australian company. From August 1999 until January 2004, Mr. Greenwood also served as our Senior Vice President of Corporate Development. From April 1997 until August 1999, Mr. Greenwood served as our Vice President of Corporate Development. He also serves on the Board of Regents for Pacific Lutheran University. From 1979 until joining us, Mr. Greenwood held various positions with J.P. Morgan & Co. Incorporated, an international banking firm. Mr. Greenwood holds a B.A. from Pacific Lutheran University and a M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

**Fabio M. Benedetti, M.D.**, has served as our Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer Oncology since January 2008. From April 2007 to January 2008, he served as Senior Vice President, Clinical Development Oncology. From 2005 to 2006, Dr. Benedetti was the Vice President of Medical Affairs for Onyx Pharmaceuticals Inc. From 2002 to 2005, he was Vice President of Global Medical Affairs for Millennium Pharmaceuticals. From 1999 to 2002, Dr. Benedetti held various management positions with the Oncology Global Marketing group at Bristol-Myers Squibb. He has been an attending clinical assistant with the division of gastrointestinal oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and an Instructor at Cornell University Medical College. Dr. Benedetti holds a B.A. in biology from Brown University and an M.D. from Brown University Medical School.

**David J. Earp, J.D., Ph.D.**, has served as our Senior Vice President of Business Development and Chief Patent Counsel since May 2004. He is also a director of TA Therapeutics, Ltd. and Start Licensing, Inc. From October 1999 until May 2004, Dr. Earp served as our Vice President of Intellectual Property. From 1992 until joining us in June 1999, Dr. Earp was with the intellectual property law firm of Klarquist Sparkman Campbell Leigh and Whinston, LLP. Dr. Earp holds a B.Sc. in microbiology from the University of Leeds, England, a Ph.D. from the biochemistry department of The University of Cambridge, England, and conducted postdoctoral research at the University of California at Berkeley/U.S.D.A. Plant Gene Expression Center. He received his J.D. from the



Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College.

**Calvin B. Harley, Ph.D.**, has served as our Chief Scientific Officer since July 1996. From May 1994 until July 1996, Dr. Harley served as our Vice President of Research. From April 1993 until May 1994, Dr. Harley served as our Director, Cell Biology. From 1989 until joining us, Dr. Harley was an Associate Professor of Biochemistry at McMaster University, and from 1982 to 1989, was an Assistant Professor of Biochemistry at McMaster University. Dr. Harley was also an executive of the Canadian Association on Gerontology, Division of Biological Sciences from 1987 to 1991. Dr. Harley holds a B.S. from the University of Waterloo and a Ph.D. from McMaster University, and conducted postdoctoral work at the University of Sussex and the University of California at San Francisco.

**Melissa A. Kelly Behrs** has served as our Senior Vice President, Therapeutic Development, Oncology since January 2007. Ms. Behrs served as our Vice President of Oncology since January 2003. From April 2002 until January 2003, Ms. Behrs served as our Vice President of Corporate Development. From April 2001 until April 2002, Ms. Behrs served as our General Manager of Research and Development Technologies. Ms. Behrs joined us in November 1998 as Director of Corporate Development. From 1990 to 1998, Ms. Behrs worked at Genetics Institute, Inc., serving initially as

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Assistant Treasurer and then as Associate Director of Preclinical Operations where she was responsible for all business development, regulatory, and project management activities for the Preclinical Development function. Ms. Behrs received a B.S. from Boston College and an M.B.A. from Babson College.

**Jane S. Lebkowski, Ph.D.**, has served as our Senior Vice President of Regenerative Medicine since January 2004. From August 1999 until January 2004, Dr. Lebkowski served as our Vice President of Regenerative Medicine. From April 1998 until August 1999, Dr. Lebkowski served as our Senior Director, Cell and Gene Therapies. From 1986 until joining us in 1995, Dr. Lebkowski served as Vice President, Research and Development at Applied Immune Sciences. In 1995, Applied Immune Sciences was acquired by Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, at which time Dr. Lebkowski was appointed Vice President, Discovery & Product Development. Dr. Lebkowski received a B.S. in chemistry and biology from Syracuse University and received her Ph.D. from Princeton University.

## **Employees**

As of December 31, 2007, we had 140 full-time employees of whom 39 hold Ph.D. degrees and 25 hold other advanced degrees. Of our total workforce, 110 employees were engaged in, or directly support, our research and development activities and 30 employees were engaged in business development, patent legal, finance and administration. We also retain outside consultants. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, nor have we experienced work stoppages. We consider relations with our employees to be good.

## **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

Our business is subject to various risks, including those described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this annual report on Form 10-K. Any of these risks could materially adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

### ***Our business is at an early stage of development.***

Our business is at an early stage of development, in that we do not yet have product candidates in late-stage clinical trials or on the market. We have begun clinical testing of our lead anti-cancer drug, GRN163L, in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, solid tumor malignancies, non-small cell lung cancer and multiple myeloma. We have begun clinical testing of our telomerase cancer vaccine, GRNVAC1, in patients with acute myelogenous leukemia. We have no other product candidates in clinical testing. Our ability to develop product candidates that progress to and through clinical trials is subject to our ability to, among other things:

- succeed in our research and development efforts;

- select therapeutic compounds or cell therapies for development;
- obtain required regulatory approvals;
- manufacture product candidates; and
- collaborate successfully with clinical trial sites, academic institutions, physician investigators, clinical research organizations and other third parties.

Potential lead drug compounds or other product candidates and technologies will require significant preclinical and clinical testing prior to regulatory approval in the United States and other countries. Our product candidates may prove to have undesirable and unintended side effects or other characteristics adversely affecting their safety, efficacy or cost-effectiveness that could prevent or limit their commercial use. In addition, our product candidates may not prove to be more effective for treating disease or injury than current therapies. Accordingly, we may have to delay or abandon efforts to research, develop or obtain regulatory approvals to market our product candidates. In addition, we will need to determine whether any of our potential products can be manufactured in commercial quantities at an acceptable cost. Our research and development efforts may not result in a product that can be approved by regulators or marketed successfully. Because of the significant scientific, regulatory and commercial milestones that must be reached for any of our development programs to be successful, any program may be abandoned, even after we have expended significant resources on the program, such as our investments in telomerase technology and human embryonic stem cells, which could cause a sharp drop in our stock price.

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The science and technology of telomere biology and telomerase, human embryonic stem cells and nuclear transfer are relatively new. There is no precedent for the successful commercialization of therapeutic product candidates based on our technologies. These development programs are therefore particularly risky. In addition, we, our licensees or our collaborators must undertake significant research and development activities to develop product candidates based on our technologies, which will require additional funding and may take years to accomplish, if ever.

***We have a history of losses and anticipate future losses, and continued losses could impair our ability to sustain operations.***

We have incurred operating losses every year since our operations began in 1990. As of December 31, 2007, our accumulated deficit was approximately \$444.9 million. Losses have resulted principally from costs incurred in connection with our research and development activities and from general and administrative costs associated with our operations. We expect to incur additional operating losses and, as our development efforts and clinical testing activities continue, our operating losses may increase in size.

Substantially all of our revenues to date have been research support payments under collaboration agreements and revenues from our licensing arrangements. We may be unsuccessful in entering into any new corporate collaboration or license agreement that results in revenues. We do not expect that the revenues generated from these arrangements will be sufficient alone to continue or expand our research or development activities and otherwise sustain our operations.

While we receive royalty revenue from licenses of diagnostic product candidates, telomerase-immortalized cell lines and other licensing activities, we do not currently expect to receive sufficient royalty revenues from these licenses to sustain our operations. Our ability to continue or expand our research and development activities and otherwise sustain our operations is dependent on our ability, alone or with others, to, among other things, manufacture and market therapeutic products.

We also expect to experience negative cash flow for the foreseeable future as we fund our operating losses and capital expenditures. This will result in decreases in our working capital, total assets and stockholders' equity, which may not be offset by future financings. We will need to generate significant revenues to achieve profitability. We may not be able to generate these revenues, and we may never achieve profitability. Our failure to achieve profitability could negatively impact the market price of our common stock. Even if we do become profitable, we cannot assure you that we would be able to sustain or increase profitability on a quarterly or

annual basis.

***We will need additional capital to conduct our operations and develop our products, and our ability to obtain the necessary funding is uncertain.***

We will require substantial capital resources in order to conduct our operations and develop our product candidates, and we cannot assure you that our existing capital resources, interest income and equipment financing arrangement will be sufficient to fund our current and planned operations. The timing and degree of any future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including:

- the accuracy of the assumptions underlying our estimates for our capital needs in 2008 and beyond;
- the magnitude and scope of our research and development programs;
- the progress we make in our research and development programs, preclinical development and clinical trials;
- our ability to establish, enforce and maintain strategic arrangements for research, development, clinical testing, manufacturing and marketing;
- the number and type of product candidates that we pursue;
- the time and costs involved in obtaining regulatory approvals; and
- the costs involved in preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining, defending and enforcing patent claims.

We do not have any committed sources of capital. Additional financing through strategic collaborations, public or private equity financings, capital lease transactions or other financing sources may not be available on acceptable terms, or at all. The receptivity of the public and private equity markets

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to proposed financings is substantially affected by the general economic, market and political climate and by other factors which are unpredictable and over which we have no control. Additional equity financings, if we obtain them, could result in significant dilution to stockholders. Further, in the event that additional funds are obtained through arrangements with collaborative partners, these arrangements may require us to relinquish rights to some of our technologies, product candidates or proposed products that we would otherwise seek to develop and commercialize ourselves. If sufficient capital is not available, we may be required to delay, reduce the scope of or eliminate one or more of our programs, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

***We do not have experience as a company conducting large-scale clinical trials, or in other areas required for the successful commercialization and marketing of our product candidates.***

We will need to receive regulatory approvals for any product candidates before they may be marketed and distributed. Such approval will require, among other things, completing carefully controlled and well-designed clinical trials demonstrating the safety and efficacy of each product candidate. This process is lengthy, expensive and uncertain. We have no experience as a company in conducting large-scale, late stage clinical trials, and our experience with early-stage clinical trials with small numbers of patients is limited. Large scale trials would require either additional financial and management resources, or reliance on third-party clinical investigators, clinical research organizations (CROs) or consultants. Relying on third-party clinical investigators or CROs may force us to encounter delays that are outside of our control. Any such delays could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We also do not currently have marketing and distribution capabilities for our product candidates. Developing an internal sales and distribution capability would be an expensive and time-consuming process. We may enter into agreements with third parties that would be responsible for marketing and distribution. However, these third parties may not be capable of successfully selling any of our product candidates. The inability to commercialize

and market our product candidates could materially affect our business.

***Because we or our collaborators must obtain regulatory approvals to market our products in the United States and other countries, we cannot predict whether or when we will be permitted to commercialize our products.***

Federal, state and local governments in the United States and governments in other countries have significant regulations in place that govern many of our activities and may prevent us from creating commercially viable products from our discoveries.

The regulatory process, particularly for biopharmaceutical product candidates like ours, is uncertain, can take many years and requires the expenditure of substantial resources. Any product candidate that we or our collaborators develop must receive all relevant regulatory agency approvals before it may be marketed in the United States or other countries. Biological drugs and non-biological drugs are rigorously regulated. In particular, human pharmaceutical therapeutic product candidates are subject to rigorous preclinical and clinical testing and other requirements by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States and similar health authorities in other countries in order to demonstrate safety and efficacy. Because certain of our product candidates involve the application of new technologies or are based upon a new therapeutic approach, they may be subject to substantial additional review by various government regulatory authorities, and, as a result, the process of obtaining regulatory approvals for them may proceed more slowly than for product candidates based upon more conventional technologies. We may never obtain regulatory approval to market our product candidates.

Data obtained from preclinical and clinical activities is susceptible to varying interpretations that could delay, limit or prevent regulatory agency approvals. In addition, delays or rejections may be encountered as a result of changes in regulatory agency policy during the period of product development and/or the period of review of any application for regulatory agency approval for a product candidate.

Delays in obtaining regulatory agency approvals could:

- significantly harm the marketing of any products that we or our collaborators develop;
- impose costly procedures upon our activities or the activities of our collaborators;
- diminish any competitive advantages that we or our collaborators may attain; or
- adversely affect our ability to receive royalties and generate revenues and profits.

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Even if we commit the necessary time and resources, the required regulatory agency approvals may not be obtained for any product candidates developed by us or in collaboration with us. If we obtain regulatory agency approval for a new product, this approval may entail limitations on the indicated uses for which it can be marketed that could limit the potential commercial use of the product.

Approved products and their manufacturers are subject to continual review, and discovery of previously unknown problems with a product or its manufacturer may result in restrictions on the product or manufacturer, including withdrawal of the product from the market. The sale by us or our collaborators of any commercially viable product will be subject to government regulation from several standpoints, including the processes of:

- manufacturing;
- advertising and promoting;
- selling and marketing;
- labeling; and

- distribution.

If, and to the extent that, we are unable to comply with these regulations, our ability to earn revenues will be materially and negatively impacted.

Failure to comply with regulatory requirements can result in severe civil and criminal penalties, including but not limited to:

- recall or seizure of products;
- injunction against manufacture, distribution, sales and marketing; and
- criminal prosecution.

The imposition of any of these penalties or other commercial limitations could significantly impair our business, financial condition and results of operations.

***Entry into clinical trials with one or more product candidates may not result in any commercially viable products.***

We may never generate revenues from product sales because of a variety of risks inherent in our business, including the following risks:

- clinical trials may not demonstrate the safety and efficacy of our product candidates;
- completion of clinical trials may be delayed, or costs of clinical trials may exceed anticipated amounts;
- we may not be able to obtain regulatory approval of our product candidates, or may experience delays in obtaining such approvals;
- we may not be able to manufacture our product candidates economically on a commercial scale;
- we and any licensees of ours may not be able to successfully market our products;
- physicians may not prescribe our products, or patients or third party payors may not accept such products;
- others may have proprietary rights which prevent us from marketing our products; and
- competitors may sell similar, superior or lower-cost products.

Positive preliminary results from clinical trials of GRN163L and GRNVAC1 may not be indicative of successful outcomes in later stage trials. Negative or limited results from any current or future clinical trials could delay or prevent further development of our product candidates which would adversely affect our business.

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***Restrictions on the use of human embryonic stem cells, political commentary and the ethical and social implications of research involving human embryonic stem cells could prevent us from developing or gaining acceptance for commercially viable products based upon such stem cells and adversely affect the market price of our common stock.***

Some of our most important programs involve the use of stem cells that are derived from human embryos. The use of human embryonic stem cells gives rise to ethical and social issues regarding the appropriate use of these cells. Our research related to human embryonic stem cells may become the subject of adverse commentary or publicity, which could significantly harm the market price for our common stock.

Some political and religious groups have voiced opposition to our technology and practices. We use stem cells derived from human embryos that have been created for *in vitro* fertilization procedures but are no longer desired or suitable for that use and are donated with appropriate informed consent for research use. Many research institutions, including some of our scientific collaborators, have adopted policies regarding the ethical use of human embryonic tissue. These policies may have the effect of limiting the scope of research conducted using human embryonic stem cells, thereby impairing our ability to conduct research in this field.

In addition, the United States government and its agencies have until recently refused to fund research which involves the use of human embryonic tissue. President Bush announced on August 9, 2001 that he would permit federal funding of research on human embryonic stem cells using the limited number of embryonic stem cell lines that had already been created, but relatively few federal grants have been made so far. The President's Council on Bioethics monitors stem cell research, and the guidelines and regulations it recommends may include restrictions on the scope of research using human embryonic or fetal tissue. Certain states are considering, or have in place, legislation relating to stem cell research, including California whose voters approved Proposition 71 to provide state funds for stem cell research in November 2004. It is not yet clear what, if any, affect such state actions may have on our ability to commercialize stem cell products. In the United Kingdom and other countries, the use of embryonic or fetal tissue in research (including the derivation of human embryonic stem cells) is regulated by the government, whether or not the research involves government funding.

Government-imposed restrictions with respect to use of embryos or human embryonic stem cells in research and development could have a material adverse effect on us, including:

- harming our ability to establish critical partnerships and collaborations;
- delaying or preventing progress in our research and development; and
- causing a decrease in the price of our stock.

***Impairment of our intellectual property rights may adversely affect the value of our technologies and product candidates and limit our ability to pursue their development.***

Protection of our proprietary technology is critically important to our business. Our success will depend in part on our ability to obtain and enforce our patents and maintain trade secrets, both in the United States and in other countries. In the event that we are unsuccessful in obtaining and enforcing patents, our business would be negatively impacted. Further, our patents may be challenged, invalidated or circumvented, and our patent rights may not provide proprietary protection or competitive advantages to us.

The patent positions of pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies, including ours, are highly uncertain and involve complex legal and technical questions. In particular, legal principles for biotechnology patents in the United States and in other countries are evolving, and the extent to which we will be able to obtain patent coverage to protect our technology, or enforce issued patents, is uncertain. In the U.S., recent court decisions in patent cases proposed significant amendments to the regulations governing the process of obtaining patents, as well as proposed legislative changes to the patent system only exacerbate this uncertainty.

In Europe, the European Patent Convention prohibits the granting of European patents for inventions that concern "uses of human embryos for industrial or commercial purposes." The European Patent Office is presently interpreting this prohibition broadly, and is applying it to reject patent claims that pertain to human embryonic stem cells. However, this broad interpretation is being challenged through the European Patent Office appeals system. As a result, we do not yet know whether or to what extent we will be able to obtain patent protection for our human embryonic stem cell technologies in Europe.

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Publication of discoveries in scientific or patent literature tends to lag behind actual discoveries by at least several months and sometimes several years. Therefore, the persons or entities that we or our licensors name as inventors in our patents and patent applications may not have been the first to invent the inventions disclosed in the patent applications or patents, or the first to file patent applications for these inventions. As a result, we may not be able to obtain patents for discoveries that we otherwise would consider patentable and that we consider to

be extremely significant to our future success.

Where several parties seek U.S. patent protection for the same technology, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (the Patent Office) may declare an interference proceeding in order to ascertain the party to which the patent should be issued. Patent interferences are typically complex, highly contested legal proceedings, subject to appeal. They are usually expensive and prolonged, and can cause significant delay in the issuance of patents. Moreover, parties that receive an adverse decision in an interference can lose important patent rights. Our pending patent applications, or our issued patents, may be drawn into interference proceedings which may delay or prevent the issuance of patents, or result in the loss of issued patent rights. As more groups become engaged in scientific research and product development in the areas of telomerase biology and embryonic stem cells, the risk of our patents being challenged through patent interferences, oppositions, reexaminations or other means will likely increase.

The interference process can also be used to challenge a patent that has been issued to another party. For example, in 2004 we were party to two interferences declared by the Patent Office at our request. These interferences involved two of our pending applications relating to nuclear transfer technology and two issued patents, held by the University of Massachusetts (U. Mass) and licensed to Advanced Cell Technology, Inc. (ACT) of Worcester, Massachusetts. We requested these interferences in order to clarify our patent rights to this technology and to facilitate licensing to companies wishing to utilize this technology in animal cloning. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences issued final judgments in each of these cases, finding in both instances that all of the claims in the U. Mass patents in question were unpatentable, and upholding the patentability of Geron's pending claims. These judgments were appealed by U. Mass and ACT, but the appeals have now been dismissed as part of a settlement agreement, resulting in invalidation of the U. Mass patents.

Outside of the United States, certain jurisdictions, such as Europe, New Zealand and Australia, permit oppositions to be filed against the granting of patents. Because our intent is to commercialize products internationally, securing both proprietary protection and freedom to operate outside of the United States is important to our business. We are involved in both opposing the grant of patents to others through such opposition proceedings and in defending our patent applications against oppositions filed by others. For example, we have recently been involved in two patent oppositions before the European Patent Office (EPO) with a Danish company, Pharmexa. Pharmexa (which acquired the Norwegian company GemVax in 2005) is developing a cancer vaccine that employs a short telomerase peptide to induce an immune response against telomerase and has announced plans to begin Phase III clinical trials. Pharmexa obtained a European patent with broad claims to the use of telomerase vaccines for the treatment of cancer, and Geron opposed that patent in 2004. In 2005, the Opposition Division (OD) of the EPO revoked the claims originally granted to Pharmexa, but permitted Pharmexa to add new, narrower claims limited to five specific small peptide fragments of telomerase. The decision was appealed to the Technical Board of Appeals (TBA). In August 2007, the TBA ruled, consistent with the decision of the OD, that Pharmexa was not entitled to the originally granted broad claims but was only entitled to the narrow claims limited to the five small peptides.

In parallel, Pharmexa opposed a European patent held by Geron, the claims of which cover many facets of human telomerase, including the use of telomerase peptides in cancer vaccines. In June 2006, the OD of the EPO revoked three of the granted claims in Geron's patent, specifically the three claims covering telomerase peptide cancer vaccines. We have appealed that decision to the TBA, and that appeal is still pending. Because this appeal is ongoing, the outcome cannot be determined at this time. We are also seeking to obtain patent coverage in Europe for telomerase peptides through a European divisional patent application. If those patent claims are issued, they too may be subject to an opposition proceeding.

European opposition and appeal proceedings can take several years to reach final decision. The oppositions discussed above reflect the complexity of the patent landscape in which we operate, and illustrate the risks and uncertainties. We are also involved in other patent oppositions in Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

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Patent opposition proceedings are not currently available in the U.S. patent system, but legislation has been proposed to introduce them. However, issued U.S. patents can be reexamined by the Patent Office at the request of a third party. Patents owned or licensed by Geron may therefore be subject to reexamination. As in any legal proceeding, the outcome of patent reexaminations is uncertain, and a decision adverse to our interests could result in the loss of valuable patent rights. In July 2006, requests were filed on behalf of the Foundation for

Taxpayer and Consumer Rights for reexamination of three issued U.S. patents owned by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) and relating to human embryonic stem cells. These three patents (U.S. Patent Nos. 5,843,780, 6,200,806 and 7,029,913) are licensed to Geron pursuant to a January 2002 license agreement with WARF. The license agreement conveys exclusive rights to Geron under the WARF patents for the development and commercialization of therapeutics based on neural cells, cardiomyocytes and pancreatic islet cells, derived from human embryonic stem cells, as well as nonexclusive rights for other product opportunities. In October 2006, the Patent Office initiated the reexamination proceedings and in March 2007 it issued initial non-final actions rejecting all claims of each of the three patents in reexamination. In May 2007, WARF filed responses to the Patent Office rejections. We are cooperating with WARF in these actions and expect that WARF will continue to vigorously defend its patent position, including appealing any adverse decision from the Patent Office. Because these reexaminations are ongoing, the outcome of these matters cannot be determined at this time. Reduction or loss of claim scope in these WARF embryonic stem cell patents would negatively impact Geron's proprietary position in this technology.

Successful challenges to our patents through interferences, oppositions or reexamination proceedings could result in a loss of patent rights in the relevant jurisdiction(s). If we are unsuccessful in actions we bring against the patents of other parties, we may be subject to litigation, or otherwise prevented from commercializing potential products in the relevant jurisdiction, or may be required to obtain licenses to those patents or develop or obtain alternative technologies, any of which could harm our business.

Furthermore, if such challenges to our patent rights are not resolved promptly in our favor, our existing business relationships may be jeopardized and we could be delayed or prevented from entering into new collaborations or from commercializing certain products, which could materially harm our business.

Patent litigation may also be necessary to enforce patents issued or licensed to us or to determine the scope and validity of our proprietary rights or the proprietary rights of others. We may not be successful in any patent litigation. Patent litigation can be extremely expensive and time-consuming, even if the outcome is favorable to us. An adverse outcome in a patent litigation, patent opposition, patent interference, or any other proceeding in a court or patent office could subject our business to significant liabilities to other parties, require disputed rights to be licensed from other parties or require us to cease using the disputed technology, any of which could severely harm our business.

***If we fail to meet our obligations under license agreements, we may lose our rights to key technologies on which our business depends.***

Our business depends on several critical technologies that are based in part on patents licensed from third parties. Those third-party license agreements impose obligations on us, such as payment obligations and obligations to diligently pursue development of commercial products under the licensed patents. If a licensor believes that we have failed to meet our obligations under a license agreement, the licensor could seek to limit or terminate our license rights, which could lead to costly and time-consuming litigation and, potentially, a loss of the licensed rights. During the period of any such litigation our ability to carry out the development and commercialization of potential products could be significantly and negatively affected. If our license rights were restricted or ultimately lost, our ability to continue our business based on the affected technology platform would be severely adversely affected.

***We may be subject to litigation that will be costly to defend or pursue and uncertain in its outcome.***

Our business may bring us into conflict with our licensees, licensors, or others with whom we have contractual or other business relationships, or with our competitors or others whose interests differ from ours. If we are unable to resolve those conflicts on terms that are satisfactory to all parties, we may become involved in litigation brought by or against us. That litigation is likely to be expensive and may require a significant amount of management's time and attention, at the expense of other aspects of

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our business. The outcome of litigation is always uncertain, and in some cases could include judgments against us that require us to pay damages, enjoin us from certain activities, or otherwise affect our legal or contractual rights, which could have a significant adverse effect on our business.



***We may be subject to infringement claims that are costly to defend, and which may limit our ability to use disputed technologies and prevent us from pursuing research and development or commercialization of potential products.***

Our commercial success depends significantly on our ability to operate without infringing patents and the proprietary rights of others. Our technologies may infringe the patents or proprietary rights of others. In addition, we may become aware of discoveries and technology controlled by third parties that are advantageous to our programs. In the event our technologies infringe the rights of others or we require the use of discoveries and technology controlled by third parties, we may be prevented from pursuing research, development or commercialization of potential products or may be required to obtain licenses to those patents or other proprietary rights or develop or obtain alternative technologies. We have obtained licenses from several universities and companies for technologies that we anticipate incorporating into our potential products, and we initiate negotiation for licenses to other technologies as the need or opportunity arises. We may not be able to obtain a license to patented technology on commercially favorable terms, or at all. If we do not obtain a necessary license, we may need to redesign our technologies or obtain rights to alternate technologies, the research and adoption of which could cause delays in product development. In cases where we are unable to license necessary technologies, we could be prevented from developing certain potential products. Our failure to obtain alternative technologies or a license to any technology that we may require to research, develop or commercialize our product candidates would significantly and negatively affect our business.

***Much of the information and know-how that is critical to our business is not patentable and we may not be able to prevent others from obtaining this information and establishing competitive enterprises.***

We sometimes rely on trade secrets to protect our proprietary technology, especially in circumstances in which we believe patent protection is not appropriate or available. We attempt to protect our proprietary technology in part by confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants, collaborators and contractors. We cannot assure you that these agreements will not be breached, that we would have adequate remedies for any breach, or that our trade secrets will not otherwise become known or be independently discovered by competitors, any of which would harm our business significantly.

***We depend on our collaborators and joint venture partners to help us develop and test our product candidates, and our ability to develop and commercialize potential products may be impaired or delayed if collaborations are unsuccessful.***

Our strategy for the development, clinical testing and commercialization of our product candidates requires that we enter into collaborations with corporate or joint venture partners, licensors, licensees and others. We are dependent upon the subsequent success of these other parties in performing their respective responsibilities and the continued cooperation of our partners. By way of examples: Merck is developing cancer vaccines targeted to telomerase other than the dendritic cell-based vaccines that we are developing; Cell Genesys is developing oncolytic virus therapeutics utilizing the telomerase promoter; and Roche and Sienna are developing cancer diagnostics using our telomerase technology. Our collaborators may not cooperate with us or perform their obligations under our agreements with them. We cannot control the amount and timing of our collaborators' resources that will be devoted to activities related to our collaborative agreements with them. Our collaborators may choose to pursue existing or alternative technologies in preference to those being developed in collaboration with us.

Under agreements with collaborators and joint venture partners, we may rely significantly on these parties to, among other activities:

- conduct research and development activities in conjunction with us;
- design and conduct advanced clinical trials in the event that we reach clinical trials;
- fund research and development activities with us;
- manage and license certain patent rights;
- pay us fees upon the achievement of milestones; and
- market with us any commercial products that result from our collaborations or joint ventures.

The development and commercialization of potential products will be delayed if collaborators or joint venture partners fail to conduct these activities in a timely manner or at all. In addition, our collaborators could terminate their agreements with us and we may not receive any development or milestone payments. If we do not achieve milestones set forth in the agreements, or if our collaborators breach or terminate their collaborative agreements with us, our business may be materially harmed.

***Our reliance on the activities of our non-employee consultants, research institutions, and scientific contractors, whose activities are not wholly within our control, may lead to delays in development of our product candidates.***

We rely extensively upon and have relationships with scientific consultants at academic and other institutions, some of whom conduct research at our request, and other consultants who assist us in formulating our research and development and clinical strategy or other matters. These consultants are not our employees and may have commitments to, or consulting or advisory contracts with, other entities that may limit their availability to us. We have limited control over the activities of these consultants and, except as otherwise required by our collaboration and consulting agreements, can expect only limited amounts of their time to be dedicated to our activities.

We face intense competition for qualified individuals from numerous pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as academic and other research institutions. We may not be able to attract and retain these individuals on acceptable terms. Failure to do so could materially harm our business.

In addition, we have formed research collaborations with many academic and other research institutions throughout the world. These research facilities may have commitments to other commercial and non-commercial entities. We have limited control over the operations of these laboratories and can expect only limited amounts of their time to be dedicated to our research goals.

We also rely on other companies for certain process development, manufacturing or other technical scientific work, especially with respect to our GRN163L, GRNVAC1 and GRNOPC1 programs. We have contracts with these companies that specify the work to be done and results to be achieved, but we do not have direct control over their personnel or operations.

If any of these third parties are unable or refuse to contribute to projects on which we need their help, our ability to generate advances in our technologies and develop or manufacture our product candidates could be significantly harmed.

***The loss of key personnel could slow our ability to conduct research and develop product candidates.***

Our future success depends to a significant extent on the skills, experience and efforts of our executive officers and key members of our scientific staff. Competition for personnel is intense and we may be unable to retain our current personnel or attract or assimilate other highly qualified management and scientific personnel in the future. The loss of any or all of these individuals could harm our business and might significantly delay or prevent the achievement of research, development or business objectives.

***Our products are likely to be expensive to manufacture, and they may not be profitable if we are unable to significantly reduce the costs to manufacture them.***

Our telomerase inhibitor compound, GRN163L, and our hESC-based products are likely to be more expensive to manufacture than most other drugs currently on the market today. Oligonucleotides are relatively large molecules with complex chemistry, and the cost of manufacturing an oligonucleotide like GRN163L is greater than the cost of making most small-molecule drugs. Our present manufacturing processes are conducted at a small scale and are at an early stage of development. We hope to substantially reduce manufacturing costs through process improvements, as well as through scale increases. If we are not able to do so, however, and depending on the pricing of the potential product, the profit margin on the telomerase inhibitor may be significantly less than that of most drugs on the market today. Similarly, we currently make differentiated cells from hESCs on a laboratory scale, at a high cost per unit measure. The cell-based therapies we are developing

based on hESCs will probably require large quantities of cells. We continue to develop processes to scale up production of the cells in a cost-effective way. We may not be able to charge a high enough price for any cell therapy product we develop, even if it is safe and effective, to make a profit. If we are unable to realize significant profits from our potential product candidates, our business would be materially harmed.

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***Some of our competitors may develop technologies that are superior to or more cost-effective than ours, which may impact the commercial viability of our technologies and which may significantly damage our ability to sustain operations.***

The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are intensely competitive. Other pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and research organizations currently engage in or have in the past engaged in efforts related to the biological mechanisms that are the focus of our programs in oncology and human embryonic stem cell therapies, including the study of telomeres, telomerase, human embryonic stem cells, and nuclear transfer. In addition, other products and therapies that could compete directly with the product candidates that we are seeking to develop and market currently exist or are being developed by pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies and by academic and other research organizations.

Many companies are developing alternative therapies to treat cancer and, in this regard, are competitors of ours. According to public data from the FDA and NIH, there are more than 200 approved anti-cancer products on the market in the United States, and several thousand in clinical development. Many of the pharmaceutical companies developing and marketing these competing products (including GlaxoSmithKline, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and Novartis AG, among others) have significantly greater financial resources and expertise than we do in:

- research and development;
- manufacturing;
- preclinical and clinical testing;
- obtaining regulatory approvals; and
- marketing and distribution.

Smaller companies may also prove to be significant competitors, particularly through collaborative arrangements with large and established companies. Academic institutions, government agencies and other public and private research organizations may also conduct research, seek patent protection and establish collaborative arrangements for research, clinical development and marketing of products similar to ours. These companies and institutions compete with us in recruiting and retaining qualified scientific and management personnel as well as in acquiring technologies complementary to our programs.

In addition to the above factors, we expect to face competition in the following areas:

- product efficacy and safety;
- the timing and scope of regulatory consents;
- availability of resources;
- reimbursement coverage;
- price; and
- patent position, including potentially dominant patent positions of others.

As a result of the foregoing, our competitors may develop more effective or more affordable products, or achieve earlier patent protection or product commercialization than we do. Most significantly, competitive

products may render any product candidates that we develop obsolete, which would negatively impact our business and ability to sustain operations.

***We may not be able to obtain or maintain sufficient insurance on commercially reasonable terms or with adequate coverage against potential liabilities in order to protect ourselves against product liability claims.***

Our business exposes us to potential product liability risks that are inherent in the testing, manufacturing and marketing of human therapeutic and diagnostic products. We may become subject to product liability claims if the use of our potential products is alleged to have injured subjects or patients. This risk exists for product candidates tested in human clinical trials as well as potential products that are sold commercially. We currently have limited clinical trial liability insurance and we may not be able to maintain this type of insurance for any of our clinical trials. In addition, product liability insurance is becoming increasingly expensive. As a result, we may not be able to obtain or maintain product liability insurance in the future on acceptable terms or with adequate coverage against potential liabilities that could have a material adverse effect on our business.

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***To be successful, our product candidates must be accepted by the health care community, which can be very slow to adopt or unreceptive to new technologies and products.***

Our product candidates and those developed by our collaborative or joint venture partners, if approved for marketing, may not achieve market acceptance since hospitals, physicians, patients or the medical community in general may decide not to accept and utilize these products. The product candidates that we are attempting to develop represent substantial departures from established treatment methods and will compete with a number of conventional drugs and therapies manufactured and marketed by major pharmaceutical companies. The degree of market acceptance of any of our developed potential products will depend on a number of factors, including:

- our establishment and demonstration to the medical community of the clinical efficacy and safety of our product candidates;
- our ability to create products that are superior to alternatives currently on the market;
- our ability to establish in the medical community the potential advantage of our treatments over alternative treatment methods; and
- reimbursement policies of government and third-party payors.

If the health care community does not accept our potential products for any of the foregoing reasons, or for any other reason, our business would be materially harmed.

***If we fail to obtain acceptable prices or adequate reimbursement for our product candidates, the use of our potential products could be severely limited.***

Our ability to successfully commercialize our product candidates will depend significantly on our ability to obtain acceptable prices and the availability of reimbursement to the patient from third-party payors. Significant uncertainty exists as to the reimbursement status of newly-approved health care products, including pharmaceuticals. If our potential products are not considered cost-effective or if we fail to generate adequate third-party reimbursement for the users of our potential products and treatments, then we may be unable to maintain price levels sufficient to realize an appropriate return on our investment for potential products currently in development.

In both U.S. and other markets, sales of our potential products, if any, will depend in part on the availability of reimbursement from third-party payors, examples of which include:

- government health administration authorities;

- private health insurers;
- health maintenance organizations; and
- pharmacy benefit management companies.

Both federal and state governments in the United States and governments in other countries continue to propose and pass legislation designed to contain or reduce the cost of health care. Legislation and regulations affecting the pricing of pharmaceuticals and other medical products may be adopted before any of our potential products are approved for marketing. Cost control initiatives could decrease the price that we receive for any product candidate we may develop in the future. In addition, third-party payors are increasingly challenging the price and cost-effectiveness of medical products and services and any of our potential products may ultimately not be considered cost-effective by these third parties. Any of these initiatives or developments could materially harm our business.

***Our activities involve hazardous materials, and improper handling of these materials by our employees or agents could expose us to significant legal and financial penalties.***

Our research and development activities involve the controlled use of hazardous materials, chemicals and various radioactive compounds. As a consequence, we are subject to numerous environmental and safety laws and regulations, including those governing laboratory procedures, exposure to blood-borne pathogens and the handling of biohazardous materials. We may be required to incur significant costs to comply with current or future environmental laws and regulations and may be adversely affected by the cost of compliance with these laws and regulations.

Although we believe that our safety procedures for using, handling, storing and disposing of hazardous materials comply with the standards prescribed by state and federal regulations, the risk of accidental contamination or injury from these materials cannot be eliminated. In the event of such an accident, state or federal authorities could curtail our use of these materials and we could be liable for any civil damages that result, the cost of which could be substantial. Further, any failure by us to control the use, disposal, removal or storage, or to adequately restrict the discharge, or assist in the clean up, of hazardous chemicals or hazardous, infectious or toxic substances could subject us to significant liabilities, including joint and several liability under certain statutes. Any such liability could exceed our resources and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Additionally, an accident could damage our research and manufacturing facilities and operations.

Additional federal, state and local laws and regulations affecting us may be adopted in the future. We may incur substantial costs to comply with these laws and regulations and substantial fines or penalties if we violate any of these laws or regulations, which would adversely affect our business.

***Failure to achieve and maintain effective internal controls in accordance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 could have a material adverse effect on our business and stock price.***

Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the Sarbanes-Oxley Act) requires that we establish and maintain an adequate internal control structure and procedures for financial reporting and include a report of management on our internal control over financial reporting. Our annual report on Form 10-K must contain an assessment by management of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and must include disclosure of any material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting that we have identified. In addition, our independent registered public accounting firm must annually provide an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

The requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act are ongoing and also apply to future years. We expect that our internal control over financial reporting will continue to evolve as our business develops. Although we are committed to continue to improve our internal control processes and we will continue to diligently and vigorously review our internal control over financial reporting in order to ensure compliance with Section 404 requirements, any control system, regardless of how well designed, operated and evaluated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that its objectives will be met. Therefore, we cannot be certain

that in the future material weaknesses or significant deficiencies will not exist or otherwise be discovered. If material weaknesses or other significant deficiencies occur, these weaknesses or deficiencies could result in misstatements of our results of operations, restatements of our consolidated financial statements, a decline in our stock price, or other material adverse effects on our business, reputation, results of operations, financial condition or liquidity.

***Our stock price has historically been very volatile.***

Stock prices and trading volumes for many biopharmaceutical companies fluctuate widely for a number of reasons, including factors which may be unrelated to their businesses or results of operations such as media coverage, legislative and regulatory measures and the activities of various interest groups or organizations. This market volatility, as well as general domestic or international economic, market and political conditions, could materially and adversely affect the market price of our common stock and the return on your investment.

Historically, our stock price has been extremely volatile. Between January 1998 and December 2007, our stock has traded as high as \$75.88 per share and as low as \$1.41 per share. Between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2007, the price has ranged between a high of \$16.80 per share and a low of \$1.41 per share. The significant market price fluctuations of our common stock are due to a variety of factors, including:

- the demand in the market for our common stock;
- the experimental nature of our product candidates;
- fluctuations in our operating results;
- market conditions relating to the biopharmaceutical and pharmaceutical industries;
- announcements of technological innovations, new commercial products, or clinical progress or lack thereof by us, our collaborative partners or our competitors;

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- announcements concerning regulatory developments, developments with respect to proprietary rights and our collaborations;
- comments by securities analysts;
- general market conditions;
- political developments related to human embryonic stem cell research;
- public concern with respect to our product candidates; or
- the issuance of common stock to partners, vendors or to investors to raise additional capital.

In addition, the stock market is subject to other factors outside our control that can cause extreme price and volume fluctuations. Securities class action litigation has often been brought against companies, including many biotechnology companies, which experience volatility in the market price of their securities. Litigation brought against us could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management's attention and resources, which could adversely affect our business.

***The sale of a substantial number of shares may adversely affect the market price for our common stock.***

Sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market, or the perception that such sales could occur, could significantly and negatively affect the market price for our common stock. As of

December 31, 2007, we had 200,000,000 shares of common stock authorized for issuance and 76,062,439 shares of common stock outstanding. In addition, as of December 31, 2007, we have reserved for future issuance approximately 25,762,766 shares of common stock for our stock plans, potential milestone payments and outstanding warrants.

In addition, we have issued common stock to certain parties, such as vendors and service providers, as payment for products and services. Under these arrangements, we typically agree to register the shares for resale soon after their issuance. We may continue to pay for certain goods and services in this manner, which would dilute your interest in us. Also, sales of the shares issued in this manner could negatively affect the market price of our stock.

***Our undesignated preferred stock may inhibit potential acquisition bids; this may adversely affect the market price for our common stock and the voting rights of holders of our common stock.***

Our certificate of incorporation provides our Board of Directors with the authority to issue up to 3,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock and to determine the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of these shares without further vote or action by our stockholders. As of the date of this filing, 50,000 shares of preferred stock have been designated Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock and the Board of Directors still has authority to designate and issue up to 2,950,000 shares of preferred stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock may delay or prevent a change in control transaction without further action by our stockholders. As a result, the market price of our common stock may be adversely affected.

In addition, if we issue preferred stock in the future that has preference over our common stock with respect to the payment of dividends or upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, or if we issue preferred stock with voting rights that dilute the voting power of our common stock, the rights of holders of our common stock or the market price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

***Provisions in our share purchase rights plan, charter and bylaws, and provisions of Delaware law, may inhibit potential acquisition bids for us, which may prevent holders of our common stock from benefiting from what they believe may be the positive aspects of acquisitions and takeovers.***

Our Board of Directors has adopted a share purchase rights plan, commonly referred to as a "poison pill." This plan entitles existing stockholders to rights, including the right to purchase shares of common stock, in the event of an acquisition of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock.

Our share purchase rights plan could prevent stockholders from profiting from an increase in the market value of their shares as a result of a change of control of us by delaying or preventing a change of control. In addition, our Board of Directors has the authority, without further action by our stockholders, to issue additional shares of common stock, and to fix the rights and preferences of one or more series of preferred stock.

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In addition to our share purchase rights plan and the undesignated preferred stock, provisions of our charter documents and bylaws may make it substantially more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us and may prevent changes in our management, including provisions that:

- prevent stockholders from taking actions by written consent;
- divide the Board of Directors into separate classes with terms of office that are structured to prevent all of the directors from being elected in any one year; and
- set forth procedures for nominating directors and submitting proposals for consideration at stockholders' meetings.

Provisions of Delaware law may also inhibit potential acquisition bids for us or prevent us from engaging in business combinations. In addition, we have severance agreements with several employees and a change of control severance plan which could require an acquiror to pay a higher price. Either collectively or individually, these provisions may prevent holders of our common stock from benefiting from what they may believe are the

positive aspects of acquisitions and takeovers, including the potential realization of a higher rate of return on their investment from these types of transactions.

***We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future.***

We do not anticipate paying cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. Any payment of cash dividends will depend upon our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements and other factors and will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Furthermore, we may incur additional indebtedness that may severely restrict or prohibit the payment of dividends.

**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

We currently lease approximately 41,000 square feet of office space at 200 and 230 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, California. The leases for 200 and 230 Constitution Drive expire in July 2008. We intend to exercise our three-year renewal option in January 2008. In March 2004, as payment of the total rent due for the premises at 200 and 230 Constitution Drive, we issued 363,039 shares of our common stock to the lessor of those premises. As a result, we have no cash rental obligation from February 1, 2004 through July 31, 2008. We also currently lease approximately 14,500 square feet of office space at 149 Commonwealth Drive, Menlo Park, California. The lease for 149 Commonwealth Drive expires in April 2010. In May 2007, as payment of the total rent due for the premises at 149 Commonwealth Drive, we issued 210,569 shares of our common stock to the lessor of those premises. As a result we have no cash rental obligation from May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2010. Additionally, we currently lease 150 square feet of office space on a month to month basis at the Roslin Biotechnology Centre, Roslin, Midlothian, United Kingdom. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate to meet our requirements for the near term.

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

None.

**ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS**

None.

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**PART II**

**ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**  
**MARKET INFORMATION**

Our common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol GERN. The high and low closing sales prices as reported by the Nasdaq Stock Market of our common stock for each of the quarters in the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 are as follows:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
Year ended December 31, 2007		
First quarter	\$9.13	\$6.80
Second quarter	\$9.48	\$6.95
Third quarter	\$8.31	\$5.70
Fourth quarter	\$8.19	\$5.68
Year ended December 31, 2006		



First quarter	\$9.34	\$7.59
Second quarter	\$8.09	\$6.20
Third quarter	\$7.21	\$5.87
Fourth quarter	\$9.52	\$6.14

As of February 22, 2008, there were approximately 857 stockholders of record. We are engaged in a highly dynamic industry, which often results in significant volatility of our common stock price. On February 22, 2008, the closing price for our common stock was \$4.73 per share.

## DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never paid cash dividends on our capital stock and do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future, but intend to retain our capital resources for reinvestment in our business. Any future determination to pay cash dividends will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors and will be dependent upon our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements and other factors as the Board of Directors deems relevant.

## PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT COMPARISON (1)

The following graph compares total stockholder returns of Geron Corporation for the last five fiscal years beginning December 31, 2002 to two indices: the Nasdaq CRSP Total Return Index for the Nasdaq Stock Market-U.S. Companies (the Nasdaq-US) and the Nasdaq Pharmaceutical Index (the Nasdaq-Pharmaceutical). The total return for our stock and for each index assumes the reinvestment of dividends, although we have never declared dividends on Geron stock, and is based on the returns of the component companies weighted according to their capitalizations as of the end of each quarterly period. The Nasdaq-US tracks the aggregate price performance of equity securities of U.S. companies traded on the Nasdaq Global Market (the NGM). The Nasdaq-Pharmaceutical, which is calculated and supplied by Nasdaq, represents pharmaceutical companies, including biotechnology companies, trading on Nasdaq under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code No. 283 Drugs main category (2833 □ Medicinals & Botanicals, 2834 □ Pharmaceutical Preparations, 2835 □ Diagnostic Substances, 2836 □ Biological Products). Geron common stock trades on the NGM and is a component of both the Nasdaq-US and the Nasdaq-Pharmaceutical.

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- (1) This Section is not □soliciting material,□ is not deemed □filed□ with the SEC and is not to be incorporated by reference in any filing of the Company under the Securities Act, or the Exchange Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

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## Comparison of Five Year Cumulative Total Return on Investment Among Geron Corporation, the Nasdaq-US Index and the Nasdaq-Pharmaceutical Index(2)

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- (2) Shows the cumulative total return on investment assuming an investment of \$100 in each of Geron, the Nasdaq-US and the Nasdaq-Pharmaceutical on December 31, 2002. The cumulative total return on Geron stock has been computed based on a price of \$3.60 per share, the price at which Geron□s shares closed on December 31, 2002.

## RECENT SALES OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES

In November 2007, we issued 85,546 shares of common stock to Hongene Biotechnology Limited (Hongene) in a private placement as advanced consideration related to the third project order to a services agreement pursuant to which Hongene is manufacturing certain materials for us intended for therapeutic use in humans. The total fair value of the common stock was \$580,000 which has been recorded as a prepaid asset and is being

amortized to research and development expense on a pro rata basis as services are performed. As of December 31, 2007, \$229,000 remained as a prepaid asset.

In November 2007, we issued 147,493 shares of common stock to Lonza Walkersville, Inc. (Lonza) in a private placement as advanced consideration related to the first project order to a services agreement pursuant to which Lonza is manufacturing certain products for us intended for therapeutic use in humans. The total fair value of the common stock was \$1,000,000 which has been recorded as a prepaid asset and is being amortized to research and development expense on a pro rata basis as services are performed. As of December 31, 2007, \$756,000 remained as a prepaid asset.

In November 2007, we issued 116,099 shares of common stock to Girindus America Inc. (Girindus) in a private placement as advanced consideration related to the first project order to a services agreement pursuant to which Girindus is manufacturing certain materials for us intended for therapeutic use in humans. The total fair value of the common stock was \$750,000 which has been recorded as a prepaid asset and is being amortized to research and development expense on a pro rata basis as services are performed. As of December 31, 2007, \$750,000 remained as a prepaid asset.

We issued the above-described shares of common stock in reliance upon the exemption from registration provided by Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Hongene, Lonza and Girindus represented to us that they are accredited investors as defined in Rule 501(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and that the securities issued pursuant thereto were being acquired for investment purposes.

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## SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

The information required by this Item concerning our equity compensation plans is incorporated by reference from the section captioned "Equity Compensation Plans" contained in our Definitive Proxy Statement related to the annual meeting of stockholders to be held May 28, 2008, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASES

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1, 2007 to October 31, 2007 (1)	3,575	\$7.78	0	0
November 1, 2007 to November 30, 2007	0	0	0	0
December 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007	0	0	0	0
Total	3,575	\$7.78	0	0

(1) Represents shares withheld from vested restricted stock awards in payment of payroll tax withholdings.

## ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)				
<b>Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Revenues from collaborative agreements	\$ 672	\$ 622	\$ 290	\$ 0	\$ 72
License fees and royalties	6,950	2,655	5,868	1,053	1,102
Total revenues	7,622	3,277	6,158	1,053	1,174
<b>Operating expenses:</b>					
Research and development	54,624	41,234	35,080	30,084	25,551
Acquired in-process research technology (1)	0	0	0	45,150	0
General and administrative	15,837	9,403	8,788	7,104	5,803
Total operating expenses	70,461	50,637	43,868	82,338	31,354
Loss from operations	(62,839)	(47,360)	(37,710)	(81,285)	(30,180)
Unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives	15,453	7,421	(161)	847	1,184
Interest and other income	10,791	8,704	4,658	1,552	1,810
Equity in losses of joint venture	0	0	(12)	0	0
Conversion expense (2)	0	0	0	0	(779)
Interest and other expense	(102)	(130)	(464)	(672)	(734)
Net loss	(36,697)	(31,365)	(33,689)	(79,558)	(28,699)
Deemed dividend on derivatives (3)	(9,081)	0	0	0	0
Net loss applicable to common stockholders	\$ (45,778)	\$ (31,365)	\$ (33,689)	\$ (79,558)	\$ (28,699)
<b>Basic and diluted net loss per share:</b>					
Net loss per share applicable to common stockholders	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.47)	\$ (0.58)	\$ (1.77)	\$ (0.93)
Shares used in computing net loss per share applicable to common stockholders	74,206,249	66,057,367	57,879,725	44,877,627	30,965,330

- (1) In March 2004, we recognized \$45.2 million of in-process research technology expense in connection with the acquisition of a co-exclusive right under patents controlled by Merix Bioscience, Inc. (now Argos Therapeutics, Inc.) for the use of defined antigens in therapeutic cancer vaccines.

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- (2) In May 2003, we modified the terms of the series D convertible debentures and warrants. We recognized \$779,000 as conversion expense related to this modification.

- (3) In February 2007 in exchange for the exercise of certain warrants, we issued new warrants to the same institutional investors. The aggregate fair value of \$3.7 million for the new warrants was recognized as a deemed dividend. In December 2007, we modified the terms of certain outstanding warrants by extending the exercise term and reducing the exercise price. In connection with the modifications, we received \$3.6 million in cash consideration from the institutional investors holding the outstanding warrants. We recognized a deemed dividend of \$5.4 million for the incremental fair value of the modified warrants, net of the cash consideration received from the institutional investors for the modifications.

December 31,

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands)				
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$ 208,444	\$ 213,860	\$ 191,003	\$ 120,494	\$ 109,780
Working capital	200,655	170,377	171,310	97,795	94,796
Total assets	218,896	220,800	201,243	131,873	118,115
Long-term obligations	427	0	0	645	1,151
Accumulated deficit	(444,872)	(399,094)	(367,729)	(334,040)	(254,482)
Total stockholders' equity	205,674	173,919	175,698	103,539	99,280

## ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### OVERVIEW

This annual report contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. We use words such as "anticipate," "believe," "plan," "expect," "future," "intend" and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. These statements appear throughout the annual report and are statements regarding our intent, belief or current expectations, primarily with respect to our operations and related industry developments. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this annual report. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements for many reasons, including the risks faced by us and described in the section of Item 1A entitled "Risk Factors," and elsewhere in this annual report.

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in Part I, Item 8 of this annual report.

Geron is a Menlo Park, California-based biopharmaceutical company that is developing first-in-class biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of cancer and chronic degenerative diseases, including spinal cord injury, heart failure and diabetes. The products are based on our core expertise in telomerase and human embryonic stem cells, as discussed in more detail in Item 1 "Business" of this annual report on Form 10-K.

### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements describes the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements. Certain of these significant accounting policies are considered to be critical accounting policies, as defined below.

A critical accounting policy is defined as one that is both material to the presentation of our financial statements and requires management to make difficult, subjective or complex judgments that could have a material effect on our financial condition and results of operations. Specifically, critical accounting estimates have the following attributes: (i) we are required to make assumptions about matters that are

highly uncertain at the time of the estimate; and (ii) different estimates we could reasonably have used, or changes in the estimate that are reasonably likely to occur, would have a material effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

Estimates and assumptions about future events and their effects cannot be determined with certainty. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions believed to be applicable and reasonable under the circumstances. These estimates may change as new events occur, as additional information is obtained and as our operating environment changes. These changes have historically been minor and have been included

in the consolidated financial statements as soon as they became known. Based on a critical assessment of our accounting policies and the underlying judgments and uncertainties affecting the application of those policies, management believes that our consolidated financial statements are fairly stated in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, and meaningfully present our financial condition and results of operations.

We believe the following critical accounting policies reflect our more significant estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements:

### **Revenue Recognition**

Since our inception, a substantial portion of our revenues has been generated from research and licensing agreements with collaborators. Revenue under such collaboration agreements typically includes upfront signing or license fees, cost reimbursements, milestone payments and royalties on future product sales.

We recognize nonrefundable signing or license fees that are not dependent on future performance or the intellectual property related to the license has been delivered under these agreements as revenue when earned and over the term of the arrangement if we have continuing performance obligations. We recognize option payments as revenue over the term of the option agreement. We recognize milestone payments, earned based on substantive contingencies, upon completion of specified milestones, which represents the culmination of an earnings process, according to contract terms. Royalties are generally recognized as revenue upon the receipt of the related royalty payment. We recognize cost reimbursement revenue under collaborative agreements as the related research and development costs for services are rendered. We recognize related party revenue under collaborative agreements as the related party research and development costs for services are rendered and when the source of funds have not been derived from our contributions to the related party. Deferred revenue represents the portion of research or license payments received which have not been earned.

We estimate the projected future life of license agreements over which we recognize revenue. Our estimates are based on historical experience and general industry practice. Revisions in the estimated lives of these license agreements have the effect of increasing or decreasing license fee revenue in the period of revision. As of December 31, 2007, no revisions to the estimated future lives of license agreements have been made and we do not expect revisions to the currently active agreements in the future.

### **Valuation of Equity-Based Compensation**

On January 1, 2006, we began accounting for stock-based awards under the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment," (SFAS 123R) using the modified prospective transition method. Under SFAS 123R, we are required to measure and recognize compensation expense for all stock-based awards to our employees and directors, including employee stock options and employee stock purchases related to our Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP) based on estimated fair values. We estimated the fair value of stock awards and ESPP shares using the Black Scholes option-pricing model. Option-pricing model assumptions such as expected volatility, risk-free interest rate and estimated term impact the fair value estimate. Further, the estimated forfeiture rate impacts the amount of aggregate compensation recognized during the period. The fair value of equity-based awards is amortized over the vesting period of the award using a straight-line method.

Expected volatilities are based on historical volatilities of our stock since traded options on Geron stock do not correspond to option terms and trading volume of options is limited. The expected term of options represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. In deriving this assumption, we reviewed actual historical exercise and cancellation data and the remaining outstanding options not yet exercised or cancelled. The expected term of employees' purchase rights, under our ESPP, is equal to the purchase period. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Zero Coupon Treasury

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Strip Yields for the expected term in effect on the date of grant. Forfeiture rate was estimated based on historical experience and will be adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from their estimate.

Prior to the implementation of SFAS 123R, we accounted for stock-based awards under the intrinsic method of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" (APB 25) and made pro forma footnote disclosures as required by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 148, "Accounting For Stock-Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure," which amended Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting For Stock-Based Compensation." Under the intrinsic method, no stock-based compensation expense had been recognized in the consolidated statements of operations for stock options granted to employees and directors because the exercise price of the stock options equaled the fair market value of the underlying stock on the date of grant. Pro forma net loss and pro forma net loss per share disclosed in the footnotes to the consolidated financial statements were estimated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model.

We continue to apply the provisions of EITF No. 96-18, "Accounting for Equity Instruments that are Issued to Other than Employees for Acquiring, or in Conjunction with Selling, Goods or Services" (EITF 96-18) for our non-employee stock-based awards. Under EITF 96-18, the measurement date at which the fair value of the stock-based award is measured is equal to the earlier of 1) the date at which a commitment for performance by the counterparty to earn the equity instrument is reached or 2) the date at which the counterparty's performance is complete. We recognized stock-based compensation expense of \$1.5 million, \$606,000 and \$3.3 million for the fair value of the vested portion of non-employee options and warrants in our consolidated statements of operations for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Stock-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS 123R was \$11.4 million and \$4.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. There was no employee or director stock-based compensation expense recognized for the year ended December 31, 2005 related to stock-based awards and ESPP purchases. As of December 31, 2007, total compensation cost related to unvested stock-based awards not yet recognized was \$21.0 million, net of estimated forfeitures, which is expected to be recognized over the next 17 months on a weighted-average basis.

We annually evaluate the assumptions used in estimating fair values of our stock-based awards by reviewing current trends in comparison to historical data. In 2007, we refined our forfeiture rate estimates to reflect current increasing headcount trends. Further refinements in forfeiture rates or other assumptions may occur as the employee population changes or the nature of awards varies. If factors change and we employ different assumptions in the application of SFAS 123R in future periods, the compensation expense that we record under SFAS 123R may differ significantly from what we have recorded in the current period.

### **Fair Value of Derivatives**

We apply the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," (SFAS 133), Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Both Liabilities and Equity," (SFAS 150) and Emerging Issues Task Force Issue 00-19, "Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock," (Issue 00-19) in accounting for derivative financial instruments.

For warrants and non-employee options classified as assets or liabilities under Issue 00-19, the fair value of these instruments is recorded on the consolidated balance sheet at inception of such classification and marked to market at each financial reporting date. The change in fair value of the warrants and non-employee options is recorded in the consolidated statements of operations as an unrealized gain (loss) on fair value of derivatives. The warrants and non-employee options continue to be reported as an asset or liability until such time as the instruments are exercised or expire or are otherwise modified to remove the provisions which require this treatment, at which time the fair value of these instruments is reclassified from assets or liabilities to stockholders' equity. For warrants and non-employee options classified as permanent equity under Issue 00-19, the fair value of the warrants and non-employee options is recorded in stockholders' equity and no further adjustments are made.

Fair value of warrants and non-employee options subject to Issue 00-19 is estimated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model. Use of this model requires us to make assumptions regarding stock volatility, dividend yields, expected term of the warrants and non-employee options and risk-free interest

rates. Expected volatilities are based on historical volatilities of our stock. The expected term of warrants and non-employee options represent the contractual term of the instruments. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Zero Coupon Treasury Strip Yields for the remaining term of the instrument. If factors change and we employ different assumptions in future periods, the fair value of these warrants and non-employee options reflected as of each balance sheet date and the resulting change in fair value that we record may differ significantly from what we have recorded in previous periods. As of December 31, 2007, we have not revised the method in which we derive assumptions in order to estimate fair values of warrants and non-employee options and we do not expect revisions in the future.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Our results of operations have fluctuated from period to period and may continue to fluctuate in the future, based upon the progress of our research and development efforts and variations in the level of expenses related to developmental efforts during any given period. Results of operations for any period may be unrelated to results of operations for any other period. In addition, historical results should not be viewed as indicative of future operating results. We are subject to risks common to companies in our industry and at our stage of development, including risks inherent in our research and development efforts, reliance upon our collaborative partners, enforcement of our patent and proprietary rights, need for future capital, potential competition and uncertainty of preclinical and clinical trial results or regulatory approvals or clearances. In order for a product candidate to be commercialized based on our research, we and our collaborators must conduct preclinical tests and clinical trials, demonstrate the efficacy and safety of our product candidates, obtain regulatory approvals or clearances and enter into manufacturing, distribution and marketing arrangements, as well as obtain market acceptance. We do not expect to receive revenues or royalties based on therapeutic products for a period of years, if at all.

### **Revenues**

We recognized \$672,000 of revenues from collaborative agreements in 2007 compared to \$622,000 in 2006 and \$290,000 in 2005. Revenues in each of these years primarily reflected related party reimbursements we received from our joint venture in Hong Kong, TA Therapeutics, Ltd. (TAT) for scientific research services. Since June 16, 2007, we have been including TAT's results in our consolidated financial statements and have eliminated any related party revenue when the source of funds has been derived from our contributions to the related party.

We have entered into license and option agreements with companies involved with oncology, diagnostics, research tools, agriculture and biologics production. In each of these agreements, we have granted certain rights to our technologies. In connection with the agreements, we are entitled to receive license fees, option fees, milestone payments and royalties on future sales, or any combination thereof. We recognized license and option fee revenues of \$6.7 million, \$2.6 million and \$5.8 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, related to our various agreements. The increase in license fee revenue in 2007 primarily reflected the receipt of \$5.0 million in milestone payments in connection with the collaboration and license agreement with Merck. We expect to recognize revenue of \$241,000 in 2008, \$27,000 in 2009, \$26,000 in 2010, \$25,000 in 2011 and none thereafter related to our existing deferred revenue. Current revenues may not be predictive of future revenues.

We received royalties of \$211,000, \$103,000 and \$66,000 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, on product sales of telomerase detection and telomere measurement kits to the research-use-only market, cell-based research products and agricultural products. License and royalty revenues are dependent upon additional agreements being signed and future product sales.

### **Research and Development Expenses**

Research and development expenses were \$54.6 million, \$41.2 million and \$35.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase in 2007 compared to 2006 was primarily the net result of higher personnel-related expenses of \$9.4 million due to increased headcount, which includes an increase of \$3.8 million in stock-based compensation expense associated with stock options and restricted stock awards, increased manufacturing costs of \$2.9 million for GRN163L, increased clinical trial costs of \$1.0 million associated with GRN163L and GRNVAC1 and increased scientific supplies expense of \$1.5 million, partially offset by reduced preclinical study expenses of \$1.4 million due to the progress of GRNOPC1 toward our IND filing. The increase in 2006 compared to 2005 was primarily the net result of higher personnel-related expenses of \$4.9 million due to increased

headcount, which includes an increase of \$2.3 million for stock-based compensation expense associated with stock options, increased costs of \$2.9 million for preclinical studies of GRNOPC1 and clinical studies of GRN163L, increased manufacturing costs of \$2.0 million related to GRNVAC1, increased consulting expense of \$550,000 and increased scientific supplies of \$450,000, partially offset by reduced raw materials purchases of \$4.7 million for the manufacture of GRN163L. Overall, we expect research and development expenses to increase in the next year as we incur expenses related to clinical trials for GRN163L and GRNVAC1, continued development of our human embryonic stem cell (hESC) programs and inclusion of TAT operating expenses with our results.

Our research and development activities have arisen from our two major technology platforms, telomerase and hESCs. The oncology programs focus on treating or diagnosing cancer by targeting or detecting the presence of telomerase, either inhibiting activity of the telomerase enzyme, diagnosing cancer by detecting the presence of telomerase, or using telomerase as a target for therapeutic vaccines. Our core knowledge base in telomerase and telomere biology supports all these approaches, and our scientists may contribute to any or all of these programs in a given period. We have initiated the following clinical trials for GRN163L: 1) Phase I trial in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia; 2) Phase I trial in patients with solid tumor malignancies; 3) Phase I trial in patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer when administered intravenously in combination with a standard paclitaxel/carboplatin regimen and 4) Phase I trial in patients with multiple myeloma. Preliminary data from these studies showed safety and tolerability of the drug in low-dose cohorts as well as the expected pharmacokinetic properties after multiple intravenous infusions of the drug. Taking the results from the Duke University clinical studies in prostate cancer, hematologic malignancies and renal cell carcinoma, we optimized the vaccine manufacturing process and transferred it to a contract manufacturer. We have initiated a Phase II clinical trial of our telomerase vaccine using the prime/boost scheme in patients with acute myelogenous leukemia.

Our hESC therapy programs focus on treating injuries and degenerative diseases with cell therapies based on cells derived from hESCs. A core of knowledge of hESC biology, as well as a significant continuing effort in deriving, growing, maintaining, and differentiating hESCs, underlies all aspects of this group of programs. Many of our researchers are allocated to more than one hESC program, and the percentage allocations of time change as the resource needs of individual programs vary. In our hESC therapy programs, we have concentrated our resources on several specific cell types. We have developed proprietary methods to grow, maintain and scale the culture of undifferentiated hESCs that use feeder cell-free and serum-free media with chemically defined components. Moreover, we have developed scalable processes to differentiate these cells into therapeutically relevant cells, including cryopreserved formulations in order to deliver these therapeutic cells on demand. We are now testing six different hESC-derived therapeutic cell types in animal models. From these studies, we are advancing development of two hESC-based therapeutics to clinical testing.

Research and development expenses incurred under each of these programs are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Oncology	\$ 29,916	\$ 22,771	\$ 21,898
hESC Therapies	24,708	18,463	13,182
Total	\$ 54,624	\$ 41,234	\$ 35,080

At this time, we cannot provide reliable estimates of how much time or investment will be necessary to commercialize products from the programs currently in progress. Drug development in the U.S. is a process that includes multiple steps defined by the FDA under applicable statutes, regulations and guidance documents. After the preclinical research process of identifying, selecting and testing in animals a potential pharmaceutical compound, the clinical development process begins with the filing of an IND. Clinical development typically involves three phases of study: Phase I, II and III. The most significant costs associated with clinical development are incurred in Phase III trials, which tend to be the longest and largest studies conducted during the drug development process. After the completion of a successful preclinical and clinical development program, a New Drug Application (NDA) or Biologics License Application (BLA) must be filed with the FDA, which includes, among other things, very large amounts of preclinical and clinical data and results and manufacturing-related information necessary to support requested approval of the product. The NDA/BLA must be reviewed and approved by the FDA.



According to industry statistics, it generally takes 10 to 15 years to research, develop and bring to market a new prescription medicine in the United States. In light of the steps and complexities involved, the successful development of our potential products is highly uncertain. Actual timelines and costs to develop and commercialize a product are subject to enormous variability and are very difficult to predict. In addition, various statutes and regulations also govern or influence the manufacturing, safety reporting, labeling, storage, record keeping and marketing of each product.

The lengthy process of seeking these regulatory reviews and approvals, and the subsequent compliance with applicable statutes and regulations, require the expenditure of substantial resources. Any failure by us to obtain, or any delay in obtaining, regulatory approvals could materially adversely affect our business. In responding to an NDA/BLA submission, the FDA may grant marketing approval, may request additional information, may deny the application if it determines that the application does not provide an adequate basis for approval, and may also refuse to review an application that has been submitted if it determines that the application does not provide an adequate basis for filing and review. We cannot provide assurance that any approval required by the FDA will be obtained on a timely basis, if at all.

For a more complete discussion of the risks and uncertainties associated with completing development of potential products, see the sub-section titled "Because we or our collaborators must obtain regulatory approval to market our products in the United States and other countries, we cannot predict whether or when we will be permitted to commercialize our products" and "Entry into clinical trials with one or more product candidates may not result in any commercially viable products" in Part I, Item 1A entitled "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this annual report.

### **General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses were \$15.8 million, \$9.4 million and \$8.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase in 2007 from 2006 was primarily due to increased compensation expense related to stock options and restricted stock awards to employees and directors, higher consulting expense and increased audit fees. The increase in 2006 from 2005 was primarily the net result of recognition of compensation expense related to stock option grants, partially offset by reduced consulting expense. We currently anticipate general and administrative expenses to remain consistent with current levels.

### **Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Fair Value of Derivatives**

Unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives reflects a non-cash adjustment for changes in fair value of warrants and options held by non-employees to purchase common stock that are classified as current liabilities. Under Issue 00-19, derivatives classified as assets or liabilities are marked to market at each financial reporting date with any resulting unrealized gain (loss) recorded in the consolidated statements of operations. The derivatives continue to be reported as an asset or liability until such time as the instruments are exercised or expire or are otherwise modified to remove the provisions which require them to be recorded as assets or liabilities, at which time the fair value of these instruments is marked to market and reclassified from assets or liabilities to stockholders' equity. We incurred unrealized gains of \$15.5 million and \$7.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, and an unrealized loss of \$161,000 for the year ended December 31, 2005. The change in unrealized gain on derivatives for 2007 as compared to 2006 was due to the reduced value of derivatives resulting from shortening of their contractual terms, decreases in the market value of our stock and changes in other inputs factored into the estimate of their fair value such as the volatility of our stock. The change in unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives for 2006 as compared to 2005 primarily reflects the reduced value of derivatives resulting from shortening of their contractual terms and changes in other inputs factored into the estimate of their fair value such as the volatility of our stock. See Note 6, "Current Liabilities," in Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of this Form 10-K for further discussion of the fair value of derivatives.

### **Interest and Other Income**

Interest income was \$10.9 million, \$8.9 million and \$4.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase in 2007 from 2006 was primarily due to higher cash and investment balances as a result of \$39.9 million in net proceeds received in connection with the private equity financing in December 2006 and \$15.0 million in proceeds received in connection with the exercise

of warrants in February 2007. The increase in 2006 from 2005 was primarily due to increased interest rates and higher cash and investment balances as a result of proceeds received from the public offering in September 2005 and the December 2006 financing.

Also included in interest income for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, were realized losses of \$106,000, \$172,000 and \$192,000, respectively, related to other-than-temporary declines in fair value of our equity investments in licensees as well as net realized gains of \$1,000, \$7,000 and \$94,000 for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

In March 2005, we formed TA Therapeutics, Ltd. (TAT) in Hong Kong to conduct research and develop telomerase activator drugs to restore the functional capacity of cells in various organ systems that have been impacted by senescence, injury, or chronic disease. In 2005, we recognized \$12,000 of loss for our proportionate share of net losses from the joint venture. Since our share of TAT's net losses exceeded the original carrying value of the equity investment and there was no obligation to provide financial support in future periods, we discontinued the application of the equity method of accounting as of June 30, 2005. Beginning June 16, 2007, TAT's results have been included in our consolidated financial statements as a result of our majority ownership.

### **Interest and Other Expense**

Interest and other expense was \$102,000, \$130,000 and \$464,000 for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. In 2007 and 2006, interest and other expense was primarily comprised of bank charges. The decrease in interest and other expense for 2007 compared to 2006 was primarily due to the conclusion of equipment financing payments in June 2006. The decrease in interest and other expense for 2006 compared to 2005 was primarily due to the conclusion of interest accretion for the Roslin research-funding obligation in May 2005.

### **Net Loss**

Net loss was \$36.7 million, \$31.4 million and \$33.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Overall net loss for 2007 increased compared to 2006 primarily due to increased operating expenses for the clinical development of GRN163L and GRNVAC1 and increasing headcount offset by increased unrealized gains on derivatives and increased license fee revenue and interest income. Overall net loss for 2006 decreased compared to 2005 primarily due to unrealized gains on derivatives offset by increased operating expenses for the clinical development of GRN163L and GRNVAC1 and reduced license fee revenue.

### **Deemed Dividend on Derivatives**

In exchange for the exercise of warrants in February 2007, we issued warrants to purchase 1,125,000 shares of common stock, at a premium, exercisable from June 2007. The new warrants are substantially the same as the A Warrants issued in the December 2006 financing. The aggregate fair value of \$3.7 million for these new instruments, as calculated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model, was recognized as a deemed dividend in the consolidated statements of operations.

In December 2007, we modified the terms of certain outstanding warrants by extending the exercise term and reducing the exercise price. The exercise term of the 2004 A Warrants to purchase 2,295,082 shares of common stock was extended to November 2011 and the exercise price was modified to \$7.50 per share. The exercise terms of the 2006 A Warrants to purchase 3,000,000 shares of common stock and 2007 D Warrants to purchase 1,125,000 shares of common stock were extended to December 2011 and the exercise prices were modified to \$7.50 per share. In connection with the modifications, we received \$3.6 million in cash consideration from the institutional investors holding the outstanding warrants. We recognized a deemed dividend of \$5.4 million in the consolidated statements of operations for the incremental fair value of the modified warrants, as calculated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model as of the modification date, net of the cash consideration received from the institutional investors for the modifications.

### **LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

Cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities at December 31, 2007 were \$208.4 million, compared to \$213.9 million at December 31, 2006 and \$191.0 million at December 31, 2005. We have an investment policy to invest these funds in liquid, investment grade securities, such as interest-

bearing money market funds, corporate notes, commercial paper, asset-backed securities and municipal securities. Our investment portfolio does not contain securities with exposure to sub-prime mortgages, collateralized debt obligations or auction rate securities. The decrease in cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities in 2007 is the net result of use of cash for operations offset by the receipt of \$15.0 million in proceeds from the exercise of warrants issued to institutional investors in connection with a financing in December 2006 and receipt of \$5.0 million in milestone payments from Merck. The increase in cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities in 2006 was primarily the result of a private equity financing consummated in December 2006 which resulted in net cash proceeds of \$39.9 million.

### **Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Net cash used in operations was \$26.6 million, \$26.4 million and \$20.6 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase in net cash used for operations in 2007 was primarily the result of increased operating expenses, offset by advance research and development funding from related party. The increase in net cash used for operations in 2006 was primarily the result of increased operating expenses.

### **Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

Net cash provided by investing activities was \$16.0 million, \$16.9 million and \$13.0 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The decrease in net cash provided by investing activities in 2007 compared to 2006 reflected increased capital expenditures in 2007 offset by increased proceeds from the maturities of marketable securities. The increase in net cash provided by investing activities in 2006 compared to 2005 reflected increased proceeds from the maturities of marketable securities.

Since inception through December 31, 2007, we have invested approximately \$19.5 million in property and equipment, of which approximately \$8.3 million was financed through an equipment financing arrangement. Minimum annual payments due under the equipment financing facility totaled \$55,000 in 2006. As of December 31, 2007, no payments were due under our equipment financing facility. As of December 31, 2007, we had approximately \$500,000 available for borrowing under our equipment financing facility. We intend to renew the commitment for a new equipment financing facility in 2008 to further fund equipment purchases. If we are unable to renew the commitment, we will use our cash resources for capital expenditures.

### **Cash Flows from Financing Activities**

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$20.7 million, \$48.7 million and \$94.4 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Net cash provided by financing activities in 2007 included \$15.0 million in proceeds from the exercise of warrants issued to institutional investors in connection with a financing in December 2006 and \$3.6 million in cash consideration from the modification of certain outstanding warrants in December 2007. Net cash provided by financing activities in 2006 primarily reflected the receipt of \$7.6 million in proceeds from the exercise of warrants issued to institutional investors and net proceeds of \$39.9 million from the sale of common stock and warrants to institutional investors. Net cash provided by financing activities in 2005 reflected the receipt of \$12.5 million in proceeds from the exercise of warrants issued to institutional investors in November 2004, \$4.0 million in proceeds from the sale of our common stock to Hong Kong investors and \$76.0 million in net proceeds from the underwritten public offering of common stock and the exercise of the Merck warrant in September 2005.

## **CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

Our contractual obligations for the next five years, and thereafter are as follows:

Contractual Obligations (1)	Principal Payments Due by Period				
	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-5 Years	After 5 Years
	(In thousands)				
Equipment lease	\$ 42	\$ 18	\$ 24	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating leases (2)	0	0	0	0	0
Research funding (3)	3,278	1,540	494	504	740
Total contractual cash obligations	\$3,320	\$1,558	\$518	\$504	\$740

- (1) This table does not include any milestone payments under research collaborations or license agreements as the timing and likelihood of such payments are not known. In addition, this table does not include payments under our severance plan if there were a change in control of the company or severance payments to key employees under involuntary termination.
- (2) In March 2004, we issued 363,039 shares of our common stock to the lessor of our premises at 200 and 230 Constitution Drive in payment of our monthly rental obligation from February 1, 2004 through July 31, 2008. We intend to exercise our three-year option to extend our lease. Once extended, we would incur a new operating lease obligation. In May 2007, we issued 210,569 shares of our common stock to the lessor of our premises at 149 Commonwealth Drive in payment of our monthly rental obligation from May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2010. The fair value of the common stock has been recorded as a prepaid asset and is being amortized to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease periods.
- (3) Research funding is comprised of sponsored research commitments at various laboratories around the world, including commitments of our majority-owned subsidiary, TAT.

We estimate that our existing capital resources, interest income and equipment financing facility will be sufficient to fund our current level of operations through at least December 2009. Changes in our research and development plans or other changes affecting our operating expenses or cash balances may result in the expenditure of available resources before such time, and in any event, we will need to raise substantial additional capital to fund our operations in the future. We intend to seek additional funding through strategic collaborations, public or private equity financings, equipment loans or other financing sources that may be available.

## RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of new accounting pronouncements.

## OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

None.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The following discussion about our market risk disclosures contains forward-looking statements. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. We are exposed to market risk related to changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. We do not use derivative financial instruments for speculative or trading purposes.

*Credit Risk.* We place our cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities with seven financial institutions in the United States. Generally, these deposits may be redeemed upon demand and therefore, bear minimal risk. Deposits with banks may exceed the amount of insurance provided on such deposits. Financial instruments that potentially subject us to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of marketable securities. Marketable securities currently consist of investment grade corporate notes, commercial paper and asset-backed securities. Our investment portfolio does not contain securities with exposure to sub-prime mortgages, collateralized debt obligations or auction rate securities. Our investment policy, approved by our Board of Directors, limits the amount we may invest in any one type of investment issuer, thereby reducing credit risk concentrations.

*Interest Rate Sensitivity.* The fair value of our cash equivalents and marketable securities at December 31, 2007 was \$203.0 million. These investments include \$143.0 million of cash and cash equivalents which are due in less than 90 days, \$18.4 million of asset-backed securities which have expected maturity dates due within one year, and \$41.6 million of short-term investments which are due in less than one year. Our investment policy is to manage our marketable securities portfolio to preserve principal and liquidity while maximizing the return on the investment portfolio through the full investment of available funds. We diversify the marketable securities portfolio by investing in multiple types of investment grade securities. We primarily invest our marketable securities portfolio in short-term securities with at least an investment grade rating to minimize interest rate and credit risk as well as to provide for an immediate source of funds. Although changes in interest rates may affect the fair value of the marketable securities portfolio and cause unrealized gains or losses, such gains or losses would not be realized unless the investments are sold. Due to the nature of our investments, which are primarily corporate notes, commercial paper, asset-backed securities and money market funds, we have concluded that there is no material market risk exposure.

*Foreign Currency Exchange Risk.* Because we translate foreign currencies into United States dollars for reporting purposes, currency fluctuations can have an impact, though generally immaterial, on our results. We believe that our exposure to currency exchange fluctuation risk is insignificant primarily because our wholly-owned international subsidiary, Geron Bio-Med Ltd., satisfies its financial obligations almost exclusively in its local currency. As of December 31, 2007, there was an immaterial currency exchange impact from our intercompany transactions. As of December 31, 2007, we did not engage in foreign currency hedging activities.

## **ITEM 8. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

The following consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, of Geron Corporation and the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, Ernst & Young LLP, are filed as a part of this Form 10-K.

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## **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Geron Corporation

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Geron Corporation as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Geron Corporation at December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, in fiscal year 2007, Geron Corporation changed its method of accounting for uncertainty in income taxes in accordance with guidance provided in Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" An Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 and, in fiscal year 2006, changed its method of accounting for stock-based compensation in accordance with guidance provided in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), "Share-Based Payment."

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Geron Corporation's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 27, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Palo Alto, California  
February 27, 2008

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

	December 31,	
	2007	2006
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 146,025	\$ 135,882
Restricted cash	2,440	530
Marketable securities	59,979	77,448
Interest and other receivables (including amounts from related parties: 2007-none, 2006-\$293)	788	1,268

Current portion of prepaid assets	4,140	2,025
Total current assets	213,372	217,153
Noncurrent portion of prepaid assets	699	396
Equity investments in licensees	55	175
Property and equipment, net	4,075	2,482
Deposits and other assets	695	594
	\$ 218,896	\$ 220,800
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,857	\$ 1,959
Accrued compensation	2,203	2,938
Accrued liabilities (including amounts for related parties: 2007-\$1,029, 2006-none)	4,514	2,216
Current portion of deferred revenue	241	1,159
Current portion of advance payment from related party for research and development, net	1,300	□
Fair value of derivatives	1,602	38,504
Total current liabilities	12,717	46,776
Noncurrent portion of deferred revenue	78	105
Noncurrent portion of advance payment from related party for research and development, net	427	□
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 3,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2007 and 2006	□	□
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 76,062,439 and 70,449,058 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively	76	70
Additional paid-in capital	650,437	573,156
Accumulated deficit	(444,872)	(399,094)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	33	(213)
Total stockholders' equity	205,674	173,919
	\$ 218,896	\$ 220,800

See accompanying notes.

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**GERON CORPORATION****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
	(In thousands, except share and per share data)		
Revenues from collaborative agreements (including amounts from related parties: 2007-\$487, 2006-\$446, 2005-\$290)	\$ 672	\$ 622	\$ 290
License fees and royalties (including amounts from related parties: 2007-none, 2006-none, 2005-\$4,000)	6,950	2,655	5,868

Total revenues	7,622	3,277	6,158
Operating expenses:			
Research and development (including amounts for related parties: 2007-\$941, 2006-\$446, 2005-\$290)	54,624	41,234	35,080
General and administrative	15,837	9,403	8,788
Total operating expenses	70,461	50,637	43,868
Loss from operations	(62,839)	(47,360)	(37,710)
Unrealized gain (loss) on fair value of derivatives	15,453	7,421	(161)
Interest and other income	10,791	8,704	4,658
Equity in losses of joint venture	□	□	(12)
Interest and other expense	(102)	(130)	(464)
Net loss	(36,697)	(31,365)	(33,689)
Deemed dividend on derivatives	(9,081)	□	□
Net loss applicable to common stockholders	\$ (45,778)	\$ (31,365)	\$ (33,689)
<b>Basic and diluted net loss per share applicable to common stockholders:</b>			
Net loss per share applicable to common stockholders	\$ (0.62)	\$ (0.47)	\$ (0.58)
Shares used in computing net loss per share applicable to common stockholders	74,206,249	66,057,367	57,879,725

See accompanying notes.

**GERON CORPORATION**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

	Common Stock		Additional	Deferred	Accumu-	Accumu-	
	Shares	Amount	Paid-In	Compen	lated	Other	
	(In thousands, except share data)						Comprehen-
			Capital	sation	Deficit	Income	
						(Loss)	
Balances at December 31, 2004	52,220,332	\$ 52	\$ 438,410	\$ (260)	\$ (334,040)	\$ (623)	
Net loss	□	□	□	□	(33,689)	□	
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities and equity investments in licensees	□	□	□	□	□	162	
Cumulative translation adjustment	□	□	□	□	□	(42)	
Comprehensive loss							
Issuance of common stock and warrants in connection with private financing, net of issuance costs of \$32	740,741	1	2,358	□	□	□	
Issuance of common stock in connection with public offering, net of issuance costs of \$4,115	6,900,000	7	57,978	□	□	□	
Stock-based compensation related to issuance of common stock and options in exchange for services	270,095	□	5,735	□	□	□	
Issuance of common stock upon exercise of warrants	4,049,180	4	35,783	□	□	□	



Issuance of common stock under employee stock plans, net	593,265	1	3,462	7	0	0
401(k) contribution	56,244	0	496	0	0	0
Deferred compensation related to unvested 401(k) contribution	0	0	0	(227)	0	0
Amortization of deferred compensation related to 401(k) contributions	0	0	0	123	0	0
Balances at December 31, 2005	64,829,857	65	544,222	(357)	(367,729)	(503)
Net loss	0	0	0	0	(31,365)	0
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities and equity investments in licensees	0	0	0	0	0	291
Cumulative translation adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	(1)
Comprehensive loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
Issuance of common stock and warrants in connection with private financing, net of issuance costs of \$61	3,423,314	3	8,016	0	0	0
Stock-based compensation related to issuance of common stock and options in exchange for services	539,689	1	4,754	0	0	0
Issuance of common stock upon exercise of warrants	1,101,447	1	8,565	0	0	0
Issuance of common stock under employee stock plans, net	474,630	0	3,055	0	0	0
Stock-based compensation expense under SFAS 123R	0	0	4,009	357	0	0
401(k) contribution	80,121	0	535	0	0	0
Balances at December 31, 2006	70,449,058	70	573,156	0	(399,094)	(213)
Net loss	0	0	0	0	(36,697)	0
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities and equity investments in licensees	0	0	0	0	0	235
Cumulative translation adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	11
Comprehensive loss	0	0	21,974	0	0	0
Reclassification of fair value of derivatives	0	0	21,974	0	0	0
Deemed dividend in connection with warrants to purchase common stock, including cash consideration	0	0	12,711	0	(9,081)	0
Stock-based compensation related to issuance of common stock and options in exchange for services	1,169,823	1	10,149	0	0	0
Issuance of common stock upon exercise of warrants	3,470,204	4	15,147	0	0	0
Issuance of common stock under employee stock plans, net	881,985	1	4,870	0	0	0
Stock-based compensation expense under SFAS 123R	0	0	11,367	0	0	0
401(k) contribution	91,369	0	1,063	0	0	0
Balances at December 31, 2007	76,062,439	\$ 76	\$ 650,437	\$ 0	\$ (444,872)	\$ 33

See accompanying notes.

**GERON CORPORATION**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
	(In thousands)		
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net loss	\$ (36,697)	\$ (31,365)	\$ (33,689)

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<b>Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:</b>			
Depreciation and amortization	1,667	1,051	977
Accretion and amortization on investments	(3,227)	(987)	1,882
Issuance of common stock and warrants in exchange for services by non-employees	5,674	3,018	4,716
Stock-based compensation for employees and directors	11,367	4,366	□
Stock-based compensation for stock grants to employees	□	216	□
Accretion of interest on research funding obligation	□	□	245
Amortization related to 401(k) contributions	263	161	130
Loss on equity investments in licensees	106	166	131
Amortization of intangible assets, principally research related	□	377	754
Unrealized (gain) loss on fair value of derivatives	(15,453)	(7,421)	161
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>			
Interest and other receivables	487	1,085	(736)
Prepaid assets	2,583	3,276	2,799
Notes receivable from related parties	□	□	147
Equity investments in licensees	5	□	(12)
Deposits and other assets	(371)	(80)	(339)
Accounts payable	898	53	(629)
Accrued compensation	2,855	2,333	2,022
Accrued liabilities	2,418	917	535
Deferred revenue	(945)	(2,126)	2,206
Research funding payments	□	(1,418)	(1,871)
Advance payment from related party for research and development	1,727	□	□
Translation adjustment	11	(1)	(42)
Net cash used in operating activities	(26,632)	(26,379)	(20,613)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Restricted cash transfer	(1,910)	□	□
Capital expenditures	(2,990)	(779)	(1,642)
Purchases of marketable securities	(154,876)	(135,883)	(129,305)
Proceeds from maturities of marketable securities	175,816	153,543	143,695
Proceeds from sales of marketable equity investments in licensees	□	□	207
Net cash provided by investing activities	16,040	16,881	12,955
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Payments of obligations under capital leases and equipment loans	□	(55)	(146)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock and warrants, net of issuance costs	20,735	48,802	94,591
Net cash provided by financing activities	20,735	48,747	94,445
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	10,143	39,249	86,787
Cash and cash equivalents, at beginning of year	135,882	96,633	9,846
Cash and cash equivalents, at end of year	\$ 146,025	\$ 135,882	\$ 96,633

See accompanying notes.

**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Organization**

Geron Corporation (we or Geron) was incorporated in the State of Delaware on November 29, 1990. We are a biopharmaceutical company that is developing first-in-class biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of cancer and chronic degenerative diseases, including spinal cord injury, heart failure and diabetes. The products are based on our core expertise in telomerase and human embryonic stem cells. Principal activities to date have included obtaining financing, securing operating facilities and conducting research and development. We have no therapeutic products currently available for sale and do not expect to have any therapeutic products commercially available for sale for a period of years, if at all. These factors indicate that our ability to continue research and development activities is dependent upon the ability of our management to obtain additional financing as required.

### **Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Geron, our wholly-owned subsidiary, Geron Bio-Med Ltd. (Geron Bio-Med), a United Kingdom company, and majority-owned subsidiary, TA Therapeutics, Ltd. (TAT), a Hong Kong company. We have eliminated intercompany accounts and transactions. We prepare the financial statements of Geron Bio-Med using the local currency as the functional currency. We translate the assets and liabilities of Geron Bio-Med at rates of exchange at the balance sheet date and translate income and expense items at average monthly rates of exchange. The resultant translation adjustments are included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), a separate component of stockholders' equity.

FASB Interpretation No. 46-R (FIN 46R), Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51, as amended, provides guidance on the identification, classification and accounting of variable interest entities (VIEs). We have variable interests in VIEs through marketable and non-marketable equity investments in various companies with whom we have executed licensing agreements and our joint venture. In accordance with FIN 46R, we have concluded that we are not the primary beneficiary in any of these VIEs and, therefore, have not consolidated such entities in our consolidated financial statements.

### **Net Loss Per Share**

Basic earnings (loss) per share is computed based on the weighted average shares outstanding and excludes any dilutive effects of options and warrants. Diluted earnings (loss) per share includes any dilutive effect of options and warrants.

Diluted earnings per share is calculated using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding and excludes the effects of common stock equivalents consisting of stock options and warrants which are all antidilutive. Had we been in a net income position, diluted earnings per share would have included the shares used in the computation of basic net loss per share as well as an additional 3,044,913, 3,112,060 and 2,202,274 shares for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, related to outstanding options, restricted stock and warrants (as determined using the treasury stock method at the estimated average market value).

### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. On a regular basis, management evaluates these estimates and assumptions. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### **Cash Equivalents and Marketable Securities**

We consider all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. We are subject to credit risk related to our cash equivalents and available-for-sale securities. We place our cash and cash equivalents in money market funds. Our investments include commercial paper and corporate notes in United States corporations with original maturities ranging from

five to nine months and asset-backed securities with original expected maturity dates ranging from four to ten months and original legal maturity dates ranging from 29 to 44 months.

We classify our marketable debt securities as available-for-sale. We record available-for-sale securities at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in stockholders' equity. Fair values for investment securities are based on quoted market prices, where available. If quoted market prices are not available, fair values are based on quoted market prices of comparable instruments. Realized gains and losses are included in interest and other income and are derived using the specific identification method for determining the cost of securities sold and have been insignificant to date. We recognize an impairment charge when the declines in the fair values of our available-for-sale securities below the amortized cost basis are judged to be other-than-temporary. We consider various factors in determining whether to recognize an impairment charge, including the length of time and extent to which the fair value has been less than our cost basis, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the security issuer, and our intent and ability to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value. Declines in market value judged other-than-temporary result in a charge to interest and other income. No impairment charges were recorded for our available-for-sale securities for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005. Dividend and interest income are recognized when earned. See Note 2 on Financial Instruments and Credit Risk.

### Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue related to license and research agreements with collaborators, royalties and milestone payments. The principles and guidance outlined in EITF No. 00-21 "Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables," provide a framework to (i) determine whether an arrangement involving multiple deliverables contains more than one unit of accounting, (ii) determine how the arrangement consideration should be measured and allocated to the separate units of accounting in the arrangement and (iii) apply relevant revenue recognition criteria, under Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 104, "Revenue Recognition," (SAB 104) separately for each of the separate units. Our arrangements generally do not contain a general right of return relative to the delivered item.

We have several license and marketing agreements with various oncology, diagnostics, research tools, agriculture and biologics production companies. With certain of these agreements, we receive nonrefundable license payments in cash or equity securities, option payments in cash or equity securities, royalties on future sales of products, milestone payments, or any combination of these items. Upfront nonrefundable signing or license fees that are not dependent on future performance under these agreements or the intellectual property related to the license has been delivered are recognized as revenue when earned and over the estimated period of the continuing performance obligations. Option payments are recognized as revenue over the term of the option agreement. Milestone payments, earned based on substantive contingencies, are recognized upon completion of specified milestones, representing the culmination of the earnings process, according to contract terms. Royalties are generally recognized upon receipt of the related royalty payment.

We recognize revenue under collaborative agreements as the related research and development costs for services are rendered. We recognize related party revenue under collaborative agreements as the related research and development costs for services are rendered and when the source of funds have not been derived from our contributions to the related party. Deferred revenue represents the portion of research and license payments received which has not been earned.

### Restricted Cash

The components of restricted cash are as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>	
Certificate of deposit for unused equipment line of credit	\$ 530	\$530
Certificate of deposit for credit card purchases	250	□
Funds held in trust for creditors of TA Therapeutics, Ltd.	1,660	□

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Marketable and Non-Marketable Equity Investments in Licensees and Joint Venture**

Investments in non-marketable nonpublic companies are carried at cost, as adjusted for other-than-temporary impairments. Investments in marketable equity securities are carried at the market value as of the balance sheet date. For marketable equity securities, unrealized gains and losses are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in stockholders' equity. Realized gains or losses are included in interest and other income and are derived using the specific identification method.

We monitor our equity investments in licensees and joint venture for impairment on a quarterly basis and make appropriate reductions in carrying values when such impairments are determined to be other-than-temporary. Impairment charges are included in interest and other income. Factors used in determining an impairment include, but are not limited to, the current business environment including competition and uncertainty of financial condition; going concern considerations such as the rate at which the investee company utilizes cash, and the investee company's ability to obtain additional private financing to fulfill its stated business plan; the need for changes to the investee company's existing business model due to changing business environments and its ability to successfully implement necessary changes; and the general progress toward product development, including clinical trial results. If an investment is determined to be impaired, then we determine whether such impairment is other-than-temporary. See Note 2 on Financial Instruments and Credit Risk.

**Research and Development Expenses**

All research and development costs are expensed as incurred. The value of acquired in-process research and development is charged to research and development expense on the date of acquisition. Research and development expenses include, but are not limited to, acquired in-process technology deemed to have no alternative future use, payroll and personnel expense, lab supplies, preclinical studies, raw materials to manufacture clinical trial drugs, manufacturing costs for research and clinical trial materials, sponsored research at other labs, consulting, costs to maintain technology licenses and research-related overhead. Accrued liabilities for raw materials to manufacture clinical trial drugs, manufacturing costs, clinical trial expense, costs to maintain technology licenses and sponsored research reimbursement fees are included in accrued liabilities and research and development expenses.

**Depreciation and Amortization**

We record property and equipment at cost and calculate depreciation using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally four years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the estimated useful life or remaining term of the lease.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

Geron maintains various stock incentive plans under which stock options and restricted stock awards are granted to employees, non-employee members of the Board of Directors and consultants. We also have an employee stock purchase plan for all eligible employees. Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment," (SFAS 123R) which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all stock-based awards made to employees and directors, including stock options, restricted stock awards and employee stock purchases related to our Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP purchases) based upon the grant-date fair value of those awards. In March 2005, the SEC issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107, "Share-Based Payment," (SAB 107), which provides guidance regarding the interpretation and interaction of SFAS 123R and certain SEC rules and regulations. We have applied the provisions of SAB 107 in our adoption of SFAS 123R. We previously accounted for our stock-based

awards under the intrinsic value method prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" (APB 25) and related interpretations, and provided the required pro forma disclosures prescribed by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," as amended. Under the intrinsic method, no stock-based compensation expense had been recognized in the consolidated statements of operations, because the exercise price of the stock options granted to employees and directors equaled the fair market value of the underlying stock on the date of grant.

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We adopted SFAS 123R using the modified prospective transition method. In accordance with this method, for awards expected to vest, we recognize compensation expense on a straight-line basis for stock-based awards granted after January 1, 2006, plus unvested awards granted prior to January 1, 2006 based on the grant-date fair value estimated in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123 and following the straight-line attribution method elected originally upon the adoption of SFAS 123. SFAS 123R requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. In the pro forma information required by SFAS 123 for the periods prior to fiscal 2006, we accounted for forfeitures as they occurred. Results for prior periods have not been adjusted retrospectively. SFAS 123R also requires the benefits of tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation cost be reported as a financing cash flow, rather than as an operating cash flow as required under previous literature. The implementation of SFAS 123R did not have an impact on cash flows from operations or financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2006 since we continue to incur net operating losses.

We used the Black Scholes option-pricing valuation model to estimate the grant-date fair value of our stock-based awards which was also used for valuing stock-based awards for pro forma information required under SFAS 123. For additional information, see Note 8 on Stockholders' Equity. The determination of fair value for stock-based awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model is affected by our stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to, our expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards and actual and projected employee exercise behaviors. The stock-based compensation expense related to restricted stock awards is determined using the fair value of Geron common stock on the date of grant and reduced for estimated forfeitures as applicable. The fair value is amortized as compensation expense over the service period of the award.

On November 10, 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 123(R)-3, "Transition Election Related to Accounting for Tax Effects of Share-Based Payment Awards." We have elected to adopt the alternative transition method provided in the FASB Staff Position for calculating the tax effects (if any) of stock-based compensation expense pursuant to SFAS 123R. The alternative transition method includes simplified methods to establish the beginning balance of the additional paid-in capital pool (APIC pool) related to the tax effects of employee stock-based compensation, and to determine the subsequent impact to the APIC pool and the consolidated statements of operations and cash flows of the tax effects of employee stock-based compensation awards that are outstanding upon adoption of SFAS 123R.

We continue to apply the provisions of EITF No. 96-18, "Accounting for Equity Instruments that are Issued to Other than Employees for Acquiring, or in Conjunction with Selling, Goods or Services" (EITF 96-18) for our non-employee stock-based awards. Under EITF 96-18, the measurement date at which the fair value of the stock-based award is measured is equal to the earlier of 1) the date at which a commitment for performance by the counterparty to earn the equity instrument is reached or 2) the date at which the counterparty's performance is complete. We recognize stock-based compensation expense for the fair value of the vested portion of non-employee awards in our consolidated statements of operations.

### **Fair Value of Derivatives**

We apply the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," (SFAS 133), Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Both Liabilities and Equity," (SFAS 150) and Emerging Issues Task Force Issue 00-19, "Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock," (Issue 00-19) in accounting for derivative financial instruments.

For warrants and non-employee options classified as assets or liabilities under Issue 00-19, the fair value of these instruments is recorded on the consolidated balance sheet at inception of such classification and marked to market at each financial reporting date. The change in fair value of the warrants and non-employee options is recorded in the consolidated statements of operations as an unrealized gain (loss) on fair value of derivatives. Fair value of warrants and non-employee options subject to Issue 00-19 is estimated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model. The warrants and non-employee options continue to be reported as an asset or liability until such time as the instruments are exercised or expire or are

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

otherwise modified to remove the provisions which require this treatment, at which time the fair value of these instruments is reclassified from assets or liabilities to stockholders' equity. For warrants and non-employee options classified as permanent equity under Issue 00-19, the fair value of the warrants and non-employee options is recorded in stockholders' equity and no further adjustments are made.

**Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

Comprehensive income (loss) is comprised of net loss and other comprehensive income (loss). Other comprehensive income (loss) includes certain changes in stockholders' equity which are excluded from net loss.

The components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>	
Unrealized gain (loss) on available-for-sale securities and marketable equity investments in licensees	\$ 195	\$ (40)
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(162)	(173)
	<b>\$ 33</b>	<b>\$ (213)</b>

As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, we recognized other-than-temporary impairment charges of \$106,000 and \$172,000, respectively, related to our equity investments in licensees. In addition, \$6,000 and \$10,000 of previously recognized unrealized loss was eliminated from accumulated other comprehensive loss in 2007 and 2006, respectively. See Note 2 on Marketable and Non-Marketable Equity Investments in Licensees.

**Income Taxes**

We apply the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109 "Accounting for Income Taxes" (SFAS 109). Under SFAS 109, deferred tax liabilities or assets arise from differences between the tax basis of liabilities or assets and their basis for financial reporting, and are subject to tests of recoverability in the case of deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. A valuation allowance is provided for deferred tax assets to the extent realization is not judged to be more likely than not.

In July 2006, the FASB issued Financial Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" "An Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109," (FIN 48). FIN 48 provides detailed guidance for the financial statement recognition, measurement and disclosure of uncertain tax positions recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with SFAS 109. Income tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold at the effective date to be recognized upon the adoption of FIN 48 and in subsequent periods. Any potential accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits within operations would be recorded as income tax expense. To date, there have been no interest or penalties charged to us related

to the underpayment of income taxes.

We adopted FIN 48 effective January 1, 2007 and the provisions of FIN 48 have been applied to all income tax positions commencing from that date. There was no impact on our financial statements upon adoption. Because of our historical significant net operating losses, we have not been subject to income tax since inception. There were no unrecognized tax benefits during all the periods presented. We maintain deferred tax assets that reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. These deferred tax assets include net operating loss carryforwards, research credits and capitalized research and development. The net deferred tax asset has been fully offset by a valuation allowance because of our history of losses.

### **Concentrations of Customers and Suppliers**

The majority of our revenue was earned in the United States. One existing customer accounted for approximately 79% of our 2007 revenues. One existing customer accounted for 56% of our 2006 revenues. Two customers accounted for 82% of our 2005 revenues.

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## **GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We contract third-party manufacturers to produce GMP-grade drugs and vaccines for preclinical and clinical studies. We also contract for raw materials to supply those manufacturers. Should we be unable to obtain sufficient quantities of raw materials or GMP-grade drugs and vaccines from our third-party sources or other third-party sources, certain development and clinical activities may be delayed.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements," (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We are currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of SFAS 157 may have on our future consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115," (SFAS 159). SFAS 159 allows companies to elect to measure certain assets and liabilities at fair value and is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We are currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of SFAS 159 may have on our future consolidated financial statements.

In June 2007, the FASB ratified Emerging Issues Task Force No. 07-3, "Accounting for Nonrefundable Advance Payments for Goods or Services to Be Used in Future Research and Development Activities," (EITF 07-3). EITF 07-3 requires non-refundable advance payments for goods and services to be used in future research and development activities to be recorded as an asset and the payments to be expensed when the research and development activities are performed. EITF 07-3 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2007. We do not expect the adoption of EITF 07-3 to have a material impact on our future consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 141R, "Business Combinations," (SFAS 141R). SFAS 141R establishes principles and requirements for how the acquirer of a business recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree. SFAS 141R also provides guidance for recognizing and measuring the goodwill acquired in the business combination and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. SFAS 141R is effective prospectively for business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The effect of adopting



SFAS 141R will depend on business combinations we execute, if any, after January 1, 2009.

## 2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND CREDIT RISK

### Cash Equivalents and Marketable Debt Securities Available-for-Sale

Marketable debt securities by security type at December 31, 2007 were as follows:

	Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains (In thousands)	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value
<b>Included in cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Money market funds	\$ 142,987	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 142,987
<b>Restricted cash:</b>				
Certificates of deposit	\$ 780	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 780
Money market funds	1,660	□	□	1,660
	\$ 2,440	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 2,440
<b>Marketable securities:</b>				
Asset-backed securities (expected maturities due in less than 1 year)	\$ 18,392	\$ 21	\$ □	\$ 18,413
Commercial paper (due in less than 1 year)	37,371	191	□	37,562
Corporate notes (due in less than 1 year)	4,006	□	(2)	4,004
	\$ 59,769	\$ 212	\$ (2)	\$ 59,979

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## GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Marketable debt securities by security type at December 31, 2006 were as follows:

	Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains (In thousands)	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value
<b>Included in cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Money market fund	\$ 45,894	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 45,894
Commercial paper	89,747	□	(64)	89,683
	\$ 135,641	\$ □	\$ (64)	\$ 135,577
<b>Restricted cash:</b>				
Certificate of deposit	\$ 530	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 530
<b>Marketable securities:</b>				
Asset-backed securities (expected maturities due in less than 1 year)	\$ 24,423	\$ 3	\$ □	\$ 24,426
Commercial paper (due in less than 1 year)	47,687	27	□	47,714
Corporate notes (due in less than 1 year)	5,308	□	□	5,308
	\$ 77,418	\$ 30	\$ □	\$ 77,448

Marketable debt and equity securities with unrealized losses at December 31, 2007 and 2006 were as follows:

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or Greater		Total	
	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Estimated Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
(In thousands)						
<b>As of December 31, 2007:</b>						
Corporate notes	\$ 3,997	\$ (2)	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 3,997	\$ (2)
Equity investments in licensees	12	(15)	□	□	12	(15)
	\$ 4,009	\$ (17)	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 4,009	\$ (17)
<b>As of December 31, 2006:</b>						
Commercial paper	\$ 89,683	\$ (64)	\$ □	\$ □	\$ 89,683	\$ (64)
Equity investments in licensees	4	(1)	3	(5)	7	(6)
	\$ 89,687	\$ (65)	\$ 3	\$ (5)	\$ 89,690	\$ (70)

The gross unrealized losses related to commercial paper and corporate notes were due to changes in interest rates. The gross unrealized losses related to equity investments in licensees were a result of declining valuations for those biopharmaceutical companies. We have determined that the gross unrealized losses on our investment securities as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 are temporary in nature. We review our investments quarterly to identify and evaluate whether any investments have indications of possible impairment. Factors considered in determining whether a loss is temporary include the length of time and extent to which fair value has been less than the cost basis, the financial condition and near-term prospects of the investee, and our intent and ability to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in market value. All of our commercial paper, corporate notes and asset-backed securities are rated investment grade.

#### Marketable and Non-Marketable Equity Investments in Licensees

In connection with our license agreement with Clone International Pty Ltd. signed in December 2000, we received equity equal to 33% of the outstanding stock of Clone International. As of December 31, 2007, our equity interest was 25%. As our share of Clone International's operating losses exceeded the original carrying value of our investment, we discontinued the application of the equity method since September 30, 2005. No carrying value of Clone International equity remained at December 31, 2007 and 2006. We do not have any funding obligations under this license.

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### GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We recognized charges of \$106,000, \$172,000 and \$192,000 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, related to other-than-temporary declines in the fair values of certain of our equity investments. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, the carrying values of our equity investments in non-marketable nonpublic companies were \$43,000 and \$169,000, respectively. We recognized net realized gains of \$1,000, \$7,000 and \$94,000 for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, related to equity investments in licensees.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Our financial instruments consist principally of cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities, accounts receivable and accounts payable. We believe all of the financial instruments' recorded values approximate current values because of their nature and respective durations. The fair value of marketable securities is determined using quoted market prices for those securities or similar financial instruments.

#### Credit Risk

We place our cash, restricted cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities with seven financial institutions in the United States. Generally, these deposits may be redeemed upon demand and therefore, bear minimal risk. Deposits with banks may exceed the amount of insurance provided on such deposits. Financial instruments that potentially subject us to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of marketable securities. Marketable securities currently consist of investment grade corporate notes, commercial paper and asset-backed securities. Our investment policy, approved by the Board of Directors, limits the amount we may invest in any one type of investment issuer, thereby reducing credit risk concentrations.

### **3. JOINT VENTURES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

#### **TA Therapeutics, Ltd.**

In March 2005, we and the Biotechnology Research Corporation (BRC), a subsidiary of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, established a joint venture company in Hong Kong called TA Therapeutics, Ltd. (TAT). TAT conducts research and was established to commercially develop products that utilize telomerase activator drugs to restore the regenerative and functional capacity of cells in various organ systems that have been impacted by senescence, injury or chronic disease. Pursuant to the joint venture agreement with BRC (the Agreement), we provide scientific leadership, development expertise, intellectual property and capital to TAT. BRC provides scientific leadership, a research team, capital and laboratory facilities to TAT. We and BRC each initially owned 50% of TAT. We initially contributed intellectual property and a nominal cash capital contribution of \$12,000. BRC agreed to an initial cash capital contribution of \$6,000,000 for Phase 1 of the joint venture. When and if BRC fully paid this amount, over the following three months, we could contribute an aggregate of \$2,000,000 for Phase 1. If we chose not to contribute, then BRC could have repurchased our equity ownership in TAT or could have discontinued the joint venture. In no event could BRC have initiated a claim under the Agreement, or otherwise required us to contribute any amount to TAT or to pay BRC any amount. The decision to contribute funds to TAT was within our control and the consequences of this decision would not have created a liability for us or other obligation on our part to pay any amount to TAT or BRC. As a result, we treated the \$2,000,000 Phase 1 payment as discretionary.

Operations for TAT began April 1, 2005. As TAT was jointly owned and controlled by us and BRC, we accounted for our investment in TAT under the equity method of accounting. In accordance with the equity method of accounting, we increased (decreased) the carrying value of our investment in TAT by a proportionate share of TAT's earnings (losses). We recognized a loss of \$12,000 for our proportionate share of TAT's 2005 second quarter losses after which our share of TAT's net operating losses exceeded the carrying value of our investment in and net advances to TAT and we were not committed to provide further financial support. Therefore, we discontinued the application of the equity method of accounting beginning July 1, 2005.

On June 15, 2007, we and BRC entered into an agreement to restructure the TAT joint venture. Under the amended agreements, BRC contributed \$2,090,000 to TAT under its original first phase cash commitment of \$6,000,000 and agreed to contribute another \$2,000,000 by December 2007 (the full amount has been contributed as of December 31, 2007), which is required to be applied to specific

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### **GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

research to be performed by BRC on behalf of TAT. We contributed \$2,000,000 to TAT relating to the first phase of the research projects and elected to contribute another \$2,000,000 for the second phase. However, BRC elected not to provide funds to TAT for the second phase of the research and development projects. As a result of BRC's decision to not fund the second phase of the research and development projects, we acquired control of TAT's operations and assets. Under the amended agreements, we direct the preclinical and drug development activities, own 75% voting interest and have unilateral right to wind up TAT. Upon winding up of TAT, all intellectual property of TAT is assigned to us and BRC is entitled to royalties on sales of future products developed from TAT's efforts up to a fixed amount based on BRC's cash contributions. Upon winding up of TAT, if the assets available for distribution, other than the intellectual property, are insufficient to repay the whole of the paid-up capital, such assets shall be distributed so that the losses shall be borne by the shareholders in proportion to the cash contributed by both parties. It is expected that all the funds, aggregating \$8,090,000, will be spent in performing research and development activities during the next 24 months.

As a result of our obtaining control over TAT, we have included the results of TAT in our consolidated financial statements beginning June 16, 2007. Based on consideration of the relevant rights described above, we have determined that BRC's 25% equity interest in TAT is not substantive. The amended arrangement represents, in substance, a research and development arrangement between us and BRC. Therefore, this arrangement is being accounted for as a research and development arrangement. Aggregate cash contributions of \$4,090,000 by BRC to TAT and cash contributions of \$4,000,000 by Geron to TAT represent funding for future research and development activities to be undertaken by BRC or Geron on behalf of TAT. Contributions from BRC represent its share of funding for future research and development activities that will be performed principally by BRC and partly by us. Accordingly, BRC's net contributions have been recorded as an advance payment from related party for research and development on our consolidated balance sheet. The advance payment from BRC will be recognized as either reduction of research and development expenses or revenues from collaborative agreements depending upon who performs the related research and development activity. The advance payment from BRC will be recorded as a reduction of research and development expenses in our consolidated statements of operations in the period when BRC performs the underlying research activity on behalf of TAT. The advance payment from BRC will be recognized as revenue from collaborative agreements in our consolidated statements of operations in the period when we perform research activity on behalf of TAT and the source of funds has not been derived from our cash contributions to TAT. Amounts recognized in our consolidated statements of operations will be based on proportional performance over the period of planned research activity, which is expected to be 24 months. As of December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, we incurred related party research and development costs of \$941,000, \$446,000 and \$290,000, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, we earned related party revenue of \$487,000, \$446,000 and \$290,000, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, the net balance of the advance payment from BRC was \$1,727,000.

#### **Start Licensing Inc.**

In April 2005, we entered into a Formation and Shareholders Agreement (FSA) and Contribution and License Agreement (CLA) with Exeter Life Sciences, Inc. (Exeter) to form Start Licensing, Inc. (Start). Start manages and licenses a broad portfolio of intellectual property rights related to animal reproductive technologies. We and Exeter own 49.9% and 50.1% of Start, respectively.

Pursuant to the FSA, Exeter provides initial operating capital and other management services to Start. Exeter made an initial capital contribution to Start and the remainder will be provided by them from time to time, but in any event within 24 months following the execution of the FSA. We have no financial obligations to provide operating capital for Start nor are we obligated to perform services or other activities for the joint venture. We received an upfront payment in cash of \$4,000,000 from Start upon the execution of the FSA in consideration of the technology we contributed in excess of the value of the equity we received in Start. We recognized this payment as license fee revenue from related parties in April 2005.

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### **GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In accordance with the equity method of accounting, we increase (decrease) the carrying value of our investment in the joint venture by a proportionate share of Start's earnings (losses). Any increases (decreases) are reflected separately in our consolidated statements of operations as equity in losses or income in the joint venture. The initial investment in Start reflected the book value of the intellectual property rights we conveyed to Start. Since there was no net book value associated with these intangible assets at the execution of this arrangement, no initial value was recognized for our investment in Start. We have not yet applied the equity method of accounting since our proportionate share of net losses in Start exceeded our original carrying value of the equity investment. If Start subsequently reports net income, we will apply the equity method only after our share of that net income equals the share of net losses not recognized during the period the equity method was suspended.

In conjunction with the joint venture agreement in 2005, we sold our equity interest in Exeter for proceeds of \$200,000 and recognized a gain of \$56,000 from this sale representing the excess of the cash proceeds over the carrying value of the investment.

#### **4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment, stated at cost, is comprised of the following:

	December 31,	
	2007	2006
	(In thousands)	
Furniture and computer equipment	\$ 3,683	\$ 3,051
Lab equipment	9,535	7,739
Leasehold improvements	6,282	5,492
	19,500	16,282
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(15,425)	(13,800)
	\$ 4,075	\$ 2,482

## 5. EQUIPMENT LINE

In 2007, we renewed our equipment financing facility and had approximately \$500,000 available for borrowing as of December 31, 2007. The drawdown period under the equipment financing facility expires in October 2008. Each drawdown bears a fixed interest rate equal to the current one-year Jumbo CD rate plus 1.25% from the date of each drawdown over a 48 month term. Drawdowns are secured by a certificate of deposit. No drawdowns have been made under this facility. No balance remained outstanding related to obligations under previous equipment loans as of December 31, 2007 and 2006.

## 6. CURRENT LIABILITIES

### Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities consist of the following:

	December 31,	
	2007	2006
	(In thousands)	
Sponsored research agreements	\$ 735	\$ 502
Service provider obligations	942	548
Related party payable	1,029	□
Other	1,808	1,166
	\$4,514	\$2,216

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## GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Fair Value of Derivatives

As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, the following warrants and non-employee options to purchase common stock were considered derivatives and classified as current liabilities:

Issuance Date	Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Exercisable Date	Expiration Date	Fair Value at December 31, 2007
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					(In thousands)
Issuance Date	Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Exercisable Date	Expiration Date	Fair Value at December 31, 2006 (In thousands)
April 2005	\$ 7.95	351,852	April 2005	April 2010	\$ 338
March 2005	\$ 6.39	310,000	January 2007	March 2015	1,264
		661,852			\$ 1,602
December 2006(1)	\$ 0.01	1,576,686	December 2006	December 2008	\$ 13,829
December 2006(2)	\$ 8.00	1,875,000	December 2006	February 2007	2,342
December 2006(3)	\$ 10.21	3,000,000	June 2007	December 2010	15,035
April 2005	\$ 7.95	370,370	April 2005	April 2010	1,543
November 2004(3)	\$ 8.62	2,295,082	May 2005	November 2008	5,755
		9,117,138			\$ 38,504

(1) The warrants were fully exercised in May 2007.

(2) The warrants were fully exercised in February 2007.

(3) The warrants were modified in December 2007 by extending the expiration date and reducing the exercise price. See Note 8 on Stockholders' Equity.

We have issued certain warrants to purchase shares of our common stock in connection with equity financings pursuant to effective shelf registration statements, and the holders of such warrants have the right to exercise them for cash and to receive registered shares upon such exercise. In connection with the issuance of these warrants, we agreed to file timely any reports required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, to enable the delivery of registered shares upon exercise of these warrants. In order for a warrant to be classified as permanent equity under Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 00-19, "Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock," (Issue 00-19), the settlement of such warrant in shares must be within the company's control. Issue 00-19 states that the ability to make timely filings and, therefore, the delivery of registered shares, is not within the control of a company. As a result, Issue 00-19 presumes net-cash settlement, thus requiring these warrants to purchase shares of our common stock issued in connection with equity financings pursuant to effective shelf registration statements to be considered liabilities.

In March and July 2007, we amended certain warrant agreements to address the presumption under Issue 00-19 of net-cash settlement in the event that registered shares are not available to settle the warrants. The amendments enable the settlement of such warrants to be within the Company's control. In particular, the amendments: (i) preclude the warrant holders from exercising the warrants or require the warrant holders to exercise the warrants on a net-share settled basis to enable the issuance of shares that qualify for an exemption from registration under Section 3(a)(9) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, when there is no registration statement in effect with respect to the shares underlying the warrants; (ii) provide an explicit clarification that the warrants are not to be settled in cash; and (iii) provide that we shall use reasonable best efforts to maintain currently effective shelf registration statements, instead of requiring a commitment to maintain the effectiveness of currently effective shelf registration statements. On the effective date of these amendments, the change in fair value from the most recent reporting date to the effective date of the amendments was recorded in the consolidated statements of operations and the then-current fair value for the warrants of \$23,862,000 was reclassified from liabilities to equity. Any changes in fair value subsequent to these reclassifications shall not be recognized as long as the warrants continue to be classified as equity.

**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In 2007, net reclassification of \$1,888,000 from equity to liabilities has been included in our consolidated balance sheet to reflect non-employee options whose performance obligations were complete in accordance with liability classification criteria under Issue 00-19. Prior to completion of the performance obligations, we applied the provisions of EITF 96-18 in accounting for these options. As of December 31, 2007, the remaining fair value of warrants and non-employee stock options subject to liability classification under Issue 00-19 was \$1,602,000.

## **7. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

### **Operating Lease Commitment**

In March 2004, as payment of the total rent due for our premises at 200 Constitution Drive and 230 Constitution Drive in Menlo Park, California, for the period from February 1, 2004 through July 31, 2008, we issued to the lessor of those premises 363,039 shares of our common stock. The fair value of the common stock of \$3,052,000 was recorded as a prepaid asset and is being amortized to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease period.

In May 2007, as payment of the total rent due for our premises at 149 Commonwealth Drive in Menlo Park, California, for the period from May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2010, we issued 210,569 shares of our common stock to the lessor of those premises. The fair value of the common stock of \$1,573,000 has been recorded as a prepaid asset and is being amortized to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease period.

Future minimum payments under non-cancelable operating leases are zero through April 30, 2010, as a result of the prepayment of rent with our common stock. Rent expense under operating leases was approximately \$1,029,000, \$678,000 and \$678,000 for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

### **Severance Plan**

We have a Change of Control Severance Plan (the Severance Plan) that applies to all employees, and provides for each employee to receive a severance payment upon a triggering event following a change of control. A triggering event is defined as an event where (i) an employee is terminated by us without cause in connection with a change of control or within 12 months following a change of control; or (ii) an employee is not offered comparable employment (new or continuing) by us or our successor or acquirer within 30 days after the change of control or any employment offer is rejected; or (iii) after accepting (or continuing) employment with us after a change of control, an employee resigns within six months following a change of control due to a material change in the terms of employment. Severance payments range from two to 18 months of base salary, depending on the employee's position with us, payable in a lump sum payment. We have not made any payments under our Severance Plan.

### **Indemnifications to Officers and Directors**

Our corporate by-laws require that we indemnify our officers and directors, as well as those who act as directors and officers of other entities at our request, against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any proceedings arising out of their services to Geron. In addition, we have entered into separate indemnification agreements with each of our directors which provide for indemnification of these directors under similar circumstances and under additional circumstances. The indemnification obligations are more fully described in our by-laws and the indemnification agreements. We purchase standard insurance to cover claims or a portion of the claims made against our directors and officers. Since a maximum obligation is not explicitly stated in our by-laws or in our indemnification agreements and will depend on the facts and circumstances that arise out of any future claims, the overall maximum amount of the obligations cannot be reasonably estimated. Historically, we have not made payments related to these obligations, and the fair value of these obligations was zero on our consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2007 and 2006.

**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**8. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY****Warrants**

As of December 31, 2007, the following warrants to purchase our common stock were outstanding and classified as equity.

<b>Issuance Date</b>	<b>Exercise Price</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>	<b>Exercisable Date</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>
October 2007	\$ 7.42	25,000	October 2007	October 2012
September 2007	\$ 7.19	100,000	September 2007	September 2012
February 2007	\$ 7.50	1,125,000	June 2007	December 2011
December 2006	\$ 7.50	3,000,000	June 2007	December 2011
April 2005	\$ 3.75	470,000	April 2005	April 2015
November 2004	\$ 7.50	2,295,082	May 2005	November 2011
November 2004	\$ 6.12	25,000	November 2004	November 2009
September 2001	\$ 9.07	5,000	September 2001	September 2011
August 2001	\$ 14.60	100,000	August 2001	August 2011
August 2000	\$ 31.69	5,000	August 2000	August 2010
July 2000	\$ 6.75	25,000	July 2000	July 2010
March 2000	\$ 67.09	200,000	March 2000	March 2010
March 2000	\$ 12.50	100,000	March 2000	March 2010
October 1998	\$ 5.78	3,667	October 1998	October 2008
		7,478,749		

In February 2007 in exchange for the exercise of warrants to purchase 1,875,000 shares of common stock, we issued warrants to purchase 1,125,000 shares of common stock, at a premium, exercisable from June 2007. The new warrants (2007 D Warrants) were substantially the same as the 2006 A Warrants issued in the December 2006 financing and were issued to the same institutional investors who held the 2006 A Warrants. The aggregate fair value of \$3,661,000 for the 2007 D Warrants, as calculated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model, was recognized as a deemed dividend in the consolidated statements of operations.

In December 2007, we modified the terms of certain outstanding warrants by extending the exercise term and reducing the exercise price. The exercise term of the 2004 A Warrants to purchase 2,295,082 shares of common stock was extended to November 2011 and the exercise price was modified to \$7.50 per share. The exercise terms of the 2006 A Warrants to purchase 3,000,000 shares of common stock and 2007 D Warrants to purchase 1,125,000 shares of common stock were extended to December 2011 and the exercise prices were modified to \$7.50 per share. In connection with the modifications, we received \$3,630,000 in cash consideration from the institutional investors holding the outstanding warrants. We recognized a deemed dividend of \$5,420,000 in the consolidated statements of operations for the incremental fair value of the modified warrants, as calculated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model as of the modification date, net of the cash consideration received from the institutional investors for the modifications.

**1992 Stock Option Plan**

The 1992 Stock Option Plan (1992 Plan) expired in August 2002 and no further option grants can be made from the 1992 Plan. The options granted under the 1992 Plan were either incentive stock options or nonstatutory stock options. Options granted under the 1992 Plan expired no later than ten years from the date of grant. For incentive stock options and nonstatutory stock options, the option exercise price was at least 100% and 85%, respectively, of the fair market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. Options to purchase shares of common stock generally vested over a period of four or five years from the date of the option grant, with a portion vesting after six months and the remainder vesting ratably over the remaining period.



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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**2002 Equity Incentive Plan**

In May 2002, our stockholders approved the adoption of the 2002 Equity Incentive Plan (2002 Plan) to replace the 1992 Plan. Our Board of Directors administers the 2002 Plan. The 2002 Plan provides for grants to employees of us or of our subsidiary (including officers and employee directors) of either incentive stock or nonstatutory stock options and stock purchase rights to employees (including officers and employee directors) and consultants (including non-employee directors) of us or of our subsidiary. As of December 31, 2007, we had reserved 13,579,603 shares of common stock for issuance under the 2002 Plan. Options granted under the 2002 Plan expire no later than ten years from the date of grant. For incentive stock options, the option price shall be equal to 100% of the fair market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. All other stock option prices are determined by the administrator. If, at the time we grant an option, the optionee directly or by attribution owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock, the option price shall be at least 110% of the fair market value of the underlying common stock and shall not be exercisable more than five years after the date of grant.

Options to purchase shares of common stock generally vest over a period of four years from the date of the option grant, with a portion vesting after six months and the remainder vesting ratably over the remaining period. Stock purchase rights (restricted stock awards and restricted stock units) have variable vesting schedules and purchase prices as determined by the Board of Directors on the date of grant.

Under certain circumstances, options may be exercised prior to vesting, subject to our right to repurchase shares subject to such option at the exercise price paid per share. Our repurchase rights would generally terminate on a vesting schedule identical to the vesting schedule of the exercised option. In 2007, we repurchased 3,575 shares related to a restricted stock award for payroll tax withholdings. In 2006, we did not repurchase any shares. As of December 31, 2007, no shares outstanding were subject to repurchase.

**1996 Directors' Stock Option Plan**

The 1996 Directors' Stock Option Plan (1996 Directors Plan) expired in July 2006 and no further option grants can be made from the 1996 Directors Plan. The options granted under the 1996 Directors Plan were nonstatutory stock options and expired no later than ten years from the date of grant. The option exercise price was equal to the fair market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. Options to purchase shares of common stock generally were 100% vested upon grant, except for options granted upon first appointment to the Board of Directors (First Option). The First Option vested annually over three years upon each anniversary date of appointment to the Board. The options issued pursuant to the 1996 Directors Plan remain exercisable for up to 90 days following the optionee's termination of service as our director, unless such termination is a result of death or permanent and total disability, in which case the options (both those already exercisable and those that would have become exercisable had the director remained on the Board of Directors for an additional 36 months) remain exercisable for up to a 24 month period.

**2006 Directors' Stock Option Plan**

In May 2006, our stockholders approved the adoption of the 2006 Directors' Stock Option Plan (2006 Directors Plan) to replace the 1996 Directors Plan. As of December 31, 2007, we had reserved an aggregate of 2,500,000 shares of common stock for issuance under the 2006 Directors Plan. As of December 31, 2007, 163,750 options have been granted under the 2006 Directors Plan. The 2006 Directors Plan provides that each person who becomes a non-employee director after the effective date of the 2006 Directors Plan, whether by election by our stockholders or by appointment by the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy, will automatically be granted an option to purchase 45,000 shares of common stock on the date on which such person first becomes a non-employee director (First Option). In addition, non-employee directors (other than the Chairman of the Board of Directors) will automatically be granted a subsequent option on the date of the annual meeting of stockholders in each year during such director's service on the Board (Subsequent Option) to purchase 20,000 shares of common stock under the 2006 Directors Plan. In the case of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Subsequent Option is for 40,000 shares of common stock. We grant an option to purchase 2,500 shares to each

non-employee director (other than the Chairmen of such committees) on the date of each annual meeting during the director's service on the Audit Committee, Nominating Committee or Compensation Committee (Committee Service Option).

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Committee Service Option for the Chairman of the Audit Committee is for 10,000 shares of common stock and the Nominating and Compensation Committee Chairmen each receive an option to purchase 5,000 shares of common stock.

The 2006 Directors Plan provides that each First Option granted thereunder becomes exercisable in installments cumulatively as to one-third of the shares subject to the First Option on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant of the First Option. Each Subsequent Option and Committee Service Option is fully vested on the date of its grant. The options issued pursuant to the 2006 Directors Plan remain exercisable for up to 90 days following the optionee's termination of service as our director, unless such termination is a result of death or permanent and total disability, in which case the options (both those already exercisable and those that would have become exercisable had the director remained on the Board of Directors for an additional 36 months) remain exercisable for up to a 24 month period.

The exercise price of all stock options granted under the 2006 Directors Plan is equal to 100% of the fair market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. Options granted under the 2006 Directors Plan have a term of ten years.

Aggregate option activity for the 1992 Plan, 2002 Plan, 1996 Directors Plan and 2006 Directors Plan is as follows:

	Shares		Weighted Average Exercise Price  Per Share	Outstanding Options	
	Available For Grant	Number of Shares		Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (In years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (In thousands)
Balance at December 31, 2004	4,922,606	6,567,270	\$ 8.15		
Additional shares authorized	2,000,000	□	\$ □		
Options granted	(1,793,117)	1,793,117	\$ 6.70		
Awards granted	(157,199)	□	\$ □		
Options exercised	□	(431,236)	\$ 4.81		
Options canceled/forfeited	142,444	(142,444)	\$ 9.46		
1992 Plan options expired	(67,278)	□	\$ □		
Balance at December 31, 2005	5,047,456	7,786,707	\$ 7.98		\$ 4,529
Additional shares authorized	4,500,000	□	\$ □		
Options granted	(1,904,558)	1,904,558	\$ 6.87		
Awards granted	(249,563)	□	\$ □		
Options exercised	□	(243,625)	\$ 4.89		
Options canceled/forfeited	441,194	(441,194)	\$ 9.17		
1992 Plan and 1996 Directors Plan options expired	(107,913)	□	\$ □		
Balance at December 31, 2006	7,726,616	9,006,446	\$ 7.77		\$ 18,290
Additional shares authorized	2,000,000	□	\$ □		
Options granted	(1,674,759)	1,674,759	\$ 8.29		
Awards granted	(2,170,882)	□	\$ □		

Options exercised		(282,597)	\$ 5.95		
Options canceled/forfeited	387,872	(387,872)	\$ 9.15		
Awards canceled/repurchased	19,900		\$		
1992 Plan and 1996 Directors					
Plan options expired	(129,892)		\$		
Balance at December 31, 2007	6,158,855	10,010,736	\$ 7.86	5.93	\$ 2,596
Options exercisable at					
December 31, 2007		7,308,554	\$ 7.98	4.90	\$ 2,596
Options fully vested and expected to vest at December 31, 2007		9,657,225	\$ 7.86	5.82	\$ 2,596

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The aggregate intrinsic value in the preceding table represents the total intrinsic value, based on Geron's closing stock price of \$5.68 per share as of December 31, 2007, which would have been received by the option holders had all the option holders exercised their options as of that date.

There were no options granted with an exercise price below fair market value of our common stock on the date of grant for 2007, 2006 and 2005. In 2007, there were 6,000 options granted to employees with an exercise price greater than grant date fair market value with a weighted average exercise price of \$7.48 per share. There were no options granted with an exercise price greater than grant date fair market value in 2006. There were 340,000 options granted to consultants with an exercise price greater than the grant date fair market value of our common stock in 2005 with a weighted average exercise price of \$6.39 per share. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, there were 7,308,554 and 6,438,557 exercisable options outstanding at weighted average exercise prices per share of \$7.98 and \$8.11, respectively.

The total pretax intrinsic value of stock options exercised during 2007 and 2006 was \$741,000 and \$776,000, respectively. Cash received from the exercise of options in 2007 and 2006 totaled \$1,681,000 and \$1,190,000, respectively. No income tax benefit was realized from stock options exercised in 2007 since we reported an operating loss.

Information about stock options outstanding as of December 31, 2007 is as follows:

Exercise Price Range	Number	Options Outstanding	
		Weighted Average Exercise Price Per Share	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (In years)
\$ 1.83-\$ 4.75	1,529,806	\$ 4.22	2.76
\$ 4.76-\$ 6.40	2,185,851	\$ 6.00	6.87
\$ 6.41-\$ 7.57	2,746,043	\$ 7.06	7.99
\$ 7.58-\$ 11.07	2,463,924	\$ 9.10	6.23
\$ 11.08-\$ 41.13	1,085,112	\$ 15.92	2.58
\$ 1.83-\$ 41.13	10,010,736	\$ 7.86	5.93

Aggregate restricted stock activity for the 2002 Plan is as follows:

**Weighted Average**                      **Weighted Average**

	Shares	Grant Date Fair Value Per Share	Remaining Contractual Term (In years)
Non-vested restricted stock at December 31, 2005	0	\$ 0	0
Granted	249,563	\$ 8.29	0
Vested	(209,563)	\$ 8.42	0
Canceled/forfeited	0	\$ 0	0
Non-vested restricted stock at December 31, 2006	40,000	\$ 7.57	1.54
Granted	2,170,882	\$ 8.64	0
Vested	(642,903)	\$ 7.49	0
Canceled/forfeited	(16,325)	\$ 9.32	0
Non-vested restricted stock at December 31, 2007	1,551,654	\$ 9.08	1.05

The total fair value of restricted stock that vested during 2007 and 2006 was \$4,820,000 and \$1,765,000, respectively.

### Employee Stock Purchase Plan

In July 1996, we adopted the 1996 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Purchase Plan) and as of December 31, 2007, we had reserved an aggregate of 600,000 shares of common stock for issuance under the Purchase Plan. Approximately 379,000 and 325,000 shares have been issued under the Purchase Plan as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, 221,269 shares were available for issuance under the Purchase Plan.

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## GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Under the terms of the Purchase Plan, employees can choose to have up to 10% of their annual salary withheld to purchase our common stock. An employee may not make additional payments into such account or increase the withholding percentage during the offering period.

The Purchase Plan is comprised of a series of offering periods, each with a maximum duration (not to exceed 12 months) with new offering periods commencing on January 1 and July 1 of each year. The date an employee enters the offering period will be designated his or her entry date for purposes of that offering period. An employee may only participate in one offering period at a time. Each offering period consists of two consecutive purchase periods of six months duration, with the last day of such period designated a purchase date.

The purchase price per share at which common stock is purchased by the employee on each purchase date within the offering period is equal to 85% of the lower of (i) the fair market value per share of Geron common stock on the employee's entry date into that offering period or (ii) the fair market value per share of common stock on that purchase date. If the fair market value of Geron common stock on the purchase date is less than the fair market value at the beginning of the offering period, a new 12 month offering period will automatically begin on the first business day following the purchase date with a new fair market value.

### Valuation and Expense Information Under SFAS 123R

On January 1, 2006, we adopted SFAS 123R, which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors, including employee stock options, restricted stock awards and employee stock purchases related to the Purchase Plan, based on estimated grant-date fair values.

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The following table summarizes the stock-based compensation expense related to share-based payment awards under SFAS 123R for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 which was allocated as follows:

	<b>Year Ended</b>	
	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(In Thousands)</b>	
Research and development	\$ 6,064	\$ 2,310
General and administrative	5,303	2,056
Stock-based compensation expense included in operating expenses	\$ 11,367	\$ 4,366

The fair value of options granted in fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005 reported above has been estimated at the date of grant using the Black Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%
Expected volatility range	0.737 to 0.774	0.783 to 0.824	0.840 to 0.893
Risk-free interest rate range	3.40% to 5.05%	4.28% to 5.14%	3.47% to 4.43%
Expected term	5 yrs	5 yrs	4 yrs to 5 yrs

The fair value of the employee stock purchases under the Purchase Plan has been estimated using the Black Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%
Expected volatility range	0.419 to 0.471	0.392 to 0.544	0.523 to 0.616
Risk-free interest rate range	4.97% to 5.26%	3.51% to 5.31%	3.10% to 4.38%
Expected term	6 mos to 12 mos	6 mos to 12 mos	6 mos

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Expected volatilities are based on historical volatilities of our stock since traded options on Geron stock do not correspond to option terms and trading volume of options is limited. The expected term of options is derived from actual historical exercise data and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The expected term of employees' purchase rights under the Purchase Plan is equal to the purchase period. The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. Zero Coupon Treasury Strip Yields for the expected term in effect on the date of grant. We grant options under our equity plans to employees, non-employee directors, and consultants for whom the vesting period is generally four years.

As stock-based compensation expense recognized in the consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, it has been reduced for estimated forfeitures but at a minimum, reflects the grant-date fair value of those awards that actually vested in the period. SFAS 123R requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. Forfeitures were estimated based on historical experience. In the pro forma information required under SFAS 123 for periods prior to January 1, 2006, forfeitures were accounted for as they occurred.

Based on the Black Scholes option-pricing model, the weighted average estimated fair value of employee stock options granted during the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 was \$5.37 and \$4.64 per share,

respectively. The weighted average estimated fair value of purchase rights under our Purchase Plan for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 was \$2.34 and \$2.14 per share, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, total compensation cost related to unvested stock awards not yet recognized was \$21,010,000, net of estimated forfeitures, which is expected to be recognized over the next 17 months on a weighted-average basis.

#### Pro Forma Information Under SFAS 123 Prior to 2006

Prior to January 1, 2006, Geron followed the disclosure-only provisions of SFAS 123. The following table illustrates the effect on net loss and net loss per share for the year ended December 31, 2005 if the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 had been applied to stock-based awards using the Black Scholes option-pricing model. The assumptions used to value employee stock options and employees' purchase rights are listed above.

For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of the options is amortized over the vesting period of the options using the straight-line method. We accounted for forfeitures as they occurred. If we had recognized the expense of stock-based awards to employees and directors in our consolidated statements of operations, additional paid-in capital would have increased by the corresponding amount. Pro forma information previously reported prior to the adoption of SFAS 123R was as follows:

	<b>Year Ended December 31, 2005 (In thousands, except per share amounts)</b>
Net loss	\$ (33,689)
Deduct:	
Stock-based compensation expense determined under SFAS 123	(4,756)
Pro forma net loss	\$ (38,445)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.58)
Basic and diluted pro forma net loss per share	\$ (0.66)

Based on the Black Scholes option-pricing model, the weighted average estimated fair value of employee stock options granted during the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$6.77 per share. The weighted average estimated fair value of purchase rights under our Purchase Plan for the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$2.62 per share.

The total pretax intrinsic value of stock options exercised during 2005 was \$2,041,000. The total fair value of restricted stock that vested during 2005 was \$1,365,000.

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### **GERON CORPORATION NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **Stock-Based Compensation to Service Providers**

We grant options and warrants to consultants from time to time in exchange for services performed for us. In general, these options vest over the contractual period of the consulting arrangement and warrants are fully vested on the grant date. We granted options and warrants to consultants to purchase 125,000, 3,448 and 817,682 shares of our common stock in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The fair value of these options and warrants is being amortized to expense over the vesting term of the options and warrants. In addition, we will record any additional increase in the fair value of the option or warrant as the options and warrants vest. We recorded expense of \$1,466,000, \$606,000 and \$3,277,000 for the fair value of these options and warrants in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. As of December 31, 2007, the total fair value of options and warrants granted to consultants has been fully amortized.

We also grant common stock to consultants, vendors, board members and research institutions in exchange for services either performed or to be performed for us. In 2007, 2006 and 2005, we issued 1,169,823, 539,689 and 262,413 shares of common stock, respectively, in exchange for goods or services. For these stock grants, we recorded a prepaid asset equal to the fair market value of the granted shares on the date of grant and amortize to expense on a pro-rata basis as services are performed. In 2007, 2006 and 2005, we recognized approximately \$6,304,000, \$3,594,000 and \$3,002,000, respectively, of expense in connection with stock grants to consultants, vendors, board members and research institutions. As of December 31, 2007, \$2,070,000 related to vendor stock grants remained as a prepaid asset which is being amortized to research and development expense on a pro-rata basis as services are incurred under contract manufacturing agreements for our telomerase inhibition and telomerase vaccine programs. Also, we have prepaid our rental obligation for our facilities with common stock and as of December 31, 2007, have a prepaid balance of \$1,619,000 which is being amortized to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the leases to April 30, 2010.

### Common Stock Reserved for Future Issuance

Common stock reserved for future issuance as of December 31, 2007 is as follows:

Outstanding stock options	10,010,736
Options and awards available for grant	6,158,855
Employee stock purchase plan	221,269
Warrants outstanding	7,830,601
Total	24,221,461

### Share Purchase Rights Plan

On July 20, 2001, our Board of Directors adopted a share purchase rights plan and declared a dividend distribution of one right for each outstanding share of common stock to stockholders of record as of July 31, 2001. Each right entitles the holder to purchase one unit consisting of one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock for \$100 per unit. Under certain circumstances, if a person or group acquires 15% or more of our outstanding common stock, holders of the rights (other than the person or group triggering their exercise) will be able to purchase, in exchange for the \$100 exercise price, shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, or of any company into which we are merged having a value of \$200. The rights expire on July 31, 2011 unless extended by our Board of Directors. As of December 31, 2007, no rights were exercisable into any shares of common stock.

### 401(k) Plan

We sponsor a defined-contribution savings plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code covering all full-time U.S. employees (Geron 401K Plan). Participating employees may contribute up to the annual Internal Revenue Service contribution limit. The Geron 401K Plan also permits us to provide discretionary matching and profit sharing contributions. The Geron 401K Plan is intended to qualify under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code so that contributions by employees or by us, and income earned on the contributions, are not taxable to employees until withdrawn from the Geron 401K Plan. Our contributions, if any, will be deductible by us when made. At the direction of each participant, the assets of the Geron 401K Plan are invested in any of 14 different investment options.

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**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In December 2007, 2006 and 2005, our Board of Directors approved a matching contribution equal to 100% of each employee's 2007, 2006 and 2005 contributions, respectively. The matching contributions are invested in our common stock and vest ratably over four years for each year of service completed by the employee, commencing from the date of hire, until it is fully vested when the employee has completed four years of service. We provided the matching contribution in the month following Board approval.

For the vested portion of the 2007 match under this plan, we recorded \$570,000 as research and development expense and \$70,000 as general and administrative expense. For the vested portion of the 2006 match under this plan, we recorded \$432,000 as research and development expense and \$61,000 as general and administrative expense. As of December 31, 2007, approximately \$241,000 remains unvested for the 2006, 2005 and 2004 matches.

## 9. COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS

In July 2005, we entered into a Research, Development and Commercialization License Agreement (RDCLA) with Merck & Co., Inc. We received an upfront non-refundable license payment of \$2,500,000 for the grant of an exclusive worldwide license for the use of telomerase in non-dendritic cell cancer vaccines, which was recognized as license fee revenue over two years on a straight-line basis. We also received \$1,000,000 for an exclusive option, to be exercised within two years, to negotiate a separate agreement covering our dendritic cell-based vaccine. We recognized revenue from the option payment over the two-year option period on a straight-line basis. As of December 31, 2007, the option has expired.

We also issued to Merck a warrant to purchase \$18,000,000 of our common stock at an exercise price equal to the per share price of our next underwritten public offering. Merck fully exercised this warrant concurrently with the closing of our underwritten public offering in September 2005.

In 2007, we received \$5,000,000 in milestone payments from Merck under the terms of the RDCLA. We recognized the milestone payments as license fee revenue in our consolidated statements of operations.

## 10. INCOME TAXES

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. Significant components of our deferred tax assets as of December 31 are as follows:

	2007	2006
	(In thousands)	
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 138,500	\$ 122,500
Purchased technology	13,800	15,000
Research credits	22,800	19,800
Capitalized research and development	13,100	11,300
License fees	2,800	2,800
Other <input type="checkbox"/> net	8,500	5,200
Total deferred tax assets	199,500	176,600
Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	(199,500)	(176,600)
Net deferred tax assets	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>

In accordance with SFAS 109, we record net deferred tax assets to the extent we believe these assets will more likely than not be realized. In making such determination, we consider all available positive and negative evidence, including scheduled reversals of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, tax planning strategies and recent financial performance. SFAS 109 further states that forming a conclusion that a valuation allowance is not required is difficult when there is negative evidence such as cumulative losses in recent years. Because of our history of losses, the net deferred tax assets have been fully offset by a valuation allowance. The valuation allowance increased by \$22,900,000, \$18,100,000 and \$17,600,000 during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Approximately \$5,100,000 of the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets relates to benefits of stock option deductions which, when recognized, will be allocated directly to contributed capital.



**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

As of December 31, 2007, we had domestic federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$361,900,000 expiring at various dates beginning 2008 through 2027, and state net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$114,500,000 expiring at various dates beginning 2012 through 2017, if not utilized. Our foreign net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$34,800,000 carry forward indefinitely. We also had federal research and development tax credit carryforwards of approximately \$14,000,000 expiring at various dates beginning in 2008 through 2027, if not utilized. Our state research and development tax credit carryforwards of approximately \$13,000,000 carry forward indefinitely.

Due to the change of ownership provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, utilization of a portion of our domestic net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards may be limited in future periods. Further, a portion of the carryforwards may expire before being applied to reduce future income tax liabilities.

On January 1, 2007, we adopted the provisions of FIN 48. At the date of adoption, we had no unrecognized tax benefits. We do not currently expect any significant changes to unrecognized tax benefits during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. In certain cases, our uncertain tax positions are related to tax years that remain subject to examination by the relevant tax authorities. We file U.S., state, and foreign income tax returns in jurisdictions with varying statutes of limitations. The 2004 through 2007 tax years generally remain subject to examination by federal and most state tax authorities. In significant foreign jurisdictions, primarily Scotland and Hong Kong, the 2001 through 2007 tax years generally remain subject to examination by their respective tax authorities.

## 11. SEGMENT INFORMATION

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information" (SFAS 131) establishes standards for reporting information regarding operating segments in annual financial statements and requires selected information for those segments to be presented in interim financial reports issued to stockholders. SFAS 131 also establishes standards for related disclosures about products and services and geographic areas. Operating segments are identified as components of an enterprise about which separate discrete financial information is available for evaluation by the chief operating decision maker, or decision making group, in making decisions how to allocate resources and assess performance. Our executive management team represents our chief decision maker, as defined under SFAS 131. To date, we have viewed our operations as principally one segment, the discovery and development of therapeutic and diagnostic products for oncology and human embryonic stem cell therapies. As a result, the financial information disclosed herein materially represents all of the financial information related to our principal operating segment.

**GERON CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## 12. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS DATA

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
	(In thousands)		
<b>Supplemental information:</b>			
Interest paid	\$ 0	\$ 1	\$ 11
<b>Supplemental operating activities:</b>			
Cash in transit	\$ 7	\$ 49	\$ 18
Issuance of warrants to purchase common stock and common stock issued for prepaid and prior year services	\$ 5,121	\$ 1,737	\$ 1,019
Unrealized (loss) gain on equity investments	\$ (9)	\$ 10	\$ 168
Reclassification between derivative liabilities and equity	\$ 21,974	\$ 1,002	\$ 5,287

Issuance of common stock for 401(k) contributions and year-end bonuses	\$ 3,590	\$ 1,866	\$ 1,576
<b>Supplemental investing activities:</b>			
Net unrealized gain (loss) on available-for-sale securities	\$ 244	\$ 281	\$ (6)
<b>Supplemental financing activities:</b>			
Deemed dividend on derivatives	\$ 9,081	\$ □	\$ □

Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 was none, \$14,000 and \$257,000, respectively.

### 13. SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)			
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2007</b>				
Revenues	\$ 916	\$ 889	\$ 1,130	\$ 4,687
Operating expenses	17,318	17,655	16,465	19,023
Net income (loss)	1,167	(13,985)	(12,834)	(11,045)
Deemed dividend on derivatives	(3,661)	□	□	(5,420)
Net loss applicable to common stockholders	(2,494)	(13,985)	(12,834)	(16,465)
Basic and diluted net loss per share applicable to common stockholders	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.17)	\$ (0.22)
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2006</b>				
Revenues	\$ 583	\$ 786	\$ 723	\$ 1,185
Operating expenses	11,445	12,194	12,817	14,181
Net loss	(4,928)	(5,261)	(8,053)	(13,123)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.20)

Basic and diluted net losses per share are computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of the quarters may not be equal to the full year net loss per share amounts.

### ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Not Applicable.

### ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### (I) EVALUATION OF DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (Exchange Act) is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) rules and forms. Our management evaluated, with the participation of our chief executive officer (CEO) and our chief financial officer (CFO), the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as

such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act. Based on that evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective, at a reasonable assurance level, as of December 31, 2007 and as of the date of this filing.

There have been no significant changes in Geron's internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2007.

## **(II) MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Internal control over financial reporting refers to the process designed by, or under the supervision of, our CEO and CFO, and effected by our board of directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and includes those policies and procedures that:

- (1) Pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company;
- (2) Provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and
- (3) Provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate internal control over financial reporting for the Company. Internal control over financial reporting cannot provide absolute assurance of achieving financial reporting objectives because of its inherent limitations. Internal control over financial reporting is a process that involves human diligence and compliance and is subject to lapses in judgment and breakdowns resulting from human failures. Internal control over financial reporting also can be circumvented by collusion or improper management override. Because of such limitations, there is a risk that material misstatements may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis by internal control over financial reporting. However, these inherent limitations are known features of the financial reporting process. Therefore, it is possible to design into the process safeguards to reduce, though not eliminate, this risk.

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework set forth in "Internal Control - Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on our evaluation under the framework set forth in "Internal Control - Integrated Framework," our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as

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of December 31, 2007. The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007 has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein.

THOMAS B. OKARMA  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

DAVID L. GREENWOOD  
*Executive Vice President  
Chief Financial Officer*

**(III) ATTESTATION REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Geron Corporation

We have audited Geron Corporation's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Geron Corporation's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included above under the caption Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Geron Corporation maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Geron Corporation as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007 of Geron Corporation and our report dated February 27, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Palo Alto, California  
February 27, 2008

## **ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### **IDENTIFICATION OF DIRECTORS**

The information required by this Item concerning our directors is incorporated by reference from the section captioned "Proposal 1: Election of Directors" contained in our Definitive Proxy Statement related to the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held May 28, 2008, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Proxy Statement).

### **IDENTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The information required by this Item concerning our executive officers is set forth in Part I of this Report.

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

We have adopted a Code of Conduct with which every person who works for Geron is expected to comply. The Code of Conduct is publicly available on our website under the "Investor Relations" section at [www.geron.com](http://www.geron.com). This website address is intended to be an inactive, textual reference only; none of the material on this website is part of this report. If any substantive amendments are made to the Code of Conduct or any waiver granted, including any implicit waiver, from a provision of the Code to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or Corporate Controller, we will disclose the nature of such amendment or waiver on that website or in a report on Form 8-K.

Copies of the Code of Conduct will be furnished without charge to any person who submits a written request directed to the attention of our Secretary, at our offices located at 230 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, California, 94025.

### **SECTION 16(a) COMPLIANCE**

Information concerning Section 16(a) beneficial ownership reporting compliance is incorporated by reference from the section captioned "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance," contained in the Proxy Statement.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference from the section captioned "Audit Committee Report" contained in the Proxy Statement.

## **ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference from the sections captioned "Certain Transactions," "Executive Compensation" and "Compensation Committee Report" contained in the Proxy Statement.

## **ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference from the sections captioned "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management" and "Equity Compensation Plans" contained in the Proxy Statement.

## **ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE**

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference from the sections captioned "Certain Transactions" and "Executive Compensation" contained in the Proxy Statement.

#### ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference from the section captioned "Principal Accountant Fees and Services" contained in the Proxy Statement.

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### PART IV

#### ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

##### (a) (1) CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Included in Part II, Item 8 of this Report:

	<b>Page</b>
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	44
Consolidated Balance Sheets " December 31, 2007 and 2006	45
Consolidated Statements of Operations " Years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005	46
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity " Years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005	47
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows " Years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005	48
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	49

##### (2) FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

Financial statement schedules are omitted because they are not required or the information is disclosed in the financial statements listed in Item 15(a)(1) above.

##### (3) EXHIBITS

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1(1)	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.2(2)	Certificate of Amendment of Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.3(3)	Bylaws of Registrant
4.1(1)	Form of Common Stock Certificate
4.2(4)	Rights Agreement, dated as of July 20, 2001, by and between the Registrant and U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation, as Rights Agent, which includes the form of Certification of Designations of the Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of the Registrant as Exhibit A, the form of Right Certificate as Exhibit B and the Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Shares as Exhibit C
4.3(5)	Form of Indenture
4.4(6)	Form of Indenture
4.5(7)	Form of Subordinated Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.6(8)	Form of Senior Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.7(9)	Form of Subordinated Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.8(10)	Warrant to purchase 100,000 shares of common stock issued by Registrant to private investor, Eve M. Patton dated March 9, 2000
4.9(11)	Warrant to purchase 200,000 shares of common stock issued by Registrant to private investor, Eve M. Patton dated March 9, 2000
4.10(12)	Common Stock Warrant Agreement issued by the Registrant to University Technology Corporation, dated as of August 30, 2001
4.11(13)	Form of Warrant, issued by the Registrant to certain purchasers, dated April 22, 2005
4.12	

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	Form of A Warrant, Amended and Restated, dated December 21, 2007 issued by the Registrant to certain Purchasers
4.13	Form of A Warrant, Amended and Restated, dated December 21, 2007 issued by the Registrant to certain Purchasers
4.14	Form of D Warrant, Amended and Restated, dated December 21, 2007 issued by the Registrant to certain Purchasers
10.1(1)	Form of Indemnification Agreement

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10.2(14)	1992 Stock Option Plan, as amended
10.3(15)	1996 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as amended
10.4(16)	1996 Directors' Stock Option Plan, as amended
10.5(17)	Amended and Restated 2002 Equity Incentive Plan
10.6(18)	Amended and Restated 2006 Directors' Stock Option Plan
10.7(1)□	Patent License Agreement dated September 8, 1992 between the Registrant and University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
10.8(19)□	Intellectual Property License Agreement dated December 9, 1996 between the Registrant and University Technology Corporation
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- 10.31(41) ☐ Contribution and License Agreement dated April 5, 2005 between the Registrant, Start Licensing, Inc. and Exeter Life Sciences, Inc.
- 10.32(42) ☐ Research, Development and Commercialization License Agreement dated July 15, 2005 between the Registrant and Merck & Co., Inc.

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- 14.1(43) Code of Conduct
- 21.1 List of Subsidiaries
- 23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- 24.1 Power of Attorney (see signature page)
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- Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 of the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 15, 2000.
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- (15) Incorporated by reference to Appendix C of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on April 7, 2003.
- (16) Incorporated by reference to Appendix B of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement filed on April 15, 2003.

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- (17) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on April 30, 2007.
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- (38) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 filed with the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on July 31, 2007.
- (39) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 filed with the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on July 31, 2007.

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- (40) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 filed with the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on April 29, 2005.
  - (41) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 filed with the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on April 29, 2005.
  - (42) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 filed with the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on August 5, 2005.
  - (43) Incorporated by reference to identically numbered exhibit of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on February 27, 2004.

**(b) REPORTS ON FORM 8-K**

None

**(c) INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

See Exhibits listed under Item 15(a)(3) above.

**(d) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULES**

The financial statement schedules required by this Item are listed under Item 15(a)(1) and (2) above.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Menlo Park, State of California, on the 28th day of February, 2008.

Geron Corporation

By: /S/ THOMAS B. OKARMA  
 THOMAS B. OKARMA  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW BY ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints, jointly and severally, Thomas B. Okarma and David L. Greenwood, and each one of them, attorneys-in-fact for the undersigned, each with the power of substitution, for the undersigned in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this annual report on Form 10-K, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each of said attorneys-in-fact, or his substitutes, may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has executed this Power of Attorney as of the date indicated opposite his/her name.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>/s/ THOMAS B. OKARMA</u> THOMAS B. OKARMA	<i>President, Chief Executive Officer and Director</i> <i>(Principal Executive Officer)</i>	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ DAVID L. GREENWOOD</u> DAVID L. GREENWOOD	<i>Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer,</i> <i>Treasurer and Secretary</i> <i>(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)</i>	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ ALEXANDER E. BARKAS</u> ALEXANDER E. BARKAS	<i>Director</i>	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ EDWARD V. FRITZKY</u> EDWARD V. FRITZKY	<i>Director</i>	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ CHARLES J. HOMCY</u> CHARLES J. HOMCY	<i>Director</i>	February 28, 2008

<u>/s/ THOMAS D. KILEY</u> THOMAS D. KILEY	Director	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ JOHN P. WALKER</u> JOHN P. WALKER	Director	February 28, 2008
<u>/s/ PATRICK J. ZENNER</u> PATRICK J. ZENNER	Director	February 28, 2008

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1(1)	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.2(2)	Certificate of Amendment of Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.3(3)	Bylaws of Registrant
4.1(1)	Form of Common Stock Certificate
4.2(4)	Rights Agreement, dated as of July 20, 2001, by and between the Registrant and U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation, as Rights Agent, which includes the form of Certification of Designations of the Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of the Registrant as Exhibit A, the form of Right Certificate as Exhibit B and the Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Shares as Exhibit C
4.3(5)	Form of Indenture
4.4(6)	Form of Indenture
4.5(7)	Form of Subordinated Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.6(8)	Form of Senior Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.7(9)	Form of Subordinated Indenture, between the Registrant and one or more trustees to be named
4.8(10)	Warrant to purchase 100,000 shares of common stock issued by Registrant to private investor, Eve M. Patton dated March 9, 2000
4.9(11)	Warrant to purchase 200,000 shares of common stock issued by Registrant to private investor, Eve M. Patton dated March 9, 2000
4.10(12)	Common Stock Warrant Agreement issued by the Registrant to University Technology Corporation, dated as of August 30, 2001
4.11(13)	Form of Warrant, issued by the Registrant to certain purchasers, dated April 22, 2005
4.12	Form of A Warrant, Amended and Restated, dated December 21, 2007 issued by the Registrant to certain Purchasers
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10.3(15)	1996 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as amended
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