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ACUCELA TO PRESENT AT BIO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

BOTHELL, WA—June 12, 2008—Acucela Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on developing therapies for blinding eye diseases, today announced that Ryo Kubota, M.D., Ph.D., Acucela's chief executive officer, will present next week at the BIO Business Forum during the 2008 BIO International Convention to be held in San Diego, California from June 17-20. Dr. Kubota will present at 2:00 p.m. PT on June 17th in room 5A, and will provide the audience with an overview of Acucela and its activities including its recently initiated clinical trial for age-related macular degeneration.

"The BIO International Convention provides an excellent venue for us to talk about Acucela to many different audiences and to discuss the encouraging data that we have observed to date in our programs for multiple blinding eye diseases, including our clinical-stage program for age-related macular degeneration," stated Dr. Kubota. "Our mission is to develop therapies which prevent blindness, so we are working to develop safer, more efficacious therapies for multiple eye diseases that target large unmet needs."

About Acucela

Acucela Inc. is focused on developing new drug therapies for eye diseases, and particularly neurodegenerative retinal diseases such as macular degeneration. The company has proprietary disease-specific assays and technologies to identify and develop compounds that may safely and effectively treat retinal diseases. The company's novel approaches have significant therapeutic potential to treat retinal diseases such as Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and Stargardt disease. The Bothell-based, privately-held, biotechnology company was founded in 2002. For more information, please visit <http://www.acucela.com>.

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