

# AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

CHELSEA THERAPEUTICS INTERNATIONAL, LTD.  
Re-approved by the Board of Directors: April 10, 2008

## PURPOSE AND POLICY

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee (the “*Committee*”) of Chelsea Therapeutics International, Ltd. (the “*Company*”) shall be to act on behalf of the Company’s Board of Directors (the “*Board*”) in fulfilling the Board’s oversight responsibilities with respect to

1. The Company’s corporate accounting and financial reporting processes,
2. The systems of internal control over financial reporting,
3. Audits of the financial statements,
4. The quality and integrity of the Company’s financial statements and reports,
5. The qualifications, independence and performance of the registered public accounting firm or firms engaged as the Company’s auditors for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing audit services (the “*Auditors*”), and
6. Provide oversight assistance with the Corporate Governance Committee in connection with the Company’s legal, regulatory and ethical compliance programs related to financial issues as established by management and the board.

The policy of the Committee, in discharging these obligations, shall be to maintain and foster an open avenue of communication among the Committee and the Auditors and the Company’s financial management.

## COMPOSITION

The Committee shall consist of a minimum of three members of the Board. Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board and may be removed by the Board in its sole discretion. The Board shall appoint the Chairman of the Committee. The members of the Committee shall satisfy the independence and financial literacy requirements of the national market on which the Company’s stock is listed (currently NASDAQ) applicable to Committee members as in effect from time to time when and as required. At least one member shall be an audit committee financial expert as required under the SEC and other requirements as in effect from time to time.

## PROCECURES, MEETINGS AND MINUTES

The Chairman (or in his or her absence, a member designated by the Chairman) shall preside at all meetings of the Committee.

The Committee shall hold such regular or special meetings, as its members shall deem necessary or appropriate. Minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be prepared and distributed to each director of the Company and the Secretary of the Company promptly after each meeting. The Chairman of the Committee shall report to the Board from time to time, or whenever requested by the Board.

### **AUTHORITY**

The Committee shall have authority to appoint, determine compensation for, and at the expense of the Company, retain and oversee the Auditors, as set forth in Section 10A(m)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules there under and otherwise to fulfill its responsibilities under this charter. The Committee shall also have full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company as deemed necessary or appropriate by any member of the Committee to discharge his or her responsibilities hereunder. The Committee shall have authority to retain, at the Company's expense, special legal, accounting or other advisors or consultants as it deems necessary in the performance of its duties. The Committee shall also have authority to pay, at the expense of the Company, ordinary administrative expenses that, as determined by the Committee, are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties. The Committee shall have authority to require that any of the Company's personnel, counsel, accountants (including the Auditors) or investment bankers, or any other consultant or advisor to the Company attend any meeting of the Committee or meet with any member of the Committee or any of its special legal, accounting or other advisors and consultants.

The Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees as appropriate. The operation of the Committee shall be subject to the Bylaws of the Company as in effect from time to time and applicable state law. The approval of this charter by the Board shall be construed as delegation of authority to the Committee with respect to the responsibilities set forth herein.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Committee shall oversee the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board, shall have direct responsibility for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of the Auditors and any other registered public accounting firm engaged for the purpose of performing other review or attest services for the Company. The Auditors and each such other registered public accounting firm shall report directly and be accountable to the Committee. The Committee's functions and procedures should remain flexible to address changing circumstances most effectively. It shall be the responsibility of management to prepare the Company's financial statements and periodic reports and the responsibility of the Auditors to audit those financial statements. These functions shall not be the responsibility of the Committee, nor shall it be the Committee's responsibility to ensure that the financial statements or periodic reports are complete and accurate, conform to generally accepted accounting principles ("**GAAP**") or otherwise comply with applicable laws.

To implement the Committee's purpose and policy, the Committee shall be charged with the following functions and processes with the understanding, however, that the Committee may supplement or (except as otherwise required by applicable laws or rules) deviate from these activities as appropriate under the circumstances:

1. ***Appointment of Auditor and Oversee the Auditing Function***
  - a. **Evaluation and Retention of Auditors.** To evaluate the performance of the Auditors, to assess their qualifications (including their internal quality-control procedures and any material issues raised by that firm's most recent internal quality-control or peer review or any investigations by regulatory authorities) and to determine whether to retain or to terminate the existing Auditors or to appoint and engage new auditors for the ensuing year.
  - b. ***Approval of Audit Engagements.*** To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors, prior to commencement of such engagements, to perform all proposed audit, review and attest services, including the scope of the plans for audit, the adequacy of staffing, the compensation to be paid to the Auditors and the negotiation and execution, on behalf of the Company, of the Auditors' engagement letters, which approval may be pursuant to pre-approval policies and procedures established by the Committee consistent with applicable laws and rules, including the delegation of pre-approval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such pre-approval decisions are presented to the full committee at the next meeting.
  - c. ***Approval of Non-Audit Services.*** To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors, prior to commencement of such engagements (unless in compliance with exceptions available under applicable laws and rules), to perform any proposed permissible non-audit services, including the scope of the service and the compensation to be paid therefore, which approval may be pursuant to pre-approval policies and procedures established by the Committee consistent with applicable laws and rules, including the delegation of pre-approval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such pre-approval decisions are presented to the full Committee at its next meeting.
  - d. ***Audit Partner Rotation.*** To monitor the rotation of the partners of the Auditors on the Company's audit engagement team as required by applicable laws and rules and to consider periodically and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding rotation of auditing firms.

- e. ***Auditor Conflicts.*** At least annually, to receive and review written statements from the Auditors delineating all relationships between the Auditors and the Company, consistent with Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, to consider and discuss with the Auditors any disclosed relationships and any compensation or services that could affect the Auditors' objectivity and independence, and to assess and otherwise take appropriate action to oversee the independence of the Auditors.
- f. ***Former Employees of Auditor.*** To consider and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding Committee pre-approval of employment by the Company of individuals formerly employed by the Auditors and engaged on the Company's account.

2. ***Financial Statement Review and Approval***

- a. ***Audited Financial Statement Review.*** To review, upon completion of the audit, the financial statements proposed to be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and to recommend whether or not such financial statements should be so included.
- b. ***Annual Audit Results.*** To review with management and the Auditors the results of the annual audit, including the auditors' assessment of the quality, not just acceptability, of accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments and estimates (including material changes in estimates), any material audit adjustments proposed by the Auditors and any adjustments proposed but not recorded, the adequacy of the disclosures in the financial statements and any other matters required to be communicated to the Committee by the Auditors under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), as appropriate.
- c. ***Quarterly Results.*** To review with management and the Auditors the results of the Auditors' review of the Company's quarterly financial statements, prior to public disclosure of quarterly financial information, if practicable, or filing with Securities and Exchange Commission of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and any other matters required to be communicated to the Audit Committee by the Auditors under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), as appropriate.

- d. ***Management's Discussion and Analysis.*** To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company's disclosures contained under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in its periodic reports to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
  - e. ***Proxy Report.*** To prepare the Committee report required by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.
  - f. ***Press Releases.*** To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, earnings press releases, as well as the substance of financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and ratings agencies, which discussions may be general discussions of the type of information to be disclosed or the type of presentation to be made. The Chairman of the Committee may represent the entire Committee for purposes of this discussion.
3. ***Financial Reviews/Management***
- a. ***Accounting Principles and Policies.*** To review with management and the Auditors significant issues that arise regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation, including critical accounting policies and practices, alternative accounting policies available under GAAP related to material items discussed with management and any other significant reporting issues and judgments.
  - b. ***Risk Assessment and Management.*** To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company's guidelines and policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps taken by management to monitor and control these exposures.
  - c. ***Management Cooperation with Audit.*** To evaluate the cooperation received by the Auditors during their audit examination, including any significant difficulties with the audit or any restrictions on the scope of their activities or access to required records, data and information, significant disagreements with management and management's response, if any.
  - d. ***Management Letters.*** To review with the Auditors and if appropriate, management, any management or internal control

letter issued or, to the extent practicable, proposed to be issued by the Auditors and Management's response, if any, to such letter, as well as any additional material written communications between the Auditors and management.

- e. ***Auditor's National Office Communications.*** To review with the Auditors, as appropriate, material communications between the audit team and the firm's national office with respect to material accounting or auditing issues presented by the engagement.
- f. ***Disagreements Between Auditors and Management.*** To review with management and the Auditors or any other registered public accounting firm engaged to perform review or attest services, any material conflicts or disagreements between management and the Auditors or such other accounting firm regarding financial reporting, accounting practices or policies and to resolve any such conflicts or disagreements regarding financial reporting.
- g. ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.*** To confer with the management and the Auditors, as appropriate, regarding the scope, adequacy and effectiveness of internal control over the financial reporting, including any special audit steps taken in the event of material control deficiencies, responsibilities, budget and staff of the internal audit function and review of the appointment or replacement of the senior internal audit executive or manager.
- h. ***Separate Sessions.*** Periodically, to meet in separate sessions with the Auditors and management to discuss any matters that the Committee, the Auditors or management believe should be discussed privately with the Committee.
- i. ***Correspondence with Regulators.*** To consider and review with management, the Auditors, outside counsel, as appropriate, and, in the judgment of the Committee, such special counsel, separate accounting firm and other consultants and advisors as the Committee deems appropriate, any correspondence with regulators or governmental agencies and any published reports that raise material issues regarding the Company's financial statements or accounting policies.
- j. ***Regulatory and Accounting Initiatives.*** To review with counsel, the Auditors and management, as appropriate, any significant regulatory or other legal or accounting initiative or

matters that may have a material impact on the Company's financial statements, compliance programs and policies if, in the judgment of the Committee, such review is necessary or appropriate.

- k. ***Engagement of Registered Public Accounting Firms.*** To determine and approve engagements of any registered public accounting firm (in addition to the Auditors) to perform any other review or attest service, including the compensation to be paid to such firm and the negotiation and execution, on behalf of the Company, of such firm's engagement letter, which approval may be pursuant to pre-approval policies and procedures, including the delegation of pre-approval authority to one or more Committee members, so long as any such pre-approval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next meeting.

4. ***Financial Standard Compliance***

- a. ***Ethical Compliance.*** To review the results of management's efforts to monitor financial and regulatory compliance with the Company's programs and policies designed to ensure adherence to applicable laws and rules, as well as to its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, including review and approval of related-party transactions as required by applicable laws and rules.
- b. ***Complaint Procedures.*** To establish procedures, when and as required by applicable laws and rules, for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding accounting or auditing matters.
- c. ***Investigations.*** To work closely with the Corporate Governance committee to investigate any matter brought to the attention of the Committee within the scope of its duties if, in the judgment of the Committee, such investigation is necessary or appropriate.

5. ***Other Committee Function***

- a. ***Report to Board.*** To report to the Board with respect to material issues that arise regarding the quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the Company's compliance with legal or regulatory requirements, the performance or independence of the Company's Auditors or such other matters as the Committee deems appropriate from time to time or whenever it shall be called upon to do so.

- b.** *Annual Committee Evaluation.* To conduct an annual evaluation of the performance of the Committee and report to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the full Board.
- c.** *Annual Charter Review.* To review and assess the adequacy of this charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval.
- d.** *General Authority.* To perform such other function and to have such powers as may be necessary or appropriate in the efficient and lawful discharge of the foregoing.