PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (to the Prospectus Dated May 9, 2011)

7,020,000 Shares



We are offering 7,020,000 shares of our common stock. Shares of our common stock trade on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTX." On December 13, 2012, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$3.32 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

| | Pe | er Share | Total |
|--|----|----------|--------------|
| Public Offering Price | \$ | 2.8500 | \$20,007,000 |
| Underwriting Discounts and Commissions | \$ | 0.1568 | \$ 1,100,736 |
| Proceeds to Cytori (Before Expenses) | \$ | 2.6932 | \$18,906,264 |
| | | | |

We estimate the total expenses of this offering, excluding the underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$360,000. The underwriter may also purchase up to an additional 1,053,000 shares of our common stock from us at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions, to cover over-allotments, if any, within 30 days of the date of this prospectus supplement.

We anticipate that delivery of the shares of our common stock will be made through the facilities of the Depository Trust Company on or about December 19, 2012, subject to customary closing conditions.

Sole Book-Running Manager

Lazard Capital Markets

Co-Managers

Maxim Group LLC Ascendiant Capital Markets LLC

Prospectus Supplement dated December 14, 2012.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this common stock offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, provides more general information. Generally, when we refer to this prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the information contained in the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated by reference therein filed prior to the date of this prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement; provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date—for example, a document incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus—the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

We further note that the representations, warranties and covenants made by us in any agreement that is filed as an exhibit to any document that is incorporated by reference herein were made solely for the benefit of the parties to such agreement, including, in some cases, for the purpose of allocating risk among the parties to such agreements, and should not be deemed to be a representation, warranty or covenant to you. Moreover, such representations, warranties or covenants were accurate only as of the date when made. Accordingly, such representations, warranties and covenants should not be relied on as accurately representing the current state of our affairs.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, or incorporated by reference herein. We have not authorized, and the underwriters have not authorized, anyone to provide you with information that is different. The information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, or incorporated by reference herein is accurate only as of the respective dates thereof, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or of any sale of our common stock. It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents to which we have referred you in the sections entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" and Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference" in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus.

We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of our common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the common stock in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus about, and observe any restrictions relating to, the offering of the common stock and the distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus outside the United States. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such an offer or solicitation.

Unless otherwise stated, all references in this prospectus to "we," "us," "our," "Cytori," the "Company" and similar designations refer to Cytori Therapeutics, Inc. and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, and the information incorporated herein and therein by reference, include trademarks, service marks and trade names owned by us or other companies. All trademarks, service marks and trade names included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights certain information about us, this offering and selected information contained elsewhere in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before deciding whether to invest in our common stock. For a more complete understanding of our company and this offering, we encourage you to read and consider carefully the more detailed information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the information referred to under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement beginning on page S-8 the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, and the information included in any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering.

Our Business

Overview

We are developing cell therapies for cardiovascular disease and other soft tissue injuries around the world. Our cell therapies are based on a patient's own adipose-derived stem and regenerative cells (ADRCs) and have potential to treat a broad range of indications. These therapies are made available by our proprietary device, the Celution[®] System, which automates the extraction and preparation of clinical grade ADRCs at the time of the procedure.

Pipeline

The primary therapeutic areas within our development pipeline are cardiovascular disease, specifically acute heart attacks and refractory heart failure due to chronic myocardial ischemia, as well as the treatment of thermal burns. In cardiovascular disease, we are conducting our ATHENA trial for refractory heart failure in the U.S. and our ADVANCE heart attack trial in Europe.

In the U.S., the ATHENA trial is a prospective, double blind, placebo-controlled, multi-center pilot trial with up to 45 patients evaluating Cytori's cell therapy for treatment of refractory heart failure. The trial will measure several endpoints, including peak oxygen consumption (VO2 Max). Additional endpoints include perfusion defect, left ventricle end-systolic and diastolic volume, ejection fraction at six and 12 months and cardiac death and rehospitalization rates at 12-months. Enrollment is expected to be complete by mid-2013.

ADVANCE is a prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study in Europe evaluating Cytori's cell therapy in the treatment of ST-elevated acute myocardial infarction. The trial is designed to enroll up to 216 patients using a 2:1 randomization of treatment vs. standard-of-care. The trial will be conducted across multiple centers and countries, with an emphasis on the G6 countries in Europe. Enrollment is currently open.

Prior to our two ongoing clinical trials, we completed three separate European trials, including two in cardiovascular indications. We have reported long term, 18 month data from both the PRECISE trial for chronic myocardial ischemia and the APOLLO trial for acute heart attack. Six month data from the APOLLO trial has been published in the peer review Journal of the American College of Cardiology; 18 month data from both trials are currently being prepared for publication.

Our CE Mark application for the Celution[®] system to be used intravascularly is currently under review. Barring delays or requests for further data, we anticipate a decision late this year or early next. Should we receive approval, we would target select hospital customers in G5 and CE Mark recognizing countries, including ADVANCE trial sites, and likely implement a patient registry. This registry will allow us to collect further data to support reimbursement and government payors, and help expand market access.

In addition to our cardiovascular disease therapeutic pipeline, we are also developing our cell therapy for the treatment of thermal burns combined with radiation injury. In the third quarter of 2012, we were awarded a contract to develop a new countermeasure for thermal burns valued at up to \$106 million with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA). The initial base period includes \$4.7 million over two years and covers preclinical research and continued development of Cytori's Celution[®] system to improve cell processing. The additional contract options, if fully executed, cover clinical development through FDA approval under a device-based PMA regulatory pathway.

Commercial Business

The 2012 goals for our commercial business are twofold. The first is to expand market access so that we can grow product revenue significantly over time and the second is to achieve a positive contribution margin in the near term. Market access in Europe and Asia continues to grow with expanded European approval broadly covering tissue ischemia and a full commercial operational license and Class 1 medical device clearance in Japan for our Celution® technology. The new Class 1 clearance allows us to import and sell our products through distribution channels in Japan, simplifying and expanding our ability to sell our products there. Today, our sales activities are focused on obtaining and maintaining successful early clinical adopters of our products. Looking forward, we intend to target larger market segments and grow therapeutically oriented consumable revenue. To accomplish this goal, we are focusing on driving essential market access elements such as published clinical and health economics data, physician education and indication-specific therapeutic claims.

The Celution® system is increasingly used at academic hospitals and institutions as part of their own independent clinical studies. In recent months, we've seen a number of these translational medicine trials being approved by the in-country regulatory bodies. By providing easy access to clinical-grade ADRCs, our cell therapy is an ideal platform for physicians around the world to study the use of these cells for a number of varied indications. To date, investigator-initiated clinical research using our cell therapy is being conducted in stress urinary incontinence, fistula and other wound repair, liver disease, ischemic heart failure, peripheral artery disease and scleroderma, among others.

Risk Factors

An investment in our common stock is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Before investing in our common stock, you should carefully consider the following, as well as the more detailed discussion of risk factors and other information included in this prospectus supplement.

- We may need to raise more cash in the future.
- Continued turmoil in the economy could harm our business.

- We have never been profitable on an operational basis and expect significant operating losses for the next few years.
- Our business strategy is high-risk.
- The development and manufacture of future generation Celution[®] System devices is important to us and if they are not successfully developed and manufactured, we may experience disruptions and/or delays of our commercialization of these devices into the market.
- We have a limited operating history, operating results and our stock price can be volatile like many life science companies.

Company Information

We were initially formed as a California general partnership in July 1996, and incorporated in the State of Delaware in May 1997. We were formerly known as MacroPore Biosurgery, Inc., and before that as MacroPore, Inc. Our corporate offices are located at 3020 Callan Road, San Diego, CA 92121. Our telephone number is (858) 458-0900. Our website address is www.cytori.com. Information found on, or accessible through, our website is not a part of, and is not incorporated into, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus supplement or part of the accompanying prospectus.

| THE OFFERING | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Common stock offered by us in this offering | 7,020,000 shares | | | |
| Option to purchase additional shares | We have granted the underwriters an option for a period of up to 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement to purchase up to 1,053,000 additional shares of common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions to cover over-allotments, if any. | | | |
| Common stock to be outstanding immediately after this offering | 65,740,627 shares (or 66,793,627 shares if the underwriter exercises in full its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares) | | | |
| Use of proceeds | We intend to use all of the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including the continued development, manufacture, marketing and sale of our Celution [®] System family of products, including related research and clinical trials, and other related research and development, sales and marketing, and general administrative expenses, working capital, capital expenditures and future acquisitions. See "Use of Proceeds" on page S-24 of this prospectus supplement. | | | |
| NASDAQ Global Market symbol | CYTX | | | |
| Risk factors | Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement. | | | |

Outstanding Shares

The number of shares of common stock to be outstanding immediately after this offering as shown above assumes that all of the shares offered hereby are sold and is based on 58,720,627 shares of common stock outstanding as of September 30, 2012. This number of shares excludes, as of September 30, 2012:

- 7,520,859 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options, having a weighted average exercise price of \$4.99 per share;
- 294,741 shares of common stock issuable upon the vesting of outstanding restricted stock awards;

- 261,300 shares of common stock issuable upon the achievement of certain performance criteria and vesting of outstanding performance based restricted stock awards; and
- 10,117,038 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants with a weighted-average exercise price of \$3.27 per share.

Unless otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus assumes:

- that the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase up to 1,053,000 additional shares of our common stock to cover over-allotments, if any; and
- no options, restricted stock awards, warrants, or shares of common stock were issued after September 30, 2012, and no outstanding options or warrants were exercised after September 30, 2012 and no outstanding restricted stock awards vested after such date.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our common stock, you should consider carefully the risks described below, together with other information in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the information and documents incorporated by reference, and in any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering. If any of these risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow could be seriously harmed. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently see as immaterial, may also harm our business.

Risks Related to Our Business

We may need to raise more cash in the future.

We have almost always had negative cash flows from operations. Our business will continue to result in a substantial requirement for research and development expenses for several years, during which we may not be able to bring in sufficient cash and/or revenues to offset these expenses. During 2012, we expanded our commercialization activities while simultaneously pursuing available financing sources to support operations and growth. We have had, and we will likely continue to have, an ongoing need to raise additional cash from outside sources to continue funding our operations to profitability. We do not currently believe that our cash balance and the revenues from our operations will be sufficient to fund the development and marketing efforts required to reach profitability without raising additional capital from accessible sources of financing in the future.

In addition, our Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation, Silicon Valley Bank and Oxford Finance Corporation requires us to maintain certain minimum cash requirements, including at least three months of cash on hand, to avoid an event of default thereunder, and if our cash reserves fall below those minimum requirements, then we could be in default under the loan agreement and subject to potential adverse remedies by the lenders, which would have a substantial and material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, the value of our common stock and warrants and our ability to raise capital. We believe we have enough cash to fund operations into the first quarter of 2013, which factors in the minimum cash and cash liquidity requirements of the loan agreement. In order to continue operations through the next twelve months, we are pursuing additional cash through strategic corporate partnership and future sales of equity in addition to our gross profits. We have an established history of raising capital through these platforms, and we are currently involved in negotiations with multiple parties.

We continue to evaluate market conditions and available financing opportunities as part of our normal course of business. However, there is no guarantee that adequate funds will be available when needed from additional debt or equity financing, arrangements with development and commercialization partners, increased results of operations, or from other sources, or on terms acceptable to us. Our inability to obtain sufficient additional funds in the future would, at a minimum, require us to delay, scale back, or eliminate some or all of our research or product development, manufacturing operations, administrative operations, including our employee base, and clinical or regulatory activities, which could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Continued turmoil in the economy could harm our business.

Negative trends in the general economy, including trends resulting from an actual or perceived recession, tightening credit markets, increased cost of commodities, including oil, actual or threatened military action by the United States and threats of terrorist attacks in the United States and abroad, could cause a reduction of investment in and available funding for companies in certain industries, including ours and our customers. Our ability to raise capital has been and may in the future be adversely affected by downturns in current credit conditions, financial markets and the global economy.

We have never been profitable on an operational basis and expect significant operating losses for the next few years.

We have incurred net operating losses in each year since we started business. As our focus on the Celution[®] System platform and development of therapeutic applications for its cellular output has increased, losses have resulted primarily from expenses associated with research and development activities and general and administrative expenses. While we work continuously to implement cost reduction measures where possible, we nonetheless expect to continue operating in a loss position on a consolidated basis and that recurring operating expenses will be at high levels for the next several years, in order to perform clinical trials, additional pre-clinical research, product development, and marketing. As a result of our historic losses, we have been, and are likely to continue to be, reliant on raising outside capital to fund our operations.

Our business strategy is high-risk.

We are focusing our resources and efforts primarily on development of the Celution[®] System family of products and the therapeutic applications of its cellular output, which requires extensive cash needs for research, development, and commercialization activities. This is a high-risk strategy because there is no assurance that our future products will ever become commercially viable (commercial risk), that we will prevent other companies from depriving us of market share and profit margins by selling products based on our inventions and developments (legal risk), that we will successfully manage a company in a new area of business (regenerative medicine) and on a different scale than we have operated in the past (operational risk), that we will be able to achieve the desired therapeutic results using stem and regenerative cells (scientific risk), or that our cash resources will be adequate to develop our products until we become profitable, if ever (financial risk). We are using our cash in one of the riskiest industries in the economy (strategic risk). This may make our stock an unsuitable investment for many investors.

The development and manufacture of future generation Celution ® System devices is important to us.

We have given Olympus-Cytori, Inc. an exclusive license to manufacture future generation Celution[®] System devices. If Olympus-Cytori, Inc. does not successfully develop and manufacture these devices, we may experience disruptions and/or delays of our commercialization of these devices into the market. Any significant disruption of our commercialization of these devices could affect our operations and commercialization efforts (clinical, regulatory and/or commercial sales), and be harmful to our business.

We and Olympus must overcome contractual and cultural barriers. Although our relationship is formally measured by a set of complex contracts, many aspects of the relationship will be non-contractual and must be worked out between the parties and the responsible individuals. The joint venture is intended to have a long life, and it is difficult to maintain cooperative relationships over a long period of time in the face of various kinds of change. Cultural differences, including language barrier to some degree, may affect the efficiency of the relationship.

Olympus-Cytori, Inc. is 50% owned by us and 50% owned by Olympus. By contract, each side must consent before any of a wide variety of important business actions can occur. This situation possesses a risk of potentially time-consuming and difficult negotiations which could at some point delay the joint venture from pursuing its business strategies.

Olympus is entitled to designate the joint venture's chief executive officer and a majority of its board of directors, which means that day-to-day decisions which are not subject to a contractual veto are subject to be controlled by Olympus. In addition, Olympus-Cytori, Inc. may require more money than its current capitalization in order to complete development and production of future generation devices. If we are unable to help provide future financing for Olympus-Cytori, Inc., our relative equity interest in Olympus-Cytori, Inc. may decrease.

Furthermore, under a License/Joint Development Agreement among Olympus-Cytori, Inc., Olympus, and us, Olympus may have a significant role in the development of Olympus-Cytori, Inc.'s next generation devices. Although Olympus has extensive experience in developing medical devices, this arrangement has resulted in a reduction of our control over the development and manufacturing of the next generation devices. Any significant disruption of activity by Olympus in connection with our business relationship and/or the development of Olympus-Cytori's next generation devices and our joint venture could be harmful to our business.

In 2011 Olympus experienced serious internal issues which have led to a significant change in the management structure at Olympus. In 2012 these changes have continued to develop, with a total restructuring of the Olympus board of directors, its management team, and aspects of its operations. In light of these events, we are engaged in ongoing discussions with Olympus relating to the future of the joint venture relationship. Throughout the discussions, both parties are committed to ensure that any changes to the joint venture structure that occur would be beneficial to both parties. Notwithstanding our discussions, if our relationship were to change in a manner that significantly disrupts our operations and commercialization efforts (clinical, regulatory and/or commercial sales), then our business would likely be harmed.

We have a limited operating history; operating results and stock price can be volatile like many life science companies.

Our prospects must be evaluated in light of the risks and difficulties frequently encountered by emerging companies and particularly by such companies in rapidly evolving and technologically advanced biotech and medical device fields. From time to time, we have tried to update our investors' expectations as to our operating results by periodically announcing financial guidance. However, we have in the past been forced to revise or withdraw such guidance due to lack of visibility and predictability of product demand. Our stock price has a history of significant volatility, which may harm our ability to raise additional capital and may cause an investment in Cytori to be unsuitable for some investors.

We are vulnerable to competition and technological change, and also to physicians' inertia.

We compete with many domestic and foreign companies in developing our technology and products, including biotechnology, medical device, and pharmaceutical companies. Many current and potential competitors have substantially greater financial, technological, research and development, marketing, and personnel resources. There is no assurance that our competitors will not succeed in developing alternative products that are more effective, easier to use, or more economical than those which we have developed or are in the process of developing, or that would render our products obsolete and non-competitive. In general, we may not be able to prevent others from developing and marketing competitive products similar to ours or which perform similar functions.

Competitors may have greater experience in developing therapies or devices, conducting clinical trials, obtaining regulatory clearances or approvals, manufacturing and commercialization. It is possible that competitors may obtain patent protection, approval, or clearance from the FDA or achieve commercialization earlier than we can, any of which could have a substantial negative effect on our business. Finally, Olympus and our other partners might pursue parallel development of other technologies or products, which may result in a partner developing additional products competitive with ours.

We compete against cell-based therapies derived from alternate sources, such as bone marrow, umbilical cord blood and potentially embryos. Doctors historically are slow to adopt new technologies like ours, regardless of the perceived merits, when older technologies continue to be supported by established providers. Overcoming such inertia often requires very significant marketing expenditures or definitive product performance and/or pricing superiority.

We expect physicians' inertia and skepticism to also be a significant barrier as we attempt to gain market penetration with our future products. We believe we will continue to need to finance lengthy time-consuming clinical studies to provide evidence of the medical benefit of our products and resulting therapies in order to overcome this inertia and skepticism particularly in reconstructive surgery, cell preservation, the cardiovascular area and many other indications.

Most potential applications of our technology are pre-commercialization, which subjects us to development and marketing risks.

We are in a relatively early stage of the path to commercialization with many of our products. We believe that our long-term viability and growth will depend in large part on our ability to develop commercial quality cell processing devices and useful procedure-specific consumables, and to establish the safety and efficacy of our therapies through clinical trials and studies. With our Celution[®] System platform, we are pursuing new approaches for reconstructive surgery, preservation of stem and regenerative cells for potential future use, therapies for cardiovascular disease, soft tissue defects, and other conditions. There is no assurance that our development programs will be successfully completed or that required regulatory clearances or approvals will be obtained on a timely basis, if at all.

There is no proven path for commercializing the Celution[®] System platform in a way to earn a durable profit commensurate with the medical benefit. Although we began to commercialize our reconstructive surgery products in Europe and certain Asian markets, and our cell banking products in Japan, Europe, and certain Asian markets in 2008, additional market opportunities for many of our products and/or services may not materialize for a number of years.

Successful development and market acceptance of our products is subject to developmental risks, including failure of inventive imagination, ineffectiveness, lack of safety, unreliability, failure to receive necessary regulatory clearances or approvals, high commercial cost, preclusion or obsolescence resulting from third parties' proprietary rights or superior or equivalent products, competition from copycat products, and general economic conditions affecting purchasing patterns. There is no assurance that we or our partners will successfully develop and commercialize our products, or that our competitors will not develop competing technologies that are less expensive or superior. Failure to successfully develop and market our products would have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Market acceptance of new technology such as ours can be difficult to obtain.

New and emerging cell therapy and cell banking technologies, such as those provided by the Celution[®] System family of products, may have difficulty or encounter significant delays in obtaining market acceptance in some or all countries around the world due to the novelty of our cell therapy and cell banking technologies. Therefore, the market adoption of our cell therapy and cell banking technologies may be slow and lengthy with no assurances that significant market adoption will be successful. The lack of market adoption or reduced or minimal market adoption of our cell therapy and cell banking technologies may have a significant impact on our ability to successfully sell our product(s) into a country or region.

Future clinical trial results may differ significantly from our expectations.

While we have proceeded incrementally with our clinical trials in an effort to gauge the risks of proceeding with larger and more expensive trials, we cannot guarantee that we will not experience negative results larger and much more expensive clinical trials than we have conducted to date, such as the new ADVANCE acute heart attack trial in Europe, and the coming ATHENA feasibility trial in chronic myocardial ischemia. Poor results in our clinical trials could result in substantial delays in commercialization, substantial negative effects on the perception of our products, and substantial additional costs. These risks are increased by our reliance on third parties in the performance of many of the clinical trial functions, including the clinical investigators, hospitals, and other third party service providers.

Manufacturing risk.

Although we have significant experience in manufacturing the Celution[®] System platform or its consumables at a commercial level, and although Olympus is a highly capable and experienced manufacturer of medical devices, there can be no guarantee that we or the Olympus-Cytori Joint Venture will be able to successfully develop and manufacture future generation Celution[®] Systems in a manner that is cost-effective or commercially viable, or that development and manufacturing capabilities might not take much longer than currently anticipated to be ready for the market.

Although we have been manufacturing the Celution[®] 800 System and the StemSource[®] 900-based Cell Bank since 2008, we cannot assure that we will be able to manufacture sufficient numbers of such products to meet the demand, or that we will be able to overcome unforeseen manufacturing difficulties for these sophisticated medical devices.

In the event that the Olympus-Cytori Joint Venture is not successful in the development and manufacture of the next generation Celution[®] One System, Cytori may not have the resources or

ability to self-manufacture sufficient numbers of devices and consumables to meet market demand, and this failure may substantially extend the time it would take for us to bring a more advanced commercial device to market.

We may not be able to protect our proprietary rights.

Our success depends in part on whether we can maintain our existing patents, obtain additional patents, maintain trade secret protection, and operate without infringing on the proprietary rights of third parties.

There can be no assurance that any of our pending patent applications will be approved or that we will develop additional proprietary products that are patentable. There is also no assurance that any patents issued to us will not become the subject of a re-examination, will provide us with competitive advantages, will not be challenged by any third parties, or that the patents of others will not prevent the commercialization of products incorporating our technology. Furthermore, there can be no guarantee that others will not independently develop similar products, duplicate any of our products, or design around our patents.

Our commercial success will also depend, in part, on our ability to avoid infringing on patents issued by others. We were a party to a lawsuit in which a patent issued to one of our licensors was judicially determined to belong to a third party. We may become a party to additional patent litigation or other proceedings on that patent or other patents. If we were judicially determined to be infringing on any third-party patent, we could be required to pay damages, alter our products or processes, obtain licenses, or cease certain activities. If we are required in the future to obtain any licenses from third parties for some of our products, there can be no guarantee that we would be able to do so on commercially favorable terms, if at all. U.S. patent applications are not immediately made public, so we might be surprised by the grant to someone else of a patent on a technology we are actively using. As noted above and in the case of the University of Pittsburgh lawsuit, even patents issued to us or our licensors might be judicially determined to belong in full or in part to third parties.

Litigation, which would result in substantial costs to us and diversion of effort on our part, may be necessary to enforce or confirm the ownership of any patents issued or licensed to us, or to determine the scope and validity of third-party proprietary rights. If our competitors claim technology also claimed by us and prepare and file patent applications in the United States, we may have to participate in interference proceedings declared by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or a foreign patent office to determine priority of invention, which could result in substantial costs to and diversion of effort, even if the eventual outcome is favorable to us. Any such litigation or interference proceeding, regardless of outcome, could be expensive and time-consuming.

Successful challenges to our patents through oppositions, reexamination proceedings or interference proceedings could result in a loss of patent rights in the relevant jurisdiction. If we are unsuccessful in actions we bring against the patents of other parties and it is determined that we infringe the patents of third-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 in our favor, we could be delayed or prevented from entering into new collaborations or from commercializing certain products, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

On September 16, 2011, President Obama signed into law major patent law reform known as the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA). Among other things the AIA implements a first inventor to file standard for patent approval, changes the legal standards for patentability under section 102 of the statute, and creates a post grant review system. As a result of the added uncertainty of interpretation of the AIA and the uncertainty of patent law in general, we cannot predict with certainty how much protection, if any, will be given to our patents if we attempt to enforce them and they are challenged in court. Changes to the patent law under the AIA also may provoke third parties to assert claims against us or result in our intellectual property being narrowed in scope or declared to be invalid or unenforceable.

Competitors or third parties may infringe our patents. We may be required to file patent infringement claims, which can be expensive and timeconsuming. In addition, in an infringement proceeding, a court may decide that a patent of ours is not valid or is unenforceable, or that the third party's technology does not in fact infringe upon our patents. An adverse determination of any litigation or defense proceedings could put one or more of our patents at risk of being invalidated or interpreted narrowly and could put our related pending patent applications at risk of not issuing. Litigation may fail and, even if successful, may result in substantial costs and be a distraction to our management. We may not be able to prevent misappropriation of our proprietary rights, particularly in countries outside the U.S. where patent rights may be more difficult to enforce. Furthermore, because of the substantial amount of discovery required in connection with intellectual property litigation, there is a risk that some of our confidential or sensitive information could be compromised by disclosure in the event of litigation. In addition, during the course of litigation there could be public announcements of the results of hearings, motions or other interim proceedings or developments. If securities analysts or investors perceive these results to be negative, it could have a substantial adverse effect on the price of our common stock.

In addition to patents, which alone may not be able to protect the fundamentals of our business, we also rely on unpatented trade secrets and proprietary technological expertise. Some of our intended future cell-related therapeutic products may fit into this category. We rely, in part, on confidentiality agreements with our partners, employees, advisors, vendors, and consultants to protect our trade secrets and proprietary technological expertise. There can be no guarantee that these agreements will not be breached, or that we will have adequate remedies for any breach, or that our unpatented trade secrets and proprietary technological expertise will not otherwise become known or be independently discovered by competitors.

Our amended regenerative cell technology license agreement with the Regents of the University of California (UC) which includes issued U.S. patent number 7,470,537, contains certain developmental milestones, which if not achieved could result in the loss of exclusivity or loss of the license rights. The loss of such rights could impact our ability to develop certain regenerative cell technology products. Also, our power as licensee to successfully use these rights to exclude competitors from the market is untested.

Failure to obtain or maintain patent protection, or protect trade secrets, for any reason (or third-party claims against our patents, trade secrets, or proprietary rights, or our involvement in disputes over our patents, trade secrets, or proprietary rights, including involvement in litigation), could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We may not be able to protect our intellectual property in countries outside the United States.

Intellectual property law outside the United States is uncertain and in many countries is currently undergoing review and revisions. The laws of some countries do not protect our patent and other intellectual property rights to the same extent as United States laws. This is particularly relevant to us as most of our current commercial product sales and clinical trials are outside of the United States. Third parties may attempt to oppose the issuance of patents to us in foreign countries by initiating opposition proceedings. Opposition proceedings against any of our patent filings in a foreign country could have an adverse effect on our corresponding patents that are issued or pending in the United States. It may be necessary or useful for us to participate in proceedings to determine the validity of our patents or our competitors' patents that have been issued in countries other than the U.S. This could result in substantial costs, divert our efforts and attention from other aspects of our business, and could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. We currently have pending patent applications in Europe, Australia, Japan, Canada, China, Korea, and Singapore, among others.

We and our Olympus-Cytori, Inc. joint venture are subject to FDA regulation.

As medical devices, the Celution[®] System family of products, Puregraft [®] family of products and the Celbrush[®] must receive regulatory clearances or approvals from the FDA and, in many instances, from non-U.S. and state governments prior to their sale. The Celution[®] System family of products is subject to stringent government regulation in the United States by the FDA under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. The FDA regulates the design/development process, clinical testing, manufacture, safety, labeling, sale, distribution, and promotion of medical devices and drugs. Included among these regulations are premarket clearance and pre-market approval requirements, design control requirements, and the Quality System Regulations/Good Manufacturing Practices. Other statutory and regulatory requirements govern, among other things, establishment registration and inspection, medical device listing, prohibitions against misbranding and adulteration, labeling and post-market reporting.

The regulatory process can be lengthy, expensive, and uncertain. Before any new medical device may be introduced to the U.S. market, the manufacturer generally must obtain FDA clearance or approval through either the 510(k) pre-market notification process or the lengthier pre-market approval application, or PMA, process. It generally takes from three to 12 months from submission to obtain 510(k) pre-market clearance, although it may take longer. Approval of a PMA could take four or more years from the time the process is initiated. The 510(k) and PMA processes can be expensive, uncertain, and lengthy, and there is no guarantee of ultimate clearance or approval. We expect that some of our products under development today or in the future, as well as Olympus-Cytori's, will be subject to the lengthier PMA process. Securing FDA clearances and approvals may require the submission of extensive clinical data and supporting information to the FDA, and there can be no guarantee of ultimate clearance or approval. Failure to comply with applicable requirements can result in application integrity proceedings, fines, recalls or seizures of products, injunctions, civil penalties, total or partial suspensions of production, withdrawals of existing product approvals or clearances, refusals to approve or clear new applications or notifications, and criminal prosecution.

Medical devices are also subject to post-market reporting requirements for deaths or serious injuries when the device may have caused or contributed to the death or serious injury, and for certain device malfunctions that would be likely to cause or contribute to a death or serious injury if the malfunction were to recur. If safety or effectiveness problems occur after the product reaches the

market, the FDA may take steps to prevent or limit further marketing of the product. Additionally, the FDA actively enforces regulations prohibiting marketing and promotion of devices for indications or uses that have not been cleared or approved by the FDA.

There can be no guarantee that we will be able to obtain the necessary 510(k) clearances or PMA approvals to market and manufacture our other products in the United States for their intended use on a timely basis, if at all. Delays in receipt of or failure to receive such clearances or approvals, the loss of previously received clearances or approvals, or failure to comply with existing or future regulatory requirements could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

To sell in international markets, we will be subject to regulation in foreign countries.

In cooperation with our distribution partners, we intend to market our current and future products both domestically and in many foreign markets. A number of risks are inherent in international transactions. In order for us to market our products in Europe, Canada, Japan and certain other non-U.S. jurisdictions, we need to obtain and maintain required regulatory approvals or clearances and must comply with extensive regulations regarding safety, manufacturing processes and quality. For example, we still have not obtained regulatory approval for our Thin Film products in Japan. These regulations, including the requirements for approvals or clearances to market, may differ from the FDA regulatory scheme. International sales also may be limited or disrupted by political instability, price controls, trade restrictions and changes in tariffs. Additionally, fluctuations in currency exchange rates may adversely affect demand for our products by increasing the price of our products in the currency of the countries in which the products are sold.

There can be no assurance that we will obtain regulatory approvals or clearances in all of the countries where we intend to market our products, or that we will not incur significant costs in obtaining or maintaining foreign regulatory approvals or clearances, or that we will be able to successfully commercialize current or future products in various foreign markets. Delays in receipt of approvals or clearances to market our products in foreign countries, failure to receive such approvals or clearances or the future loss of previously received approvals or clearances could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Changing, new and/or emerging government regulations may adversely affect us.

Government regulations can change without notice. Given the fact that Cytori operates in various international markets, our access to such markets could change with little to no warning due to a change in government regulations that suddenly up-regulate our product(s) and create greater regulatory burden for our cell therapy and cell banking technology products.

Due to the fact that there are new and emerging cell therapy and cell banking regulations that have recently been drafted and/or implemented in various countries around the world, the application and subsequent implementation of these new and emerging regulations have little to no precedence. Therefore, the level of complexity and stringency is not known and may vary from country to country, creating greater uncertainty for the international regulatory process.

Anticipated or unanticipated changes in the way or manner in which the FDA regulates products or classes/groups of products can delay, further burden, or alleviate regulatory pathways that were once available to other products. There are no guarantees that such changes in FDA's approach to the regulatory process will not deleteriously affect some or all of our products or product applications.

We do not know if the current FDA proposed changes to the 510(k) system will have any material effect on any of our current or future 510(k) applications. Depending on if and how these proposed changes are ultimately adopted and implemented, our current or future applications for FDA approval for our products may be adversely affected and our business could be harmed as a result.

We may have difficulty obtaining health insurance reimbursement for our products.

New and emerging cell therapy and cell banking technologies, such as those provided by the Celution® System family of products, may have difficulty or encounter significant delays in obtaining health care reimbursement in some or all countries around the world due to the novelty of our cell therapy and cell banking technology and subsequent lack of existing reimbursement schemes / pathways. Therefore, the creation of new reimbursement pathways may be complex and lengthy with no assurances that such reimbursements will be successful. The lack of health insurance reimbursement or reduced or minimal reimbursement pricing may have a significant impact on our ability to successfully sell our cell therapy and cell banking technology product(s) into a county or region, which would negatively impact our operating results.

Our concentration of sales in Japan may enhance the negative effects on our business of any crisis in that region.

We have operations in a number of regions around the world, including the United States, Japan, and Europe. Our global operations may be subject to risks that may limit our ability to operate our business. We sell our products globally, which exposes us to a number of risks that can arise from international trade transactions, local business practices and cultural considerations, including:

- political unrest, terrorism and economic or financial instability;
- unexpected changes and uncertainty in regulatory requirements and systems related
- nationalization programs that may be implemented by foreign governments;
- import-export regulations;
- difficulties in enforcing agreements and collecting receivables;
- difficulties in ensuring compliance with the laws and regulations of multiple jurisdictions;
- changes in labor practices, including wage inflation, labor unrest and unionization policies;
- longer payment cycles by international customers;
- currency exchange fluctuations;
- disruptions of service from utilities or telecommunications providers, including electricity shortages;
- difficulties in staffing foreign branches and subsidiaries and in managing an expatriate workforce, and differing employment practices and labor issues;
- potentially adverse tax consequences;

We also face risks associated with currency exchange and convertibility, inflation and repatriation of earnings as a result of our foreign operations. We are also vulnerable to appreciation or depreciation of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar. Although we have significant operations in Asia, a substantial portion of transactions are denominated in U.S. dollars. As appreciation against the U.S. dollar increases, it will result in an increase in the cost of our business expenses abroad. Conversely, downward fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar may make our products less price competitive than local solutions. From time to time, we may engage in currency hedging activities, but such activities may not be able to limit the risks of currency fluctuations.

Our revenue, results of operations, and cash flows may suffer upon the loss of a significant customer or a significant reduction in the amount of product ordered by any such customer.

Our largest customer, Seishin Clinics in Japan, accounted for 16% of our revenue in the first nine months of 2012. Loss of this significant customer or a significant reduction in the amount of product ordered by this customer would adversely affect our revenue, results of operations, and cash flows.

We and our joint venture with Olympus have to maintain quality assurance certification and manufacturing approvals.

The manufacture of our products are, and the manufacture of any future cell-related therapeutic products would be, subject to periodic inspection by regulatory authorities and distribution partners. The manufacture of devices and products for human use is subject to regulation and inspection from time to time by the FDA for compliance with the FDA's Quality System Regulation, or QSR, requirements, as well as equivalent requirements and inspections by state and non-U.S. regulatory authorities. There can be no guarantee that the FDA or other authorities will not, during the course of an inspection of existing or new facilities, identify what they consider to be deficiencies in our compliance with QSRs or other requirements and request, or seek remedial action.

Failure to comply with such regulations or a potential delay in attaining compliance may adversely affect our manufacturing activities and could result in, among other things, injunctions, civil penalties, FDA refusal to grant pre-market approvals or clearances of future or pending product submissions, fines, recalls or seizures of products, total or partial suspensions of production, and criminal prosecution. There can be no assurance after such occurrences that we will be able to obtain additional necessary regulatory approvals or clearances on a timely basis, if at all. Delays in receipt of or failure to receive such approvals or clearances, or the loss of previously received approvals or clearances could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We depend on a few key officers.

Our performance is substantially dependent on the performance of our executive officers and other key scientific and sales staff, including Christopher J. Calhoun, our Chief Executive Officer, and Marc Hedrick, MD, our President. We rely upon them for strategic business decisions and guidance. We believe that our future success in developing marketable products and achieving a competitive position will depend in large part upon whether we can attract and retain additional qualified

management and scientific personnel. Competition for such personnel is intense, and there can be no assurance that we will be able to continue to attract and retain such personnel. The loss of the services of one or more of our executive officers or key scientific staff, or the inability to attract and retain additional personnel and develop expertise as needed could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

We may not have enough product liability insurance.

The testing, manufacturing, marketing, and sale of our regenerative cell products involve an inherent risk that product liability claims will be asserted against us, our distribution partners, or licensees. There can be no guarantee that our clinical trial and commercial product liability insurance is adequate or will continue to be available in sufficient amounts or at an acceptable cost, if at all. A product liability claim, product recall, or other claim, as well as any claims for uninsured liabilities or in excess of insured liabilities, could have a substantial negative effect on our results of operations and financial condition. Also, well-publicized claims could cause our stock to fall sharply, even before the merits of the claims are decided by a court.

Risks Related to Ownership of our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock may be volatile and fluctuate significantly, which could result in substantial losses for stockholders and subject us to litigation.

The market price of our common stock may be subject to significant fluctuations. Among the factors that may cause the market price of our common stock to fluctuate are the risks described in this "Risk Factors" section and other factors, including:

- fluctuations in our operating results or the operating results of our competitors;
- changes in estimates of our financial results or recommendations by securities analysts;
- variance in our financial performance from the expectations of securities analysts;
- changes in the estimates of the future size and growth rate of our markets;
- changes in accounting principles or changes in interpretations of existing principles, which could affect our financial results;
- conditions and trends in the markets we serve;
- changes in general economic, industry and market conditions;
- success of competitive products and services;
- changes in market valuations or earnings of our competitors;
- announcements of significant new products, contracts, acquisitions or strategic alliances by us or our competitors;
- the timing and outcome of regulatory reviews and approvals of our products;

- the commencement or outcome of litigation involving our company, our general industry or both;
- changes in our capital structure, such as future issuances of securities or the incurrence of additional debt;
- actual or expected sales of our common stock by the holders of our common stock; and
- the trading volume of our common stock.

In addition, the stock market in general, The NASDAQ Global Market and the market for cell therapy development companies in particular may experience a loss of investor confidence. A loss of investor confidence may result in extreme price and volume fluctuations in our common stock that are unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of our business, our financial condition or results of operations. These broad market and industry factors may materially harm the market price of our common stock and expose us to securities class-action litigation. Class-action litigation, even if unsuccessful, could be costly to defend and divert management's attention and resources, which could further materially harm our financial condition and results of operations.

Future sales of our common stock may depress our share price.

As of September 30, 2012, we had 58,720,627 shares of our common stock outstanding. Sales of a number of shares of common stock in the public market, or the expectation of such sales, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. In addition, our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan provides for annual increases in the number of shares available for issuance under the plan, which may, among other things, result in dilution of the price of our common stock. We may also sell additional common stock in subsequent public offerings, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We have granted demand registration rights for the registration of the resale of certain shares of our common stock to each of Olympus Corporation, Astellas Pharma Inc. and Green Hospital Supply, Inc. pursuant to common stock purchase agreements previously entered into with each of these stockholders. An aggregate of 5,528,571 shares of our common stock are subject to these demand registration rights. If we receive a written request from any of these stockholders to file a registration statement under the Securities Act covering its shares of unregistered common stock, we are required to use reasonable efforts to prepare and file with the SEC within 30 business days of such request a registration statement covering the resale of the shares for an offering to be made on a continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act.

Our charter documents contain anti-takeover provisions and in 2003 we adopted a Stockholder Rights Plan to prevent hostile takeovers.

Certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws could discourage, delay or prevent a merger, acquisition or other change of control that stockholders may consider favorable. These provisions could also prevent or frustrate attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove members of our Board of Directors. Stockholders who wish to participate in these transactions may not have the opportunity to do so. These provisions:

• authorize our Board of Directors to issue without stockholder approval up to 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, the rights of which will be determined at the discretion of the Board of

Directors, of which 9,500 shares are designated as Series RP Preferred Stock pursuant to the Stockholder Rights Plan described below;

- require that stockholder actions must be effected at a duly called stockholder meeting and cannot be taken by written consent;
- establish advance notice requirements for stockholder nominations to our Board of Directors or for stockholder proposals that can be acted on at stockholder meetings; and
- limit who may call stockholder meetings.

In addition, in 2003 we adopted a Stockholder Rights Plan of the kind often referred to as a poison pill. The purpose of the Stockholder Rights Plan is to prevent coercive takeover tactics that may otherwise be utilized in takeover attempts. The existence of such a rights plan may also prevent or delay a change in control of the Company, and this prevention or delay may adversely affect the market price of our shares.

We are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which may, unless certain criteria are met, prohibit large stockholders, in particular those owning 15% or more of the voting rights on our common stock, from merging or combining with us for a prescribed period of time.

We pay no dividends.

We have never paid cash dividends in the past, and currently do not intend to pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. This could make an investment in our company inappropriate for some investors, and may serve to narrow our potential sources of additional capital.

Risks Related to This Offering

Management will have broad discretion as to the use of the net proceeds from this offering, and we may not use the proceeds effectively.

Our management will have broad discretion in the application of the net proceeds from this offering and could spend the proceeds in ways that do not improve our results of operations or enhance the value of our common stock. Our failure to apply these funds effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, delay the development of our product candidates and cause the price of our common stock to decline.

You will experience immediate and substantial dilution in the net tangible book value per share of the common stock you purchase.

Since the price per share of our common stock being offered is substantially higher than the net tangible book value per share of our common stock, you will suffer substantial dilution in the net tangible book value of the common stock you purchase in this offering. Based on the public offering of 7,020,000 shares at the public offering price of \$2.85 per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, and based on a net tangible book value of our common stock of \$(0.23) per share as of September 30, 2012, if you purchase shares of

common stock in this offering, you will suffer immediate and substantial dilution of \$2.78 per share in the net tangible book value of common stock. See the section entitled "Dilution" below for a more detailed discussion of the dilution you will incur if you purchase common stock in this offering.

You may experience future dilution as a result of future equity offerings.

In order to raise additional capital, we may in the future offer additional shares of our common stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock at prices that may not be the same as the price per share in this offering. We cannot assure you that we will be able to sell shares or other securities in any other offering at a price per share that is equal to or greater than the price per share paid by investors in this offering, and investors purchasing shares or other securities in the future could have rights superior to existing stockholders, including investors who purchase shares of common stock in this offering. The price per share at which we sell additional shares of our common stock or securities convertible into common stock in future transactions may be higher or lower than the price per share in this offering.

If securities and/or industry analysts fail to continue publishing research about our business, if they change their recommendations adversely or if our results of operations do not meet their expectations, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts publish about us or our business. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to publish reports on us regularly, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline. In addition, it is likely that in some future period our operating results will be below the expectations of securities analysts or investors. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock, or if our results of operations do not meet their expectations, our stock price could decline.

Our stockholders may be diluted by the exercise of outstanding warrants to purchase common stock.

As of December 13, 2012, we have outstanding warrants to purchase 10,018,183 shares of our common stock at exercise prices ranging from \$2.59 per share to \$5.73 per share (with a weighted average exercise price of \$3.28). You may incur dilution upon the grant of shares upon exercise of such outstanding warrants. The number of shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of certain of those warrants, and therefore the dilution of existing common stockholders, is subject to increase as a result of certain sales of our securities that trigger the antidilution provisions of such warrants, including the offering of common stock subject to this offering at a price below the applicable exercise price of those warrants. As a result of shares issued at the closing of this offering, the common stock warrants issued on August 11, 2008 to purchase 2,021,543 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$5.73 per share as of December 13, 2012 will become warrants to purchase 2,129,309 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$5.44 per share.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain, and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein and any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering may contain, forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or Exchange Act. These statements relate to future events or to our future operating or financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to statements about our anticipated expenditures, including those related to clinical research studies and general and administrative expenses, the potential size of the market for our products, future development and/or expansion of our products and therapies in our markets, our ability to generate product revenues or effectively manage our gross profit margins, our ability to obtain regulatory approvals and clearances to sell our products, expectations as to our future performance, our need for additional financing and the availability thereof, and the potential enhancement of our cash position through development, marketing, and licensing arrangements.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "predicts," "potential" and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We discuss many of these risks in greater detail under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of the document containing the applicable statement.

You should read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of the forward-looking statements in the foregoing documents by these cautionary statements.

Unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information or future events or developments. Thus, you should not assume that our silence over time means that actual events are bearing out as expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds to us from the sale of 7,020,000 shares of our common stock offered hereby, at the public offering price of \$2.85 per share, will be approximately \$18.5 million, or approximately \$21.4 million if the underwriters exercise in full their over-allotment option to purchase additional shares of common stock, after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including the continued development, manufacture, marketing and sale of our Celution[®] System family of products, including related research and clinical trials, and other related research and development, sales and marketing, and general administrative expenses, working capital, capital expenditures and future acquisitions.

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTX." The last reported sale price for our common stock on December 13, 2012 was \$3.32 per share. The table below sets forth high and low sale prices for our common stock during the periods indicated.

| | 2012 | | 2011 | | 2010 | |
|--|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | High | Low | High | Low | High | Low |
| | | | | | | |
| First Occurrent | ¢ 4 ⊑0 | ¢-1 -10 | ¢0.00 | ሮር 10 | ¢0 50 | ¢ 4 40 |
| First Quarter | \$4.50 | \$2.20 | \$8.06 | \$5.18 | \$9.50 | \$4.40 |
| Second Quarter | \$2.86 | \$2.01 | \$8.44 | \$4.50 | \$6.12 | \$3.42 |
| Third Quarter | \$4.93 | \$2.35 | \$5.72 | \$2.32 | \$5.43 | \$3.15 |
| Fourth Quarter (through December 13, 2012) | \$4.55 | \$3.15 | \$3.30 | \$1.90 | \$6.15 | \$4.07 |

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid any dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying any in the foreseeable future.

DILUTION

If you purchase our common stock in this offering, your interest will be diluted to the extent of the difference between the offering price per share and the net tangible book value per share of our common stock after this offering. Our net tangible book value as September 30, 2012 was approximately \$(13.68) million, or \$(0.23) per share. Net tangible book value per share is determined by dividing our total tangible assets, less total liabilities, by the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of September 30, 2012. Dilution in net tangible book value per share represents the difference between the amount per share paid by purchasers of shares of our common stock in this offering and the net tangible book value per share of our common stock immediately after this offering.

After taking into account the sale by us of 7,020,000 shares of our common stock in this offering at the public offering price of \$2.85 per share, after deduction for underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, our as adjusted net tangible book value as of September 30, 2012 would have been approximately \$4.87 million, or \$0.07 per share. This would represent an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$0.30 per share to existing stockholders and in immediate dilution of \$2.78 per share to investors purchasing our common stock in this offering at the public offering price. The following table illustrates this dilution on a per share basis:

| Public offering price per share | | \$2.85 |
|--|----------|--------|
| Net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2012 | \$(0.23) | |
| Increase per share attributable to investors purchasing our common stock in this offering | \$ 0.30 | |
| As adjusted net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2012, after giving effect to this offering | | \$0.07 |
| Dilution in net tangible book value per share to investors purchasing our common stock in this offering | | \$2.78 |

If the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase 1,053,000 additional shares of common stock at the public offering price of \$2.85 per share, the pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value after this offering would be \$0.12 per share, representing an increase in net tangible book value of \$0.35 per share to existing stockholders and immediate dilution in net tangible book value of \$2.73 per share to investors purchasing our common stock in this offering at the public offering price.

The amounts above are based on 58,720,627 shares of common stock outstanding as of September 30, 2012 and assume no exercise of outstanding options or warrants and no vesting of restricted stock awards since that date. The number of common stock expected to be outstanding after this offering excludes, as of September 30:

- 7,520,859 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options, having a weighted average exercise price of \$4.99 per share;
- 294,741 shares of common stock issuable upon the vesting of outstanding restricted stock awards;

- 261,300 shares of common stock issuable upon the achievement of certain performance criteria and vesting of outstanding performance based restricted stock awards; and
- 10,117,038 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants with a weighted-average exercise price of \$3.27 per share.

To the extent options or warrants outstanding as of September 30, 2012 have been or may be exercised or other shares have been issued, there may be further dilution to investors. In addition, we may choose to raise additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans. To the extent that additional capital is raised through the sale of equity or convertible debt securities, the issuance of these securities could result in further dilution to our stockholders.

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following summary describes the material U.S. federal income and estate tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our common stock acquired in this offering by a Non-U.S. Holder (as defined below). This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income and estate taxes and does not deal with foreign, state and local consequences that may be relevant to Non-U.S. Holders in light of their particular circumstances. Special rules may apply to, and this summary does not address, certain Non-U.S. Holders that are subject to special treatment under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, such as financial institutions, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, broker-dealers and traders in securities, U.S. expatriates, "controlled foreign corporations," "passive foreign investment companies," corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax, persons that hold our common stock as part of a "straddle," "hedge," "conversion transaction," "synthetic security" or integrated investment, partnerships and other pass-through entities. Such Non-U.S. Holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state, local and other tax consequences that may be relevant to them. Furthermore, the discussion below is based upon the provisions of the Code, and Treasury regulations, rulings and judicial decisions thereunder as of the date hereof, and such authorities may be repealed, revoked or modified, perhaps retroactively, so as to result in U.S. federal income and estate tax consequences different from those discussed below. This discussion assumes that the Non-U.S. Holder holds our common stock as a "capital asset" within the meaning of Code Section 1221.

The following discussion is for general information only and is not tax advice. Persons considering the purchase of our common stock should consult their own tax advisors concerning the U.S. federal income and estate tax consequences in light of their particular situations as well as any consequences arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction, including any state, local or foreign tax consequences.

Except as otherwise described in the discussion of estate tax below, a "Non-U.S. Holder" is a beneficial holder of our common stock that is not a U.S. Holder or a partnership. A "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial holder of our common stock that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes (i) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or other entity treated as a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof, (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source or (iv) a trust if it (x) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (y) has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If a partnership (including any entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) acquires our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Persons who are partners of partnerships holding our common stock are urged to consult their tax advisors.

Distributions

Subject to the discussion below, distributions, if any, made to a Non-U.S. Holder of our common stock out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits generally will constitute dividends for U.S. tax purposes and will be subject to withholding tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate

as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty. To obtain a reduced rate of withholding under a treaty, a Non-U.S. Holder generally will be required to provide us with a properly-executed IRS Form W-8BEN, or other appropriate form, certifying the Non-U.S. Holder's entitlement to benefits under that treaty. Treasury regulations provide special rules to determine whether, for purposes of determining the applicability of a tax treaty, dividends paid to a Non-U.S. Holder that is an entity should be treated as paid to the entity or to those holding an interest in that entity. If a Non-U.S. Holder holds stock through a financial institution or other agent acting on the holder's behalf, the holder will be required to provide appropriate documentation to such agent. The holder's agent will then be required to provide certification to us or our paying agent, either directly or through other intermediaries.

We generally are not required to withhold tax on dividends paid to a Non-U.S. Holder that are effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Holder's conduct of a trade or business within the United States if a properly-executed IRS Form W-8ECI, stating that the dividends are so connected (and are not exempt from net U.S. federal income tax under a treaty as described below), is filed with us. Any dividends paid on our common stock that are effectively connected with a Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. trade or business (and, if required by an applicable tax treaty, attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Holder in the United States) generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis in the same manner as if such holder were a U.S. person. A corporate Non-U.S. Holder receiving effectively connected dividends may also be subject to an additional "branch profits tax", which is imposed, under certain circumstances, at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable treaty) of the corporate Non-U.S. Holder's effectively connected earnings and profits, subject to certain adjustments. If you are eligible for a reduced rate of withholding tax pursuant to a tax treaty, you may generally obtain a refund of any excess amounts currently withheld if you timely file an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS. Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding their entitlement to benefits under a relevant income tax treaty.

To the extent distributions on our common stock, if any, exceed our current and accumulated earnings and profits, they will constitute a return of capital and will first reduce a Non-U.S. Holder's basis in our common stock, but not below zero. Any excess will be treated as capital gain and will be treated as described under the section titled "—Gain on disposition of common stock" below.

Gain on Disposition of Common Stock

A Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to gain realized on a sale or other disposition of our common stock unless (i) the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business of such holder in the United States and, if required by an applicable tax treaty, attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Holder in the United States, (ii) in the case of Non-U.S. Holders who are nonresident alien individuals, such individuals are present in the United States for 183 or more days in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met, or (iii) we are or have been a "United States real property holding corporation" within the meaning of Code Section 897(c)(2) at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding such disposition or such holder's holding period in our common stock. In general, we would be a United States real property holding corporation if interests in U.S. real estate comprised at least half of our business assets. We believe that we are not, and do not anticipate becoming, a United States real property holding corporation. Even if we are treated as a United States real property holding corporation, gain realized by a Non-U.S. Holder on a disposition of our common stock will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax so long as (1) the Non-U.S. Holder owned directly, indirectly and

constructively, no more than five percent of our common stock at all times within the shorter of (a) the five year period preceding the disposition or (b) the holder's holding period and (2) our common stock is regularly traded on an established securities market. There can be no assurance that our common stock will continue to qualify as regularly traded on an established securities market.

If you are a Non-U.S. Holder described in (i) above, you will be required to pay tax on the net gain derived from the sale at generally applicable United States federal income tax rates as if you were a U.S. person, subject to an applicable income tax treaty providing otherwise. Corporate Non-U.S. Holders described in (i) above may be subject to the branch profits tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty. If you are an individual Non-U.S. Holder described in (ii) above, you will be required to pay a flat 30% tax (or a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty) on the gain derived from the sale, which tax may be offset by U.S. source capital losses if you have timely filed tax returns with respect to such losses (even though you are not considered a resident of the United States).

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Generally, we must report to the IRS the amount of dividends paid, the name and address of the recipient, and the amount, if any, of tax withheld. A similar report is sent to the holder. Pursuant to tax treaties or certain other agreements, the IRS may make its reports available to tax authorities in the recipient's country of residence. Backup withholding will generally not apply to payments of dividends made by us or our paying agents to a Non-U.S. Holder if the holder has provided its federal taxpayer identification number, if any, or the required certification that it is not a U.S. person (which is generally provided by furnishing a properly-executed IRS Form W-8BEN), unless the payer otherwise has knowledge or reason to know that the payee is a U.S. person. The backup withholding rate is currently 28%. Backup withholding is generally not required on payments to corporations, whether domestic or foreign.

Under current U.S. federal income tax law, information reporting and backup withholding will apply to the proceeds of a disposition of our common stock effected by or through a U.S. office of a broker unless the disposing holder certifies as to its non-U.S. status or otherwise establishes an exemption. The certification procedures for claiming benefits under a tax treaty described in "—Distributions" above will satisfy the certification requirements to avoid backup withholding as well. Generally, U.S. information reporting and backup withholding will not apply to a payment of disposition proceeds where the transaction is effected outside the United States through a non-U.S. office of a non-U.S. broker. Backup withholding will apply to a payment of disposition proceeds if the broker has actual knowledge or reason to know that the holder is a U.S. person.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Rather, the tax liability of persons subject to backup withholding will be reduced by the amount of tax withheld. If withholding results in an overpayment of taxes, a refund may generally be obtained, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Legislation Relating to Foreign Accounts

Withholding taxes may apply to certain types of payments made to "foreign financial institutions" (as specially defined under those rules) and certain other non-U.S. entities. Specifically, a 30% withholding tax may be imposed on dividends on, and gross proceeds from the sale or other

disposition of, our common stock paid to a foreign financial institution or to a foreign non-financial foreign entity, unless (1) the foreign financial institution undertakes certain diligence and reporting, (2) the non-financial foreign entity either certifies it does not have any substantial United States owners or furnishes identifying information regarding each substantial United States owner, or (3) the foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity otherwise qualifies for an exemption from these rules. If the payee is a foreign financial institution and is subject to the diligence and reporting requirements in clause (1) above, it must enter into an agreement with the United States Treasury requiring, among other things, that it undertake to identify accounts held by certain United States persons or United States-owned foreign entities, annually report certain information about such accounts, and withhold 30% on payments to non-compliant foreign financial institutions and certain other account holders.

Although these rules currently apply to applicable payments made after December 31, 2012, the IRS has issued Proposed Treasury Regulations providing that the withholding provisions described above will generally apply to payments of dividends on our common stock made on or after January 1, 2014 and to payments of gross proceeds from a sale or other disposition of such stock on or after January 1, 2015. The Proposed Treasury Regulations described above will not be effective until they are issued in their final form, and as of the date of this summary, it is not possible to determine whether the proposed regulations will be finalized in their current form or at all. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding these withholding provisions.

Federal Estate Tax

Common stock owned or treated as owned by an individual who is not a citizen or resident of the United States (as specifically defined for U.S. federal estate tax purposes) at the time of death is considered a U.S. situs asset includible in the individual's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes and therefore may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax, unless an applicable estate tax treaty provides otherwise. Prospective investors are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal estate tax considerations of acquiring, holding, and disposing of common stock. The test for whether an individual is a resident of the United States for federal estate tax purposes differs from the test used for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Some individuals, therefore, may be "Non-U.S. Holders" for U.S. federal income tax purposes, but not for U.S. federal estate tax purposes, and vice versa.

THE PRECEDING DISCUSSION OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME AND ESTATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. IT IS NOT TAX ADVICE. EACH PROSPECTIVE INVESTOR SHOULD CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF PURCHASING, HOLDING AND DISPOSING OF OUR COMMON STOCK, INCLUDING THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY PROPOSED CHANGE IN APPLICABLE LAW.

UNDERWRITING

Under the terms and subject to the conditions in an underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, the underwriters named below, for whom Lazard Capital Markets is acting as the representative, have severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to them, the number of shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement as indicated below:

| Underwriter | Number of Shares |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Lazard Capital Markets LLC | 5,616,000 |
| Maxim Group, LLC | 877,500 |
| Ascendiant Capital Markets, LLC | 526,500 |
| Total | 7,020,000 |

The underwriters are offering the shares of common stock subject to their acceptance of the shares from us and subject to prior sale. The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement if any such shares are taken.

The underwriters have an option to buy up to 1,053,000 additional shares of common stock from us to cover sales of shares by the underwriters which exceed the number of shares specified in the table above. The underwriters may exercise this option at any time and from time to time during the 30-day period from the date of this prospectus supplement. If any additional shares of common stock are purchased, the underwriters will offer the additional shares on the same terms as those on which the shares are being offered.

The underwriters initially propose to offer the shares of common stock directly to the public at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. After the initial offering of the shares of common stock, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the underwriters.

Pursuant to our written instructions, the underwriters allocated approximately 67,000 shares of common stock to certain of our directors and officers.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters are subject to certain conditions precedent, including the absence of any material adverse change in our business and the receipt of customary legal opinions, letters and certificates.

Commissions and Discounts

The following table summarizes the public offering price, underwriting discounts and commissions and proceeds before expenses to us assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares:

| | | Total | | |
|--|-----------|---------------|--------------|--|
| | | Without Over- | With Over- | |
| | Per Share | Allotment | Allotment | |
| Public offering price | \$ 2.8500 | \$ 20,007,000 | \$23,008,050 | |
| Underwriting discounts and commissions | \$ 0.1568 | \$ 1,100,736 | \$ 1,265,846 | |
| Proceeds, before expenses, to us | \$ 2.6932 | \$ 18,906,264 | \$21,742,204 | |

We estimate that the total expenses of this offering, including registration, filing and listing fees, printing fees, and legal and accounting expenses, but excluding the underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$360,000.

The relationship between Lazard Frères & Co. LLC and Lazard Capital Markets LLC is governed by a business alliance agreement between their respective parent companies. Pursuant to such agreement, Lazard Frères & Co. LLC referred this transaction to Lazard Capital Markets LLC and will receive a referral fee from Lazard Capital Markets LLC in connection therewith; however, such referral fee is not in addition to the fee paid by us to Lazard Capital Markets LLC described above.

Indemnification

We and the underwriters have agreed to indemnify each other, and we have also agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and liabilities arising from breaches of representations and warranties contained in the underwriting agreement. We have also agreed to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of such liabilities.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We and each of our executive officers and directors, subject to certain exceptions, have agreed with the underwriters not to dispose of or hedge any of our shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock for 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without first obtaining the written consent of the representative. The exceptions to the lock-up for executive officers and directors are: (a) transfers of beneficially owned shares, common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock (i) as a bona fide gift or gifts, (ii) to any trust for the direct or indirect benefit of the undersigned or the immediate family of the undersigned or (iii) by will or intestacy to the executive officer's or director's, as applicable, legal representative, heir or legatee; (b) transactions in our securities pursuant to any contract, instruction or plan complying with Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that has been entered into by executive officer or director, as applicable, prior to the date of this agreement; and (c) the exercise by two directors of up to an aggregate of 75,000 stock options expiring during the lock-up period, and the related sale of shares of common stock to cover the exercise price of all such options and any taxes related thereto, provided that the proceeds from the number of shares of common stock so sold shall not exceed the amount required to exercise all such

expiring stock options and to pay the taxes due for such exercise; provided that in the case of any transfer or distribution pursuant to clause (a), each donee or distributee or transferee shall execute and deliver to Lazard a lock-up letter for the balance of the lock-up period in the form required. The exceptions to the lock-up for us are: (w) our sale of shares in this offering; (x) the issuance of restricted common stock or options to acquire common stock pursuant to our benefit plans, qualified equity incentive plans or other compensation plans; (y) the issuance of common stock in connection with any arm's-length bona fide strategic transactions not involving any affiliates of the company, which in the aggregate shall not exceed 5% of our outstanding common stock immediately prior to this offering; and (z) the issuance of common stock pursuant to the valid exercises of options, warrants or rights; each of which is subject to certain conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement. The 90-day "lock-up" period during which we and our executive officers and directors are restricted from engaging in transactions in our common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock is subject to extension such that, in the event that either (i) during the last 17 days of the "lock-up" period, we issue an earnings or financial results release or material news or a material event relating to us occurs, or (ii) prior to the expiration of the "lock-up" period, we announce that we will release earnings or financial results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of the "lock-up" period, then in either case the expiration of the "lock-up" period will be extended until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings or financial results release or the occurrence of the material news or material event, as applicable, unless the representative waives, in writing, such an extension.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions

In order to facilitate the offering of our common stock, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of our common stock. Specifically, the underwriters may sell more shares than they are obligated to purchase under the underwriting agreement, creating a short position. The underwriters must close out any short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A short position may be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchased in this offering. As an additional means of facilitating this offering, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, shares of our common stock in the open market to stabilize the price of the common stock. These activities may raise or maintain the market price of our common stock above independent market levels or prevent or slow a decline in the market price of our common stock. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

A prospectus in electronic format may be made available on websites maintained by the underwriters. The representative may agree to allocate a number of shares of common stock to other underwriters for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Internet distributions will be allocated by the underwriters on the same basis as other allocations.

United Kingdom

This document is only being distributed to and is only directed at (i) persons who are outside the United Kingdom or (ii) to investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the "Order") or (iii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (e) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). The shares of

common stock are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such common stock will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

(a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the shares in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to us, and

(b) it has complied with, and will comply with all applicable provisions of FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the shares in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

European Economic Area

To the extent that the offer of the common stock is made in any Member State of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive before the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to the common stock which has been approved by the competent authority in the Member State in accordance with the Prospectus Directive (or, where appropriate, published in accordance with the Prospectus Directive and notified to the competent authority in the Member State in accordance with the Prospectus Directive), the offer (including any offer pursuant to this document) is only addressed to qualified investors in that Member State within the meaning of the Prospectus Directive or has been or will be made otherwise in circumstances that do not require us to publish a prospectus pursuant to the Prospectus Directive.

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), each underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") it has not made and will not make an offer of shares to the public in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of shares to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

(a) to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities,

(b) to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than \notin 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than \notin 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts, or

(c) in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive. For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of shares to the public" in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member

State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the shares, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

The EEA selling restriction is in addition to any other selling restrictions set out below. In relation to each Relevant Member State, each purchaser of shares of common stock (other than the underwriters) will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that it will not make an offer of shares of common stock to the public in any Relevant Member State, except that it may, with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in the Relevant Member State, make an offer of shares of common stock to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time in any circumstances which do not require the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive, provided that such purchaser agrees that it has not and will not make an offer of shares of common stock in reliance or purported reliance on Article 3(2)(b) of the Prospectus Directive. For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of shares to the public" in relation to any shares of common stock in any Relevant Member State has the same meaning as in the preceding paragraph.

Switzerland

This document does not constitute a prospectus within the meaning of Art. 652a of the Swiss Code of Obligations. The shares of common stock may not be sold directly or indirectly in or into Switzerland except in a manner which will not result in a public offering within the meaning of the Swiss Code of Obligations. Neither this document nor any other offering materials relating to the shares of common stock may be distributed, published or otherwise made available in Switzerland except in a manner which will not constitute a public offer of the shares of common stock in Switzerland.

Listing on The NASDAQ Global Market

Our common shares are traded on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTX." The transfer agent for our common shares to be issued in this offering is ComputerShare Investor Services, LLC.

LEGAL MATTERS

DLA Piper LLP (US), San Diego, California will pass upon the validity of the issuance of the common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Proskauer Rose LLP, New York, New York, is counsel for the underwriter in connection with this offering.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Cytori Therapeutics, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2011, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-172787), of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are a part, under the Securities Act, to register the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement. However, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not contain all of the information contained in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules to the registration statement. We encourage you to carefully read the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules to the registration statement.

As a public company, we are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Copies of certain information filed by us with the SEC are also available on our website at www.cytori.com. Our website is not a part of this prospectus supplement. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference room, at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1–800–SEC–0330 for further information on the operation of its Public Reference Room.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

We are allowed to incorporate by reference information contained in documents that we file with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents and that the information in this prospectus supplement is not complete. You should read the information incorporated by reference for more detail. We incorporate by reference in two ways. First, we list below certain documents that we have already filed with the SEC. The information in these documents is considered part of this prospectus supplement. Second, the information in documents that we file in the future will update and supersede the current information in, and be incorporated by reference in, this prospectus supplement.

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We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the following documents listed below, and any filings we make with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement until the termination of this offering (in each case, except for the information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 in any current report on Form 8-K and Form 8-K/A):

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 filed with the SEC on March 13, 2012, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A filed with the SEC on September 7, 2012;
- our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on April 30, 2012 pursuant to Section 14 of the Exchange Act in connection with our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders;
- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2012 filed with the SEC on May 10, 2012;
- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2012 filed with the SEC on August 9, 2012;
- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2012 filed with the SEC on November 9, 2012;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 1, 2012, August 21, 2012, October 3, 2012, November 6, 2012 and December 14, 2012;
- the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 10/A filed with the SEC on July 16, 2001 (File No. 000-32501); and
- the description of our Series RP Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on May 30, 2003 (File No. 000-32501), including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating the description.

We will provide each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement but not delivered with this prospectus supplement upon written or oral request at no cost to the requester. Requests should be directed to: Cytori Therapeutics, Inc., 3020 Callan Road, San Diego, CA 92121, Attn: Investor Relations, telephone: (858) 458-0900.

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PROSPECTUS

\$100,000,000



CYTORI THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Common Stock Preferred Stock Debt Securities Warrants to Purchase Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Debt Securities and Units

We may from time to time in one or more offerings offer and sell up to \$100,000,000 aggregate dollar amount of common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or any combination of the foregoing, either individually or as units comprised of one or more of the other securities. We will provide the specific terms for each of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. We may sell these securities to or through underwriters or dealers and also to other purchasers or through agents. We will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents in the accompanying prospectus supplement applicable to the sale of such securities. You should read carefully this prospectus and any supplement before you invest.

Where necessary, the applicable prospectus supplement will contain information about certain United States Federal income tax considerations relating to, and any listing on a securities exchange of, the securities covered by such prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTX." On March 9, 2011, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Market was \$6.77 per share and the last reported sale price of our warrants was \$4.58 per warrant.

Investing in our securities involves risk. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 3.

This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell any securities unless it is accompanied by the applicable prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is May 9, 2011.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may from time to time in one or more offerings sell common stock, preferred stock, debt securities or warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or any combination of the foregoing, either individually or as units comprised of one or more of the other securities, in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$100,000,000. We have provided to you in this prospectus a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will, to the extent required by law, provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of the offering. We may also add, update or change in any accompanying prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus we may authorize to be delivered to you any of the information contained in this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement or the related free writing prospectus, provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date—for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus or any related free writing prospectus.

We have not authorized any dealer, agent or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or an accompanying prospectus supplement. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, if any, do not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the registered securities to which they relate, nor do this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation in such jurisdiction. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, if any, is accurate on any date subsequent to the date set forth on the front of the document or that any information we have incorporated by reference is correct on any date subsequent to the date of the document incorporated by reference (as our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date), even though this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement is delivered or securities are sold on a later date.

As permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC, the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, includes additional information not contained in this prospectus. You may read the registration statement and the other reports we file with the SEC at the SEC's web site or at the SEC's offices described below under the heading "Where You Can Find Additional Information."

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information from this prospectus and does not contain all of the information that you need to consider in making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, including the risks of investing discussed under "Risk Factors" described on page 4, the information incorporated by reference, including our financial statements, and the exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. When used in this prospectus, the terms "CYTX", "we", "our", "us" or the "Company" refer to Cytori Therapeutics, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless otherwise indicated or as the context otherwise requires.

About Cytori Therapeutics, Inc.

Cytori develops, manufactures, and sells a portfolio of medical products and devices to enable the practice of regenerative medicine. Regenerative medicine describes the emerging field that aims to repair or restore lost or damaged tissue and cell function. By providing real-time access to naturally occurring stem and regenerative cells in fat tissue and optimized fat grafting technologies, we aim to address ischemic conditions and diseases, including soft tissue repair, acute heart attacks and chronic myocardial ischemia, along with a broad pipeline spanning cardiovascular disease, wound healing, gastrointestinal disorders, stress urinary incontinence, liver and renal disease, spinal disc degeneration and pelvic health conditions. To achieve our goal of making regenerative medicine available worldwide, we have partnered with Olympus Corporation, GE Healthcare, and Green Hospital Supply, Inc.

Our core technology is the patented Celution[®] family of products which processes patients' adipose tissue to obtain adipose-derived stem and regenerative cells (ADRCs) at the point of care. The Celution [®] family of products consists of a central device, a related single-use consumable used for each patient procedure, proprietary enzyme reagents, and related instrumentation. Our commercialization model is based on the sale of Celution [®] Systems and on generating recurring revenues from the single-use consumable sets.

Our PureGraft[™] System, or PureGraft[™], formally launched in the United States in April 2010 at the meeting of the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS) following Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, clearance in January 2010, optimizes the preparation of autologous fat grafts. PureGraft[™] is an innovative consumable product that provides consistent, quality grafts for use in aesthetic body contouring procedures. In Europe, PureGraft[™] is sold as a complement to the Celution [®] System. We received the EU CE Mark for PureGraft[™] in July 2010. In the United States, PureGraft[™] is a strategic product that allows us to build relationships in the cosmetic and reconstructive surgery community while Celution [®] is under review by the FDA. In addition, we believe our PureGraft[™] customer base will provide valuable sales leads, if Celution [®] is approved in the United States.

We also sell the StemSource[®] family of products worldwide, including in the United States, for research as well as for the cryopreservation and storage of ADRCs. The StemSource [®] System is offered as a standalone product, or as a part of a comprehensive suite of systems, equipment, and protocols for ADRC and fat tissue banking, collectively referred to as a StemSource [®] Cell Bank. The StemSource [®] Cell Bank is being marketed in Japan through our commercialization partner, Green Hospital Supply, Inc. (Green Hospital Supply) and in the United States by our direct sales team. The first U.S. StemSource [®] Bank was sold in Texas in May 2010.

We were initially formed as a California general partnership in July 1996, and incorporated in the State of Delaware in May 1997. We were formerly known as MacroPore Biosurgery, Inc., and before that as MacroPore, Inc. Our corporate offices are located at 3020 Callan Road, San Diego, CA 92121. Our telephone number is (858) 458-0900. Our website address is <u>www.cytoritx.com</u>. We make available free of charge through our Internet website our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Information contained on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

With this prospectus, we may offer common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and warrants, or any combination of the foregoing, either individually or as units comprised of one or more of the other securities. The aggregate initial offering price of all securities we sell in the primary offering under this prospectus will not exceed \$100,000,000. If we issue debt securities at a discount from their original stated principal amount, then, for purposes of calculating the total dollar amount of all securities issued under this prospectus, we will treat the initial offering price of the debt securities as the total original principal amount of the debt securities. Each time we offer securities with this prospectus, we will provide offerees with a prospectus supplement that will contain the specific terms of the securities being offered. The following is a summary of the securities we may offer with this prospectus.

We may sell the securities to or through underwriters, dealers or agents or directly to purchasers. We, as well as any agents acting on our behalf, reserve the sole right to accept and to reject in whole or in part any proposed purchase of securities. Each prospectus supplement will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of securities described in that prospectus supplement and any applicable fee, commission or discount arrangements with them.

Common Stock

We may offer shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, either alone or underlying other registered securities convertible into or exercisable for our common stock. Holders of our common stock are entitled to such dividends as our board of directors may declare from time to time out of legally available funds, subject to the preferential rights of the holders of any shares of our preferred stock that are outstanding or that we may issue in the future. Currently, we do not pay any dividends. Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote per share. In this prospectus, we provide a general description of, among other things, our dividend policy and the rights and restrictions that apply to holders of our common stock.

Preferred Stock

We may issue shares of preferred stock in one or more classes or series. Our board of directors or a committee designated by our board of directors will determine the dividend, voting and conversion rights and other provisions at the time of sale. The particular terms of each class or series of preferred stock, including redemption privileges, liquidation preferences, voting rights, dividend rights and/or conversion rights, will be more fully described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the preferred stock offered thereby.

Debt Securities

We may offer general debt obligations, which may be secured or unsecured, senior or subordinated and convertible into shares of our common stock. In this prospectus, we refer to the senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities together as the "debt securities." We may issue debt securities under a note purchase agreement or under an indenture to be entered between us and a trustee. A form of the indenture is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. The indenture does not limit the amount of securities that may be issued under it and provides that debt securities may be issued in one or more series. The senior debt securities will have the same rank as all of our other indebtedness that is not subordinated debt securities will be effectively subordinated to our senior debt on terms set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. In addition, the subordinated debt securities being offered. This prospectus contains only general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of the debt securities offered thereby.

Warrants

We may offer warrants for the purchase of debt securities, shares of preferred stock or shares of common stock. We may issue the warrants by themselves or together with debt securities, preferred stock or common stock and the warrants may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of securities warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and the investors or a warrant agent. Our board of directors will determine the terms of the warrants. This prospectus contains only general terms and provisions of the warrants. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of the warrants being offered thereby.

RISK FACTORS

Investment in our securities involves risks. Prior to making a decision about investing in our securities, you should consider carefully the risk factors, together with all of the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, including any additional specific risks described in the section entitled "Risk Factors" contained in any supplements to this prospectus and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 filed with the SEC, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. Each of these risk factors could have a material adverse affect on our business, results of operations, financial position or cash flows, which may result in the loss of all or part of your investment.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference herein, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our anticipated expenditures, including those related to clinical research studies and general and administrative expenses, the potential size of the market for our products, future development and/or expansion of our products and therapies in our markets, our ability to generate product revenues or effectively manage our gross profit margins, our ability to obtain regulatory approvals and clearances to sell our products, expectations as to our future performance, our need for additional financing and the availability thereof, and the potential enhancement of our cash position through development, marketing, and licensing arrangements. Any statements about our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance are not historical facts and may be forward-looking. These statements are often, but not always, made through the use of terminology such as "anticipates," "believes," "continue" "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "potential," "predicts," "should," "will," or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements may also use different phrases. Accordingly, these statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in them. Any forward-looking statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the factors discussed in this prospectus, including in the documents incorporated by reference herein.

Because the factors discussed in this prospectus, including in the documents incorporated by reference herein, and even factors of which we are not yet aware, could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statement made by or on behalf of us, you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statement. These statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, known and unknown, which could cause actual results, performance and achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. We have included important factors in the cautionary statements included in this prospectus, particularly under the heading "Risk Factors," and in our SEC filings that we believe could cause actual results or events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements that we make. These and other risks are also detailed in our reports filed from time to time under the Securities Act and/or the Exchange Act. You are encouraged to read these filings as they are made.

Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New risk factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which factors will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

We present below our ratio of earnings to fixed charges. Earnings available to cover fixed charges consist of loss from continuing operations before income taxes plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense and the portion of rental expense we believe to be representative of interest.

| | | Year Ended December 31, | | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------------|---|------------|--|--|
| | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | | |
| | | | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Earnings available to cover fixed charges: | \$(24,999) | \$(21,476) | \$(29,294) | \$(28,190) | \$(24,772) | | |
| Fixed charges: | 2,665 | 1,894 | 1,147 | 475 | 601 | | |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges: | <u>\$ </u> | <u>\$ </u> | \$ — | <u>\$ </u> | \$ | | |

For all periods presented, earnings are insufficient to cover fixed charges. Coverage is deficient by the following amounts:

| \$(27,664) | \$(23.370) | \$(30,441) | \$(28,655) | \$(25,373) |
|--------------------|--------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| ¢(<u>=</u> /,001) | ¢(<u>=</u> 0,070) | <i>\(\(\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\</i> | \$(1 0,000) | ¢(<u>1</u> 0,070) |

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as described in any prospectus supplement, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes, including the continued development, manufacture, marketing and sale of our Celution[™] System family of products, including related research and clinical trials, and other related research and development, sales and marketing, and general administrative expenses, working capital and capital expenditures. In addition our use of proceeds may include the repayment of debt or refinancing of indebtedness or the acquisition of complementary products or companies.

We have not determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for the foregoing purposes. As a result, our management will have broad discretion in the allocation of the net proceeds and investors will be relying on the judgment of our management regarding the application of the proceeds of any sale of the securities. Pending use of the net proceeds, we intend to invest the proceeds in a variety of capital preservation instruments, including short-term, investment-grade, interest-bearing instruments.

When we offer a particular series of securities, we will describe the intended use of the net proceeds from that offering in a prospectus supplement. The actual amount of net proceeds we spend on a particular use will depend on many factors, including, our future revenue growth, if any, our future capital expenditures and the amount of cash required by our operations. Many of these factors are beyond our control. Therefore, we will retain broad discretion in the use of the net proceeds.

SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

We may offer shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, debt securities or warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, or any combination of the foregoing, either individually or as units comprised of one or more of the other securities. We may offer up to \$100,000,000 of securities under this prospectus. If securities are offered as units, we will describe the terms of the units in a prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with any additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of our common stock and the preferred stock that we may offer in offerings under this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future common stock or preferred stock that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any class or series of these securities in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws that are incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or may be incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. The terms of these securities may also be affected by Delaware General Corporation Law. The summary below and that contained in any prospectus supplement are qualified in their entirety by reference to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws.

Common Stock

We are authorized to issue 95,000,000 shares of common stock, of which 51,996,191 shares were issued and outstanding as of March 9, 2011. The holders of Common Stock possess exclusive voting rights in us, except to the extent our board of directors specifies voting power with respect to any other class of securities issued in the future. Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held of record on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders, including the election of directors. Stockholders do not have any right to cumulate votes in the election of directors.

Subject to preferences that may be granted to the holders of preferred stock, each holder of our common stock is entitled to share ratably in distributions to stockholders and to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available therefor. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to receive, after payment of all of our debts and liabilities and of all sums to which holders of any preferred stock may be entitled, the distribution of any of our remaining assets. Holders of our common stock have no conversion, exchange, sinking fund, redemption or appraisal rights (other than such as may be determined by our board of directors in its sole discretion) and have no preemptive rights to subscribe for any of our securities.

All of the outstanding shares of our common stock are, and the shares of common stock issued upon the conversion of any securities convertible into our common stock will be, fully paid and non-assessable. The shares of common stock offered by this prospectus or upon the conversion of any preferred stock or debt securities or exercise of any warrants offered pursuant to this prospectus, when issued and paid for, will also be, fully paid and non-assessable.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTX."

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is ComputerShare Investor Services, LLC.

Rights Plan

On May 28, 2003, we adopted a stockholder rights plan, or Rights Plan. The description and terms of the rights issuable under the Rights Plan are set forth in a Rights Agreement between us and Computershare Trust Company, Inc., as rights agent, dated as of May 29, 2003. Under the Rights Plan, we distributed one Series RP preferred stock purchase right for each share of common stock outstanding at the close of business on June 10, 2003.

If a person or group of affiliated or associated persons acquires 15% or more of our common stock in a transaction not pre-approved by our Board of Directors, each right will entitle its holder, other than the acquirer, to receive upon exercise the number of shares of our common stock (or, in certain circumstances, of one one-thousandths of a share of preferred stock or other of our securities) having a value equal to two times the right's then-applicable purchase price (initially \$25.00 per one-thousandth of a share of Series RP preferred stock). In addition, if an unapproved party acquires 15% or more of our common stock, and we are later acquired by the unapproved party or in a transaction in which all of our stockholders are not treated alike, stockholders with unexercised rights, other than the unapproved party, will be entitled to purchase common stock of the merger party or asset buyer with a value of twice the exercise price of the rights. Each right also becomes exercisable for one one-thousandth of a share of our Series RP preferred stock or a ssociated persons commences, or announces an intention to make, a tender offer or exchange offer that, if completed, would result in the unapproved party acquiring 15% or more of our common stock. We may redeem the rights for a nominal amount before an event that causes the rights to become exercisable.

Until a right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of us, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends. While the distribution of the rights will not be taxable to our stockholders, stockholders may, depending upon the circumstances, recognize taxable income should the rights become exercisable or upon the occurrence of certain events thereafter. As long as the rights are attached to the shares of common stock, we will issue one right with each new share of common stock so that all shares of our common stock will have attached rights. The rights will expire on May 29, 2013, unless earlier redeemed by us.

On May 12, 2005, we amended the Rights Plan to change the threshold at which the rights separate from the common stock, from 15% to 20%, in the case of one of our stockholders, Neil Gagnon, either individually or together with his affiliates, including without limitation Gagnon Securities LLC and its affiliates (all together "Gagnon"). The effect of this amendment is to enable Gagnon to safely increase his beneficial ownership to above 15% (although not to above 20%) without thereby triggering distribution of the rights.

On August 28, 2007, we amended the Rights Plan to change the threshold at which the rights separate from the common stock, from 15% to 20%, in the case of one of our stockholders, Olympus Corporation. The effect of this amendment is to enable Olympus Corporation to safely increase its beneficial ownership to above 15% (although not to above 20%) without thereby triggering distribution of the rights.

The Rights Agreement, specifying the terms of the rights, including the form of Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of our Series RP preferred stock as an exhibit thereto, is attached as an exhibit to our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on May 30, 2003 and is incorporated herein by reference. Amendment No. 1 to Rights Agreement, dated as of May 12, 2005, between us and Computershare Trust Company, Inc., as rights agent, is attached as an exhibit to our current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 18, 2005, and Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement, dated as of August 28, 2007, between us and Computershare Trust Company, Inc., as rights agent, is attached as an exhibit to our current report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 28, 2007. The foregoing description of the rights is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Rights Agreement, as amended, and the exhibits thereto.

Preferred Stock

We are authorized to issue 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, none of which were issued and outstanding as of March 9, 2011. Our board is authorized to classify or reclassify any unissued portion of our authorized shares of preferred stock to provide for the issuance of shares of other classes or series, including preferred stock in one or more series. We may issue preferred stock from time to time in one or more classes or series, with the exact terms of each class or series established by our board. Without seeking stockholder approval, our board may issue preferred stock with voting and other rights that could adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our common stock. Additionally, the issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of decreasing the market price of the common stock.

The rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of the preferred stock of each series will be fixed by the certificate of designation relating to each series. A prospectus supplement relating to each series will specify the terms of the preferred stock, including, but not limited to:

- the distinctive designation and the maximum number of shares in the series;
- the terms on which dividends, if any, will be paid;
- the voting rights, if any, on the shares of the series;
- the terms and conditions, if any, on which the shares of the series shall be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of capital stock;
- the terms on which the shares may be redeemed, if at all;
- the liquidation preference, if any; and
- any or all other preferences, rights, restrictions, including restrictions on transferability, and qualifications of shares of the series.

The issuance of preferred stock may delay, deter or prevent a change in control.

We will describe the specific terms of a particular series of preferred stock in the prospectus supplement relating to that series. The description of preferred stock above and the description of the terms of a particular series of preferred stock in the prospectus supplement are not complete. You should refer to the applicable certificate of designation for complete information. The prospectus supplement will contain a description of U.S. federal income tax consequences relating to the preferred stock.

Possible Anti-Takeover Effects of Delaware Law and our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

The following is a summary of certain provisions of Delaware law, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws. This summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the corporate law of Delaware and our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws.

Effect of Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute. We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, an anti-takeover law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

- prior to that date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number

of shares of voting stock outstanding (but not the voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned by persons who are directors and officers and by excluding employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

on or subsequent to that date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66²/₃% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines "business combination" to include the following:

- any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;
- any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;
- subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;
- any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock of any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or
- the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, or who beneficially owns 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at anytime within a three year period immediately prior to the date of determining whether such person is an interested stockholder, and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by any of these entities or persons.

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Preferred Stock. Under our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our Board of Directors has the power to authorize the issuance of up to 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, all of which remain undesignated, and to determine the price, rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including voting rights, of those shares without further vote or action by our stockholders. The issuance of preferred stock may:

- delay, defer or prevent a change in control;
- discourage bids for our common stock at a premium over the market price of our common stock;
- adversely affect the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock; and
- discourage acquisition proposals or tender offers for our shares and, as a consequence, inhibit fluctuations in the market price of our shares that could
 result from actual or rumored takeover attempts.

Special Meeting Requirements. Our amended and restated bylaws provide that special meetings of our stockholders may only be called at the request of our president, chief executive officer or chairman of the board or by a majority of our Board of Directors.

Advance Notice Requirement. Stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of our stockholders must comply with advance notice procedures. These advance notice procedures require timely notice and apply in several situations, including stockholder proposals relating to the nominations of persons for

election to our Board of Directors. Generally, to be timely, notice must be received at our principal executive offices no later than the date specified in our proxy statement released to stockholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders, which date shall be not less than 120 calendar days in advance of the date of such proxy statement.

Indemnification. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws, as amended, provide that we will indemnify our officers and directors against losses as they incur in investigations and legal proceedings resulting from their services to us, which may include service in connection with takeover defense measures.

The above provisions may deter a hostile takeover or delay a change in control or management of us.

Rights Agreement

The rights described above under the heading "Description of Common Stock and Preferred Stock—Rights Plan" above have certain anti-takeover effects. The rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire a significant interest in us on terms not approved by our Board of Directors.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

General

The debt securities that we may issue may constitute debentures, notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of Cytori Therapeutics, Inc., to be issued in one or more series, which may include senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities. The particular terms of any series of debt securities we offer, including the extent to which the general terms set forth below may be applicable to a particular series, will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series.

Debt securities that we may issue may be issued under a senior indenture between us and a trustee, or a subordinated indenture between us and a trustee (collectively, the "indenture"). We have filed forms of the indentures as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. If we enter into any revised indenture or indenture supplement, we will file a copy of that supplement with the SEC.

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION IS A SUMMARY OF THE MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF THE INDENTURE. IT DOES NOT RESTATE THE INDENTURE IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE INDENTURE IS GOVERNED BY THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939. THE TERMS OF THE DEBT SECURITIES INCLUDE THOSE STATED IN THE INDENTURE AND THOSE MADE PART OF THE INDENTURE BY REFERENCE TO THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT. WE URGE YOU TO READ THE INDENTURE BECAUSE IT, AND NOT THIS DESCRIPTION, DEFINES YOUR RIGHTS AS A HOLDER OF THE DEBT SECURITIES.

The indenture contains no covenant or provision which affords debt holders protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction.

Information You Will Find in the Prospectus Supplement

The indenture provides that we may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series by resolution of our board of directors or by means of a supplemental indenture, and that we may denominate the debt securities and make them payable in foreign currencies. The indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that can be issued thereunder. The prospectus supplement for a series of debt securities will provide information relating to the terms of the series of debt securities being offered, which may include:

• the title and denominations of the debt securities of the series;

- any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series;
- the date or dates on which the principal and premium, if any, with respect to the debt securities of the series are payable or the method of determination thereof;
- the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, at which the debt securities of the series shall bear interest, if any, or the method of calculating and/or resetting such rate or rates of interest;
- the dates from which such interest shall accrue or the method by which such dates shall be determined and the basis upon which interest shall be calculated;
- the interest payment dates for the series of debt securities or the method by which such dates will be determined, the terms of any deferral of interest and any right of ours to extend the interest payments periods;
- the place or places where the principal and interest on the series of debt securities will be payable;
- the terms and conditions upon which debt securities of the series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at our option or otherwise;
- our obligation, if any, to redeem, purchase, or repay debt securities of the series pursuant to any sinking fund or other specified event or at the option of the holders and the terms of any such redemption, purchase, or repayment;
- the terms, if any, upon which the debt securities of the series may be convertible into or exchanged for other securities, including, among other things, the initial conversion or exchange price or rate and the conversion or exchange period;
- if the amount of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to the debt securities of the series may be determined with reference to an index or formula, the manner in which such amounts will be determined;
- if any payments on the debt securities of the series are to be made in a currency or currencies (or by reference to an index or formula) other than that in which such securities are denominated or designated to be payable, the currency or currencies (or index or formula) in which such payments are to be made and the terms and conditions of such payments;
- any changes or additions to the provisions of the indenture dealing with defeasance, including any additional covenants that may be subject to our covenant defeasance option;
- the currency or currencies in which payment of the principal and premium, if any, and interest with respect to debt securities of the series will be payable, or in which the debt securities of the series shall be denominated, and the particular provisions applicable thereto in accordance with the indenture;
- the portion of the principal amount of debt securities of the series which will be payable upon declaration of acceleration or provable in bankruptcy or the method by which such portion or amount shall be determined;
- whether the debt securities of the series will be secured or guaranteed and, if so, on what terms;
- any addition to or change in the events of default with respect to the debt securities of the series;
- the identity of any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars;
- the applicability of, and any addition to or change in, the covenants currently set forth in the indenture;
- the subordination, if any, of the debt securities of the series and terms of the subordination;
- any other terms of the debt securities of the series; and
- whether securities of the series shall be issuable as registered securities or bearer securities (with or without interest coupons), and any restrictions
 applicable to the offering, sale or delivery of such bearer securities and the terms upon which such bearer securities of a series may be exchanged for
 registered securities, and vice versa.

Holders of debt securities may present debt securities for exchange in the manner, at the places, and subject to the restrictions set forth in the debt securities, the indenture, and the prospectus supplement. We will provide these services without charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith, but subject to the limitations provided in the indenture, any board resolution establishing such debt securities and any applicable indenture supplement. Debt securities in bearer form and the coupons, if any, appertaining thereto will be transferable by delivery.

Senior Debt

We may issue senior debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior debt. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable indenture supplement or in any board resolution establishing such debt securities and described in a prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be senior unsecured obligations, ranking equally with all of our existing and future senior unsecured debt. The senior debt securities will be senior to all of our subordinated debt and junior to any secured debt we may incur as to the assets securing such debt.

Subordinated Debt

We may issue subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of such subordinated debt. These subordinated debt securities will be subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture and any applicable indenture supplement, to all of our senior indebtedness.

If this prospectus is being delivered in connection with a series of subordinated debt securities, the accompanying prospectus supplement or the information incorporated by reference will set forth the approximate amount of senior indebtedness, if any, outstanding as of the end of our most recent fiscal quarter.

Senior Subordinated Debt

We may issue senior subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior subordinated debt. These senior subordinated debt securities will be, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture, subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of our "senior indebtedness" and senior to our other subordinated debt. See the discussions above under "—Senior Debt" and "—Subordinated Debt" for a more detailed explanation of our senior and subordinated indebtedness.

Interest Rate

Debt securities that bear interest will do so at a fixed rate or a floating rate. We may sell, at a discount below the stated principal amount, any debt securities which bear no interest or which bear interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below the prevailing market rate. The relevant prospectus supplement will describe the special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to:

- any discounted debt securities; and
- any debt securities issued at par which are treated as having been issued at a discount for United States federal income tax purposes.

Registered Global Securities

We may issue registered debt securities of a series in the form of one or more fully registered global securities. We will deposit the registered global security with a depositary or with a nominee for a depositary identified in the prospectus supplement relating to such series. The global security or global securities will represent and will be in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate

principal amount of outstanding registered debt securities of the series to be represented by the registered global security or securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred, except as a whole in three cases:

- by the depositary for the registered global security to a nominee of the depositary;
- by a nominee of the depositary to the depositary or another nominee of the depositary; and
- by the depositary or any nominee to a successor of the depositary or a nominee of the successor.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the specific terms of the depositary arrangement concerning any portion of that series of debt securities to be represented by a registered global security. We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to all depositary arrangements.

Upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the registered global security to the accounts of persons that have accounts with the depositary. These persons are referred to as "participants." Any underwriters, agents or debtors participating in the distribution of debt securities represented by the registered global security will designate the accounts to be credited. Only participants or persons that hold interests through participants will be able to beneficially own interests in a registered global security will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a registered global security for participants. Participants or persons that hold through participants will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a global security for persons other than participants. These records will be the only means to transfer beneficial ownership in a registered global security.

The laws of some states may require that specified purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in definitive form. These laws may limit the ability of those persons to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in global securities.

So long as the depositary, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a registered global security, the depositary or its nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security:

- may not have the debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in their names;
- will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of debt securities represented by a registered global security in definitive form; and
- will not be considered the owners or holders of debt securities represented by a registered global security under the indenture.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depositary for the registered global security and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which the person owns its interests, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture applicable to the registered global security.

We understand that, under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders, or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action which a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depositary for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take the action, and the participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through the participants to give or take the action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

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Payment of Interest on and Principal of Registered Global Securities

We will make principal, premium, if any, and interest payments on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depositary or its nominee to the depositary or its nominee as the registered owner of the registered global security. None of Cytori, the trustee, or any paying agent for debt securities represented by a registered global security will have any responsibility or liability for:

- any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in such registered global security;
- maintaining, supervising, or reviewing any records relating to beneficial ownership interests;
- the payments to beneficial owners of the global security of amounts paid to the depositary or its nominee; or
- any other matter relating to the actions and practices of the depositary, its nominee or any of its participants.

We expect that the depositary, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest in respect of the global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their beneficial interests in the principal amount of a registered global security as shown on the depositary's records. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security held through participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. This is currently the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers registered in "street name." Such payments will be the responsibility of participants.

Exchange of Registered Global Securities

We may issue debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security if both of the following occur:

- the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act; and
- we do not appoint a successor depositary within 90 days.

In addition, we may, at any time, determine not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities. In this event, we will issue debt securities of that series in definitive form in exchange for all of the registered global security or securities representing those debt securities.

Our Covenants

The indenture includes covenants by us, including among other things that we will make all payments of principal and interest at the times and places required. The board resolution or supplemental indenture establishing each series of debt securities may contain additional covenants, including covenants which could restrict our right to incur additional indebtedness or liens and to take certain actions with respect to our businesses and assets.

Events of Default

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following will be events of default under the indenture with respect to each series of debt securities issued under the indenture:

- failure to pay when due any interest on any debt security of that series that continues for 30 days;
- failure to pay when due the principal of, or premium, if any, on, any debt security of that series;

- default in the payment of any sinking fund installment with respect to any debt security of that series when due and payable;
- failure to perform any other covenant or agreement of ours under the indenture or the supplemental indenture with respect to that series or the debt securities of that series, continued for 90 days after written notice to us by the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series to which the covenant or agreement relates;
- · certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us and our subsidiaries; and
- any other event of default specified in any supplemental indenture under which such series of debt securities is issued.

Except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us and except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any event of default shall occur and be continuing with respect to any series of debt securities under the indenture, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of such series may accelerate the maturity of all debt securities of such series. Upon certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us, the principal, premium, if any, and interest on all debt securities of each series shall be immediately due and payable.

After any such acceleration, but before a judgment or decree based on acceleration has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of each affected series of debt securities may waive all defaults with respect to such series and rescind and annul such acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal, have been cured, waived or otherwise remedied.

No holder of any debt securities will have any right to institute any proceeding with respect to the indenture or for any remedy under the indenture, unless such holder shall have previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default and the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series shall have made written request and offered indemnity satisfactory to the trustee to institute such proceeding as trustee, and the trustee shall not have received from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series a direction inconsistent with such request and shall have failed to institute such proceeding within 60 days. However, such limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of a debt security for enforcement of payment of the principal of and premium, if any, or interest on such debt security on or after the respective due dates expressed in such debt security.

Supplemental Indentures

We and the trustee may, at any time and from time to time, without prior notice to or consent of any holders of debt securities after issuance of such debt securities, enter into one or more supplemental indentures to, among other things:

- add guarantees to or secure any series of debt securities;
- add any additional events of default;
- provide for the succession of another person pursuant to the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers and sales of assets and the assumption by such successor of our covenants, agreements, and obligations, or to otherwise comply with the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers, and sales of assets;
- surrender any right or power conferred upon us under the indenture or to add to our covenants further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions for the protection of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;

- cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any provision contained in the indenture, in any supplemental indenture or in any debt securities that may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision contained therein, , so long as any such action does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities of any series in any material respect;
- add or change or eliminate any of the provisions of the indenture to extent as shall be necessary to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in bear form, registrable or not registrable as to principal, and with or without interest coupons;
- add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture to permit the defeasance and discharge of any series of debt securities pursuant to the indenture;
- change, or eliminate any of the provisions of the indenture provided that any such change or elimination shall become effective only when there are
 no debt securities outstanding of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture;
- evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor or separate trustee; and
- establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series and to make any change that does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities.

With the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of debt securities of each series affected by such supplemental indenture (each series voting as one class), we and the trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures for the purpose of adding any provisions to or changing in any manner or eliminating any of the provisions of the indenture or modifying in any manner the rights of the holders of debt securities of each such series.

Notwithstanding our rights and the rights of the trustee to enter into one or more supplemental indentures with the consent of the holders of debt securities of the affected series as described above, no such supplemental indenture to be entered into after issuance of the debt securities shall, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of the affected series, among other things:

- change the final maturity of the principal of, or any installment of interest on, any debt securities;
- reduce the principal amount of any debt securities or the rate of interest on any debt securities;
- change the currency in which any debt securities are payable;
- release any security interest that may have been granted with respect to such debt securities;
- impair the right of the holders to conduct a proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee;
- reduce the percentage in principal amount of any series of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment or supplemental indenture;
- modify the ranking or priority of the securities;
- reduce any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities or change the time at which any debt security may be redeemed; or
- make any change that adversely affects the relative rights of holders of subordinated debt securities with respect to senior debt securities.

Satisfaction and Discharge of the Indenture; Defeasance

Except to the extent set forth in a supplemental indenture with respect to any series of debt securities, we, at our election, may discharge the indenture and the indenture shall generally cease to be of any further effect with respect to that series of debt securities if (a) we have delivered to the trustee for cancellation all debt securities of that series (with certain limited exceptions) or (b) all debt securities of that series not previously delivered to the

trustee for cancellation shall have become due and payable, or are by their terms to become due and payable within one year or are to be called for redemption within one year, and we have deposited with the trustee the entire amount sufficient to pay at maturity or upon redemption all such debt securities.

In addition, we have a "legal defeasance option" (pursuant to which we may terminate, with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, all of our obligations under such debt securities and the indenture with respect to such debt securities) and a "covenant defeasance option" (pursuant to which we may terminate, with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, our obligations with respect to such debt securities under certain specified covenants contained in the indenture). If we exercise our legal defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default related to the specified covenants.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option or our covenant defeasance option with respect to the debt securities of a series only if we irrevocably deposit in trust with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations (as defined in the indenture) for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to such debt securities to maturity or redemption, as the case may be. In addition, to exercise either of our defeasance options, we must comply with certain other conditions, including the delivery to the trustee of an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of debt securities of such series will not recognize income, gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to Federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance had not occurred (and, in the case of legal defeasance only, such opinion of counsel must be based on a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or other change in applicable Federal income tax law).

The trustee will hold in trust the cash or U.S. government obligations deposited with it as described above and will apply the deposited cash and the proceeds from deposited U.S. government obligations to the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the debt securities of the defeased series. In the case of subordinated debt securities, the money and U.S. government obligations held in trust will not be subject to the subordination provisions of the indenture.

Mergers, Consolidations and Certain Sales of Assets

Under the proposed form of indenture, we may not (1) consolidate with or merge into any other person or entity or permit any other person or entity to consolidate with or merge into us in a transaction in which we are not the surviving entity, or (2) transfer, lease or dispose of all or substantially all of our assets to any other person or entity unless:

- the resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States or any state thereof and such resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall expressly assume, by supplemental indenture, all of our obligations under the debt securities and the indenture;
- immediately after giving effect to such transaction (and treating any indebtedness which becomes an obligation of the resulting, surviving or transferee entity as a result of such transaction as having been incurred by such entity at the time of such transaction), no default or event of default would occur or be continuing; and
- we shall have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such consolidation, merger or transfer and such supplemental indenture (if any) comply with the indenture.

Governing Law

The indenture and the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

No Personal Liability of Directors, Officers, Employees and Stockholders

None of our directors, officers or stockholders shall have any liability for any of our obligations under the debt securities or the indenture or for any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation, solely by reason of his, her, or its status as director, officer or stockholder. By accepting a debt security, each holder waives and releases all such liability, but only such liability. The waiver and release are part of the consideration for issuance of the debt securities. Nevertheless, such waiver may not be effective to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it has been the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

Any debt securities issued under the indenture may be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our equity securities. The terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include, among others, the following:

- the conversion or exchange price;
- the conversion or exchange period;
- provisions regarding our ability or that of the holder to convert or exchange the debt securities;
- events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price; and
- provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of such debt securities.

Concerning the Trustee

The indenture provides that there may be more than one trustee with respect to one or more series of debt securities. If there are different trustees for different series of debt securities, each trustee will be a trustee of a trust under a supplemental indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee under such indenture. Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, any action permitted to be taken by a trustee may be taken by the trustee only with respect to the one or more series of debt securities for which it is the trustee under an indenture. Any trustee under the indenture or a supplemental indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities. All payments of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, and all registration, transfer, exchange, authentication and delivery of (including authentication and delivery on original issuance of the debt securities), the debt securities of a series will be effected by the trustee with respect to such series at an office designated by the trustee.

The indenture contains limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of Cytori, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. If the trustee acquires an interest that conflicts with any duties with respect to the debt securities, the trustee is required to either resign or eliminate such conflicting interest to the extent and in the manner provided by the indenture.

Limitations on Issuance of Bearer Debt Securities

Debt securities in bearer form are subject to special U.S. tax requirements and may not be offered, sold, or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a U.S. person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Investors should consult the relevant prospectus supplement, in the event that bearer debt securities are issued for special procedures and restrictions that will apply to such an offering.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue securities warrants for the purchase of debt securities, preferred stock or common stock. Securities warrants may be issued independently or together with debt securities, preferred stock or common stock and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of securities warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a securities warrant agent. The securities warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the securities warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any registered holders of securities warrants or beneficial owners of securities warrants. This summary of some provisions of the securities warrants is not complete. You should refer to the securities warrant agreement, including the forms of securities warrant certificate representing the securities warrants, relating to the specific securities warrants being offered for the complete terms of the securities warrant agreement and the securities warrants. The securities warrant agreement, together with the terms of securities warrants, will be filed with the SEC in connection with the offering of the specific securities warrants.

The particular terms of any issue of securities warrants will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to the issue. Those terms may include:

- the title of such warrants;
- the aggregate number of such warrants;
- the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;
- the currency or currencies (including composite currencies) in which the price of such warrants may be payable;
- the terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of such warrants and the procedures and conditions relating to the exercise of such warrants;
- the price at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of such warrants may be purchased;
- the date on which the right to exercise such warrants will commence and the date on which such right shall expire;
- any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of securities receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;
- if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants that may be exercised at any one time;
- if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which such warrants are issued and the number of such warrants issued with each such security;
- if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;
- information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any; and
- any other terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange or exercise of such warrants.

The prospectus supplement relating to any warrants to purchase equity securities may also include, if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax and ERISA considerations.

Securities warrants for the purchase of preferred stock and common stock will be offered and exercisable for U.S. dollars only. Securities warrants will be issued in registered form only.



Each securities warrant will entitle its holder to purchase the principal amount of debt securities or the number of shares of preferred stock or common stock at the exercise price set forth in, or calculable as set forth in, the applicable prospectus supplement.

After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised securities warrants will become void. We will specify the place or places where, and the manner in which, securities warrants may be exercised in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the purchased securities. If less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining warrants.

Prior to the exercise of any securities warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock, holders of the securities warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the debt securities, preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise, including (i) in the case of securities warrants for the purchase of debt securities, the right to receive payments of principal of, any premium or interest on the debt securities purchasable upon exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture, or (ii) in the case of securities warrants for the purchase of preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise.

Our warrants exercisable for share of our common stock are listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "CYTXW."

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

The following summarizes the terms of common stock warrants and preferred stock warrants we may issue. We urge you to read the detailed provisions of the stock warrant agreement that we will enter into with a stock warrant agent we select at the time of issue.

General

We may issue units comprised of one or more debt securities, shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock and warrants in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or at any time before a specified date.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of units, including, but not limited to:

- the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;
- any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described below; and
- any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units.

The provisions described in this section, as well as those described under "Description of Common Stock and Preferred Stock," "Description of Debt Securities" and "Description of Warrants" will apply to each unit and to any common stock, preferred stock, debt security or warrant included in each unit, respectively.

Issuance in Series

We may issue units in such amounts and in numerous distinct series as we determine.

Enforceability of Rights by Holders of Units

Each unit agent will act solely as our agent under the applicable unit agreement and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holder of any unit. A single bank or trust company may act as unit agent for more than one series of units. A unit agent will have no duty or responsibility in case of any default by us under the applicable unit agreement or unit, including any duty or responsibility to initiate any proceedings at law or otherwise, or to make any demand upon us. Any holder of a unit may, without the consent of the related unit agent or the holder of any other unit, enforce by appropriate legal action its rights as holder under any security included in the unit.

We, the unit agents and any of their agents may treat the registered holder of any unit certificate as an absolute owner of the units evidenced by that certificate for any purpose and as the person entitled to exercise the rights attaching to the units so requested, despite any notice to the contrary.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

- through agents to the public or to investors;
- to underwriters for resale to the public or to investors;
- · directly to investors; or
- through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

We will set forth in a prospectus supplement the terms of that particular offering of securities, including:

- the name or names of any agents or underwriters;
- the purchase price of the securities being offered and the proceeds we will receive from the sale;
- any over-allotment options under which underwriters may purchase additional securities from us;
- any agency fees or underwriting discounts and other items constituting agents' or underwriters' compensation;
- any initial public offering price;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers; and
- any securities exchanges or markets on which such securities may be listed.

Agents

We may designate agents who agree to use their reasonable efforts to solicit purchases of our securities for the period of their appointment or to sell our securities on a continuing basis.

Underwriters

If we use underwriters for a sale of securities, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions,

at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities of the series offered if they purchase any of the securities of that series. We may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions the underwriters allow or reallow or pay to dealers. We may use underwriters with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe the nature of any such relationship in any prospectus supplement naming any such underwriter. Only underwriters we name in the prospectus supplement are underwriters of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement.

Direct Sales

We may also sell securities directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act, and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify in the applicable prospectus supplement any underwriters, dealers or agents and will describe their compensation. We may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against specified civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

Trading Markets and Listing of Securities

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than our common stock and warrants, which are listed on the NASDAQ Global Market. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange or market, but we are not obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in a class or series of securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot give any assurance as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

Stabilization Activities

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of these activities at any time.

Passive Market Making

Any underwriters who are qualified market makers on the NASDAQ Global Market may engage in passive market making transactions in the securities on the NASDAQ Global Market in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the securities. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security. If all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the issuance of the securities offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by DLA Piper LLP (US), San Diego, California. If the validity of any securities is also passed upon by counsel for the underwriters of an offering of those securities, that counsel will be named in the prospectus supplement relating to that offering.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Cytori Therapeutics, Inc. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and for each of the years in the threeyear period ended December 31, 2010, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information electronically with the SEC. You may read and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549 or at the SEC's other public reference facilities. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the operation of the public reference room. You can request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying costs. The SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including us. The SEC's Internet site can be found at <u>http://www.sec.gov</u> . In addition, we make available on or through our Internet site copies of these reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file or furnish them to the SEC. Our Internet site can be found at <u>http://www.cytoritx.com</u>.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

We are allowed to incorporate by reference information contained in documents that we file with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents and that the information in this prospectus is not complete. You should read the information incorporated by reference for more detail. We incorporate by reference in two ways. First, we list below certain documents that we have already filed with the SEC. The information in these documents is considered part of this prospectus. Second, the information in documents that we file in the future will update and supersede the current information in, and be incorporated by reference in, this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below, any filings we make with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of the initial registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement, and any filings we make with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act from the date of this prospectus until the termination of this offering (in each case, except for the information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 in any current report on Form 8-K and Form 8-K/A):

- our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 filed with the SEC on March 11, 2011 (File No. 001-34375-11682745);
- the information specifically incorporated by reference into our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on April 30, 2010 (File No. 001-34375-10787474);

- the description of our warrants contained in our registration statement on Form 8/A filed with the SEC on June 8, 2009 (File No. 001-34375-09878357);
- the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 10/A filed with the SEC on July 16, 2001 (File No. 000-32501-1682501); and
- the description of our Series RP Preferred Stock Purchase Rights contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on May 30, 2003 (File No. 000-32501-03725608), including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating the description.

We will provide each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference into this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus upon written or oral request at no cost to the requester. Requests should be directed to: Cytori Therapeutics, Inc., 3020 Callan Road, San Diego, CA 92121, Attn: Investor Relations, telephone: (858) 458-0900.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC. The registration statement contains more information than this prospectus regarding us and our common stock, including certain exhibits and schedules. You can obtain a copy of the registration statement from the SEC at the address listed above or from the SEC's Internet website.

You should rely only on the information provided in and incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of these documents.

7,020,000 Shares

Common Stock



Prospectus Supplement

Sole Book-Running Manager

Lazard Capital Markets

Co-Managers

Maxim Group LLC Ascendiant Capital Markets LLC

December 14, 2012