# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549


FORM 10-Q

[X] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

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[ ] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission file number: 0-15006

AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE (State of Incorporation)

NO. 13-3191702 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

119 FOURTH AVENUE, NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02494-2725 (Address of principal executive offices)

(781) 433-0771 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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State the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common equity, as of the latest practicable date:

Class of May 08, 2000
Common Stock, \$.001 par value 50,084,334

Exhibit index located on page 14

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FORM 10-Q

## QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

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#### PART I -- FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

## MARCH 31, 2000 AND DECEMBER 31, 1999

	MARCH 31, 2000	DECEMBER 31, 1999
ASSETS	(unaudited)	=======================================
Current Assets:     Cash and Cash Equivalents     Current Portion Lease Receivable     Prepaid Expenses and Other Current Assets	\$ 18,761,600 431,700 506,100	\$ 13,619,000 431,700 439,000
Total Current Assets	19,699,400	14,489,700
Property and Equipment, Net Restricted Cash Long-Term Lease Receivable Other Assets	1,165,900  287,800 3,410,500	1,256,800 217,000 395,700 3,523,500
Total Assets	\$ 24,536,600	\$ 19,882,700
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY Current Liabilities:     Accounts Payable     Accrued Expenses     Current Portion Deferred Revenue     Current Portion Lease Payable	\$ 362,400 1,036,200 615,400 293,700	\$ 575,300 1,331,500  293,700
Total Current Liabilities	2,307,700	2,200,500
Long-Term Deferred Revenue Long-Term Lease Payable	2,923,100 195,800	269,200
Stockholders' Equity: Common Stock, \$.001 Par Value; 75,000,000 Shares Authorized; 50,084,000 Issued and Outstanding at March 31, 2000 and 48,127,400 Issued and Outstanding at December 31, 1999 Additional Paid-In Capital Accumulated Deficit	50,100 154,555,700 (135,468,800)	48,100 150,710,300 (133,345,400)
Total Stockholders' Equity	19,137,000	17,413,000
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 24,536,600	\$ 19,882,700

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

## FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2000 AND 1999

(UNAUDITED)

	MARCH 31, 2000	MARCH 31, 1999
OPERATING REVENUE: Product Development and Licensing Agreements	\$ 153,800	\$ 337,900
OPERATING EXPENSE: Research and Development General and Administrative Legal Settlements Amortization of Goodwill	1,817,300 1,102,400 (500,000) 137,300	1,798,800 1,062,100  409,800
Total Operating Expenses	2,557,000	3,270,700
Operating Loss	(2,403,200)	(2,932,800)
Non-Operating Income, Net	279,800	191,000
Net Loss	\$(2,123,400) ==========	\$(2,741,800)
Basic and Diluted Net Loss Per Common Share	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.06)
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding	49,799,100 ========	42,526,300 

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

## FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2000 AND 1999

(UNAUDITED)

	MARCH 31, 2000	MARCH 31, 1999
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net Loss Adjustments to Reconcile Net Loss to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities:	\$ (2,123,400)	\$ (2,741,800)
Depreciation and Amortization Changes in Assets and Liabilities:	322,600	561,000
Prepaid Expenses and Other Current Assets	(67,100)	(5,700)
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	(508, 200)	51,100 <sup>°</sup>
Deferred Revenue	3,538,500	(250,000)
Lease Receivable	107,900	` 51, 900´
Lease Payable	(73, 400)	(48,900)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activitie	s 1,196,900	(2,382,400)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Acquisition of Property and Equipment	(45,700)	(482,000)
Redemption of Marketable Securities	(40,700)	4,903,100
Decrease in Restricted Cash	217,000	40,000
Increase in Patents and Licenses	(73,000)	(49,700)
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	98,300	4,411,400
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from the Exercise of Stock Options	1,305,200	16,300
Proceeds from the Exercise of Warrants	234,500	
Net Proceeds from Stock Issuance	2,307,700	600
Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities	3,847,400	16,900
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,142,600	2,045,900
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	13,619,000	8,937,200
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 18,761,600	\$ 10,983,100 ========

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2000

#### (1) NATURE OF BUSINESS

AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc. ("AVANT") is a biopharmaceutical company engaged in the discovery, development and commercialization of products that harness the human immune response to prevent and treat disease. Our lead therapeutic program is focused on compounds that inhibit the inappropriate activity of the complement cascade, a vital part of the body's immune defense system. AVANT is also developing on its own a proprietary therapeutic vaccine for the management of atherosclerosis and Therapore(TM), a novel system for the delivery of immunotherapeutics for chronic viral infections and certain cancers. AVANT and its collaborators are developing vaccines using the proprietary adjuvants, Adjumer(R) and Micromer(R), for the prevention of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), Lyme disease and several other vaccine targets. Through additional collaboration, we are also developing an oral human rotavirus vaccine and a cholera vaccine.

The unaudited consolidated financial statements include the accounts of AVANT Immunotherapeutics, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary, Polmerix, Inc. All intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

#### (2) INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2000 and 1999 include the consolidated accounts of AVANT, and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. In the opinion of management, the information contained herein reflects all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring adjustments, that are necessary to present fairly the financial positions at March 31, 2000 and December 31, 1999, the results of operations for the quarters ended March 31, 2000 and 1999. The results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2000 are not necessarily indicative of results for any future interim period or for the full year.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been omitted, although we believe that the disclosures included are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. The unaudited consolidated financial statements and the notes included herein should be read in conjunction with footnotes contained in AVANT's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999.

Certain amounts in the 1999 results for the quarter ended March 31, 1999 have been reclassified to provide consistent presentation with the 2000 results for the quarter ended March 31, 2000.

#### (3) PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment includes the following:

	March 31, 2000 ========	December 31, 1999 =========
Laboratory Equipment Office Furniture and Equipment Leasehold Improvements	\$ 2,598,200 1,218,000 939,800	\$ 2,595,400 1,176,800 938,100
Property and Equipment, Total Less Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization	4,756,000 (3,590,100)	4,710,300 (3,453,500)
	\$ 1,165,900 ============	\$ 1,256,800 ===========

#### (4) OTHER ASSETS

Other assets include the following:

	====:	March 31, 2000 =======	D 	ecember 31, 1999 =======
Capitalized Patent Costs Accumulated Amortization	\$	2,174,300 (764,000)	\$	2,101,300 (715,300)
Capitalized Patent Costs, Net Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, Net of Accumulated Amortization of \$1,959,600		1,410,300		1,386,000
and \$1,822,200 Other Non Current Assets		1,876,200 124,000		2,013,500 124,000
	\$ =====	3,410,500 ======	\$ ======	3,523,500 =======

#### (5) COMMON STOCK

In July 1999, Novartis exercised its option to license TP10 for use in the field of transplantation. The decision to license TP10 resulted in a \$6 million payment by Novartis which was received by AVANT in January 2000. The payment included an equity investment of \$2,307,700 for 1,439,496 shares of our common stock at \$1.60 per share and a license fee of \$3,692,300. We are amortizing the license fee over twenty-four quarters, the projected development period for the licensed field.

#### (6) NET INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE

Consistent with SFAS 128, basic earnings (loss) per share amounts are based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings (loss) per share amounts are based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock and the potential common stock outstanding during the period. We have excluded all of the potential common stock shares from the calculation of diluted weighted average share amounts for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2000 and 1999 as its inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995: STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING, ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS, THAT ARE NOT HISTORICAL FACTS MAY BE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO A VARIETY OF RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT COULD CAUSE THE ACTUAL RESULTS TO DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE EXPRESSED IN ANY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS MADE BY AVANT. THESE FACTORS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: (I) OUR ABILITY TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE PRODUCT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING PRE-CLINICAL AND CLINICAL STUDIES, AND COMMERCIALIZATION; (II) OUR ABILITY TO OBTAIN SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING; (III) OUR ABILITY TO OBTAIN REQUIRED GOVERNMENTAL APPROVALS; (IV) OUR ABILITY TO ATTRACT MANUFACTURING, SALES, DISTRIBUTION AND MARKETING PARTNERS AND OTHER STRATEGIC ALLIANCES; AND (V) OUR ABILITY TO DEVELOP AND COMMERCIALIZE OUR PRODUCTS BEFORE OUR COMPETITORS.

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

#### OVERVIEW

We are engaged in the discovery, development and commercialization of products that harness the human immune response to prevent and treat disease. Our products derive from a broad set of complementary technologies with the ability to inhibit the complement system, regulate T and B cell activity, and enable the creation and delivery of preventative and therapeutic vaccines. We are using these technologies to develop vaccines and immunotherapeutics that prevent or treat disease caused by infectious organisms, and drugs and treatment vaccines that modify undesirable activity by the body's own proteins or cells.

#### **ACQUISITION**

On August 21, 1998, we acquired Virus Research Institute, Inc. ("VRI"), a company engaged in the discovery and development of systems for the delivery of vaccines and immunotherapeutics, and novel vaccines for adults and children. AVANT issued 14,036,400 shares and warrants to purchase 1,811,200 shares of it's common stock in exchange for all of the outstanding common stock of VRI, on the basis of 1.55 shares and .20 of a warrant to purchase one share of AVANT's common stock for each share of VRI common stock. The acquisition has been accounted for as a purchase. Consequently, the purchase price was allocated to the acquired assets and assumed liabilities based upon their fair value at the date of acquisition. The excess of the purchase price over the tangible assets acquired was assigned to collaborative relationships, work force and goodwill and is being amortized on a straight line basis over 12 to 60 months. An allocation of \$44,630,000 was made to in-process research and development ("IPR&D") which represented purchased in-process technology which had not yet reached technological feasibility and had no alternative future use. The amount was charged as an expense in our financial statements during the third quarter of 1998.

#### NEW DEVELOPMENTS

COMPLEMENT INHIBITORS: In 1997, we entered into an agreement with Novartis relating to the development of TP10 for use in xenotransplantation (animal organs into humans) and allotransplantation (human organs into humans). We granted Novartis a two-year option to license TP10 with exclusive worldwide marketing rights (except Japan) in the fields of xenotransplantation and allotransplantation. In July 1999, Novartis exercised its option to license TP10 for use in the field of transplantation. In December 1999, the Novartis agreement was amended to include marketing rights for Japan. The decision to license TP10 resulted in a \$6 million equity investment and license payment by Novartis which was received by AVANT in January 2000. Under the agreement, we may receive additional milestone payments of up to \$14 million upon attainment of certain development and regulatory goals.

We will also be entitled to royalties on product sales under the agreement.

We have elected to independently develop and commercialize TP10 for pediatric cardiac surgery. In September 1999, we initiated an open-label, Phase I/II trial of TP10 in infants undergoing cardiac surgery for congenital heart defects. The trial will evaluate the ability of TP10 to mitigate the injury to the heart and other organs that occurs when patients are placed on cardiopulmonary bypass circuits. Patient enrollment in this Phase I/II trial was completed in January 2000. In March 2000, we received orphan drug designation for TP10 in

infants undergoing cardiac surgery. We expect to initiate a pivotal Phase III trial in this indication around the end of 2000. AVANT additionally plans to refine the TP10 dosing regimen in additional infants prior to starting the Phase III study.

We also plan to initiate Phase II trials for adult cardiac surgery during the second half of 2000, with an expectation to partnering that program when additional clinical data are available.

ATHEROSCLEROSIS TREATMENT VACCINE: We are developing a therapeutic vaccine against endogenous cholesteryl ester transfer protein ("CETP") which may be useful in reducing risks associated with atherosclerosis. CETP is a key intermediary in the balance of HDL and LDL. We are developing a vaccine (CETi-1) to stimulate an immune response against CETP which we believe may improve the ratio of HDL to LDL cholesterol and reduce the progression of atherosclerosis. We have conducted preliminary studies of rabbits which have demonstrated the ability of CETi-1 vaccine to elevate HDL and reduce the development of blood vessel lesions. In June 1999, we initiated a double-blind placebo controlled, Phase I clinical trial of our CETi-1 vaccine in adult volunteers. The object of the study is to demonstrate the safety of single administrations of the vaccine at four different dosage strengths. Patient enrollment in this Phase I trial was completed in February 2000. We plan to initiate a Phase II study during the second half of 2000. As clinical data becomes available, we plan to seek a corporate partner to complete development and to commercialize the vaccine.

ROTAVIRUS VACCINE: Rotavirus is a major cause of diarrhea and vomiting in infants and children. No vaccine against rotavirus is currently on the market. In 1997, we licensed our oral rotavirus vaccine to SmithKline Beecham plc ("SmithKline"). In 1999, after our Phase II study demonstrated 89% protection in a study involving 215 infants, SmithKline paid us an additional license fee and assumed full responsibility for funding and performing all remaining clinical development. SmithKline has initiated Phase I/II bridging studies in Europe using its newly manufactured rotavirus vaccine, called Rotarix(TM), and is now planning to start Phase III safety and efficacy studies in 2001 after review with health authorities. Assuming product development and commercialization continues satisfactorily, SmithKline will pay us additional milestones and a royalty based on sales.

CHOLERA VACCINE: We are developing a single dose, oral cholera vaccine using a live, genetically attenuated cholera strain. Based on this technology, developed in academia, we have developed the vaccine through early Phase II trials. We then negotiated a collaboration agreement under which a Phase IIb trial will be performed and funded by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research ("WRAIR") and the National Institutes of Health (the "NIH"). This trial, set to begin in 2000, will test the safety, immunogenecity and protective capacity of the vaccine against a challenge with live virulent cholera. We will then determine our commercialization strategy with respect to the cholera vaccine based on clinical data from the trial.

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three Month Period Ended March 31, 2000 as Compared With the Three Month Period Ended March 31, 1999

AVANT reported consolidated net loss of \$2,123,400, or \$.04 per share, for the first quarter ended March 31, 2000, compared with a net loss of \$2,741,800, or \$.06 per share, for the first quarter ended March 31, 1999. The weighted average common shares outstanding used to calculate net loss per common share was 49,799,100 in 2000 and 42,526,300 in 1999.

OPERATING REVENUE: Total operating revenue decreased \$184,100, or 54.5%, to \$153,800 for the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$337,900 for the first quarter of 1999. This decrease is due primarily to timing differences in revenue recognition of option and license payments from Novartis between quarterly periods. During the first quarter of 1999, AVANT recognized revenue from a Novartis option payment which was amortized over the option term. During the first quarter of 2000, AVANT received a license payment from Novartis which is being recognized over the projected development period of the licensed field.

OPERATING EXPENSE: Total operating expense decreased \$713,700, or 21.8%, to \$2,557,000 for the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$3,270,700 for the first quarter of 1999. The decrease in total operating expense is primarily due to the receipt of legal settlement payments and the reduction of goodwill amortization by \$272,500 in the first quarter of 2000 compared with the same period last year. Research and development expense increased \$18,500, or 1.0%, to \$1,817,300 for the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$1,798,800 for the first quarter of 1999. The increase in research and development expense is due to a increase in laboratory supplies and services expenses. General and administrative expense increased \$40,300, or 3.8%, to \$1,102,400 for the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$1,062,100 for the first quarter of 1999. The increase is primarily attributed to increased general and patent legal expenses combined with increased corporate development and investor relations costs. During the quarter, we received legal settlement payments totaling \$500,000 from the resolution of disputes arising from contractual arrangements.

NON-OPERATING INCOME, NET: Non-operating income increased \$88,800, or 46.5%, to \$279,800 for the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$191,000 for the first quarter of 1999. The increase is primarily due to an increase in interest income as a result of higher interest rates and higher average cash balances during the first quarter of 2000 compared to the first quarter of 1999.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL REOURCES

AVANT ended the first quarter of 2000 with cash and cash equivalents of \$18,761,600 compared to cash and cash equivalents of \$13,619,000 at December 31, 1999. Cash provided by operations was \$1,196,900 in the first quarter of 2000 compared to \$2,382,400 used in operations in the first quarter of 1999.

In July 1999, Novartis exercised its option to license TP10 for use in the field of transplantation. The decision to license TP10 resulted in a \$6 million payment by Novartis which was received by AVANT in January 2000. The payment included an equity investment of \$2,307,700 and a license fee of \$3,692,300.

Also, during the first quarter of 2000, AVANT raised approximately \$1,305,200 and \$244,500 in additional equity investment through the exercise of stock options and warrants, respectively.

AVANT believes that cash inflows from existing collaborations, interest income on invested funds and our current cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to meet estimated working capital requirements and fund operations beyond December 31, 2000 and into the first half of 2001. The working capital requirements of AVANT are dependent on several factors including, but not limited to, the costs associated with research and development programs, preclinical and clinical studies and the scope of collaborative arrangements. During 2000, we expect to take steps to raise additional capital including, but not limited to, licensing of technology programs with existing or new collaborative partners, possible business combinations, or issuance of common stock via private placement and public offering.

#### YEAR 2000

THE STATEMENTS IN THIS SECTION INCLUDE THE "YEAR 2000 READINESS DISCLOSURE" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE YEAR 2000 INFORMATION AND READINESS DISCLOSURE ACT. THIS SECTION CONTAINS CERTAIN STATEMENTS THAT ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 27A OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 21E OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED. AVANT'S YEAR 2000 READINESS, AND THE EVENTUAL AFFECTS OF THE YEAR 2000 ON AVANT MAY BE MATERIALLY DIFFERENT THAN CURRENTLY PROJECTED. THIS MAY BE DUE TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE INABILITY OF AVANT OR OF KEY THIRD PARTIES WITH WHOM WE HAVE A SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP TO ACHIEVE OR MAINTAIN YEAR 2000 READINESS.

The "Year 2000" issue affects computer systems that have date sensitive programs that may not properly recognize the year 2000. Systems that do not properly recognize such information could generate data or cause a system to fail, resulting in business interruption. Through the first four months of the year 2000,

AVANT's operations are fully functioning and have not experienced any significant issues associated with the Year 2000 problem discussed above. Costs associated with modifications made by AVANT to be Year 2000 compliant were immaterial. There can be no assurance, however, that a failure by another company's system to be Year 2000 compliant would not have a material adverse affect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

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

In January 1997, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Financial Reporting Release No. 48, which expands the disclosure requirements for certain derivatives and other financial instruments. The Company does not utilize derivative financial instruments.

## PART II -- OTHER INFORMATION

#### ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

- (A) EXHIBITS
  - 27.1 Financial Data Schedule
- (B) REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

 $\,$  No reports on Form 8-K were filed by the Company during the quarter for which this report is filed.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS, INC.

BY:

Dated: May 09, 2000 /s/ Una S. Ryan

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Una S. Ryan, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Dated: May 09, 2000 /s/ Avery W. Catlin

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Avery W. Catlin

Senior Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and

Accounting Officer)

## INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number Description
27.1 Financial Data Schedule.

THIS SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF AVANT IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS, INC. FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2000 AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

