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On August 13, 2001, the Registrant publicly disseminated a press release and backgrounder announcing that Kyowo HAKKO Kogyo Co., Ltd. had selected a telomerase inhibitor compound for the treatment of cancer. The compound (GRN163) is a short, modified oligonucleotide designed as a telomerase template antagonist. The compound shows good bioavailability and binds specifically to the active site of telomerase, thereby blocking its activity in cancer cells.

The foregoing description is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Registrant's Press Release and Backgrounder dated August 13, 2001, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. Exhibits.

Exhibits

99.1 Press Release and Backgrounder dated August 13, 2001.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

GERON CORPORATION

Date: August 22, 2001

By: /s/ David L. Greenwood

Name: David L. Greenwood

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibits

99.1 Press Release and Backgrounder dated August 13, 2001.