

CELL THERAPEUTICS INC
Form DEFA14A
July 23, 2010

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED

IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant:

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant:

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Cell Therapeutics, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of filing fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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- .. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

- .. Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

ON JULY 23, 2010, CELL THERAPEUTICS, INC. (THE COMPANY) PUBLISHED IN ITALY A DEFINITIVE NOTICE OF CALL (THE DEFINITIVE NOTICE OF CALL) OF THE COMPANY'S ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2010 (THE ANNUAL MEETING). THE FOLLOWING IS AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE DEFINITIVE NOTICE OF CALL.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF DEFINITIVE NOTICE OF CALL OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

CELL THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Registered office: 501 Elliott Avenue West, Suite 400

Seattle, WA 98119, USA

Notice of call of Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on

Thursday, September 16, 2010

To our Shareholders:

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the **Annual Meeting**) of Cell Therapeutics, Inc., a Washington corporation (the **Company**), is expected to be held on Thursday, September 16, 2010, at 10 a.m. (Seattle time), at the Company's headquarters at 501 Elliott Avenue West, Suite 400, Seattle, Washington 98119 to discuss and resolve upon the following matters:

- (i) to elect two Class I directors to the Company's Board of Directors, each to serve until the 2013 Annual Meeting;
- (ii) to approve an amendment to the Company's amended and restated articles of incorporation to increase the total number of authorized shares from 810,000,000 to 1,210,000,000 and to increase the total number of authorized shares of common stock from 800,000,000 to 1,200,000,000;
- (iii) to approve an amendment to the Company's 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended (the **2007 Equity Plan**), to increase the number of shares available for issuance under the 2007 Equity Plan by 45,000,000 shares;
- (iv) to ratify the selection of Stonefield Josephson, Inc. as the Company's independent auditors for the year ending December 31, 2010;
- (v) to approve the adjournment of the 2010 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, if necessary or appropriate, to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the Annual Meeting to adopt Proposals (i) through (iv); and
- (vi) to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and all adjournments and postponements thereof.

The Company's shareholders (the **Shareholders**) are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting in person or via a webcast. Shareholders of record at the close of business on **July 27, 2010**, the record date established by the Company's Board of Directors (the **Record Date**), will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. The Shareholders shall have the right to exercise their voting rights at the Annual Meeting even if the date of the Annual Meeting is adjourned or postponed. A complete list of the Shareholders having the right to receive the call notice of the Annual Meeting and to exercise his or her voting rights, will be available for review by the Shareholders, for any reason concerning the Annual Meeting, at the office of the Secretary of the Company at Elliott Avenue West, Suite 400, Seattle, Washington 98119 beginning ten days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The Shareholders whose shares are held in Italy through Monte Titoli S.p.A. (the **Italian Shareholders**), may obtain from their intermediaries through which they hold their shares (the **Depositary Banks**) the certification for attendance at the Annual Meeting (the **Certification**) which is to be presented in order to attend the Annual Meeting and to vote in person. Alternatively, the Italian Shareholders may vote by mail, submitting the proxy card included in the proxy statement or available on the website of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) (www.sec.gov) and available on the Company's website (www.celltherapeutics.com), as duly filed in, executed and delivered, to the Company's headquarters, together with the Certification. The name indicated on the proxy card must exactly match with the name as printed on the Certification.

Please note that the Company expects that the final proxy statement will be available on August 2, 2010, or about that date on the website of the SEC (www.sec.gov) and on the Company's website (www.celltherapeutics.com) and in paper form at Depositary Banks, at the office of Borsa Italiana S.p.A. and at the office of the Company's Italian legal counsel Legance Studio Legale Associato (contact person: Mr. Giorgio Vanzanelli) at Via Dante 7, 20123 Milan (if you have any questions, please call Elena Bellacicca, Investor Relations, CTI Life Sciences Limited at 39 02.72.01.00.55). The Shareholders are cordially invited to examine the proxy statement and, in particular, the section regarding the matters to be discussed and resolved at the Annual Meeting, which will be described, in greater detail.

In order to facilitate the voting rights related to the Company's shares and in order to help permit the Annual Meeting to achieve the quorum required and to validly resolve upon the Annual Meeting matters, the Company has requested certain Italian banks unless otherwise instructed by the relevant Shareholders to make book-entry transfers of the Company's shares, in part or all of the shares, held in the name of and in the customer's account by such banks, to an account opened in the name of the same banks at a United States broker-dealer on the Record Date. Under the securities laws of the United States and the rules of the New York Stock Exchange, this transfer permits the Company to count these shares for the purpose of achieving quorum and permits such broker-dealers to vote these shares at the Annual Meeting for certain routine matters in the event that Italian Shareholders do not instruct their broker to vote the shares pursuant to the modalities provided in the proxy statement. **Even if the Italian banks agree to perform the aforesaid transfer, the Italian Shareholders will have, in any case, the right to provide instructions to the United States broker-dealer in order to abstain from taking any action with reference to the shares, including the exercise of the voting right. As a result, if a Shareholder does not exercise his or her voting right or give separate voting instructions on or before the date of the Annual Meeting, the transferred shares will be voted by the United States broker-dealers pursuant to the discretionary authority granted them under Rule 452 of the New York Stock Exchange.**

The Italian Shareholders may also vote via Internet or by telephone if their shares are held directly by a United States broker-dealer's account in the Shareholder's name before and at least on the Record Date. Once the shares are held by a United States broker-dealer, then an Italian Shareholder may receive the Annual Meeting documentation (including the proxy statement) at his or her address, together with a security code to be used for voting on the website www.proxyvote.com or by calling the telephone number shown on the Annual Meeting voting documentation. The Italian Shareholders are invited to contact their Depository Bank to understand the procedure associated with the transfer mentioned herein. Please note that the costs derived from the transfer, including those debited or claimed by the United States broker-dealer for the management of the account in the United States, shall be borne by the Italian Shareholder requesting the transfer of its shares.

The Italian Shareholders may also request to be registered in the Company's shareholders book at any time as a record holder. The Italian Shareholders are invited to contact their bank to understand the procedure for such registration, which would include, inter alia, the submission of a registration request (together with a ownership certification) to the Company's transfer agent, the removal of the shares from Monte Titoli's account and their transfer to the United States directly in name of the Italian Shareholder. Please note that registration in the Company's shareholders book may limit the disposal rights related to the shares or make its exercise more complex.

Therefore, the Italian Shareholders are kindly invited to contact their Depository Banks so that the Shareholders can receive the Annual Meeting documentation, including the *proxy card*, and the instruction concerning the voting modalities.

On behalf of Board of Directors

/s/ LOUIS A. BIANCO
Louis A. Bianco

Executive Vice President, Finance & Administration

July 23, 2010

The Company will file a proxy statement and other documents regarding the Annual Meeting described in this Notice of Call of Annual Meeting of Shareholders with the SEC. The Company's shareholders are urged to read the proxy statement and other relevant materials when they become available, because they will contain important information about the Company, the Annual Meeting and related matters. Shareholders may obtain a free copy of the Company's proxy statement when available, and other documents filed by the Company with the SEC at the SEC's website (www.sec.gov), on the Company's website (www.celltherapeutics.com), in paper form at the Depository Banks, at the office of Borsa Italiana S.p.A. and at the office of the Company's Italian legal counsel Legance Studio Legale Associato (contact person: Mr. Giorgio Vanzanelli) at Via Dante 7, 20123 Milan.