

[LETTERHEAD OF CTI]

August 27, 1996

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Letty G. Lynn
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W., Stop 7-7
Washington D.C. 20549

Cell Therapeutics, Inc.
Registration Statement on Form S-1
File No. 333-4154

Dear Ms. Lynn:

Reference is made to the above-referenced registration statement filed on April 26, 1996. Cell Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Registrant") has abandoned its proposed initial public offering of 4,025,000 shares of Common Stock proposed to be registered thereunder and, as of the date hereof, has no plans to offer such securities to the public in the foreseeable future. Pursuant to Rule 447(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant hereby requests that the Securities and Exchange Commission find the withdrawal of the above-referenced registration statement consistent with the public interest and the protection of investors and consent to such withdrawal. The Registrant further request that, pursuant to Rule 477(c), an order with the date of the granting of such withdrawal be included in the file for the above-referenced registration statement in the following manner: "Withdrawn upon the consent of the registrant, the Commission consenting thereto." Please call our counsel, Michael J. Kennedy ((415) 616-1248) or Michael S. Dorf ((415) 616-1246) of Shearman & Sterling if you have any questions with respect to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

/s/ James A. Bianco

James A. Bianco, M.D.
President & Chief Executive Officer