

### **CEO Presentation to Nanobusiness 2007 Conference**

**Melbourne; 16 April 2007:** Dr Jackie Fairley, CEO of Starpharma Holdings Ltd (ASX:SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY) will be presenting at the Nanobusiness 2007 conference in New York on 16 April 2007. The conference provides a forum for small and large companies, partnering organizations and investors interested in the field of nanotechnology. Dr Fairley will also be making a number of investor presentations while in New York.

A copy of the slide presentation is attached.

#### About Starpharma Holdings Limited:

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX:SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY) is a world leader in the development of dendrimer nanotechnology for pharmaceutical, life-science and other applications. SPL is principally composed of two operating companies, Starpharma Pty Ltd in Melbourne, Australia and Dendritic Nanotechnologies, Inc in Michigan, USA. Products based on SPL's dendrimer technology are already on the market in the form of diagnostic elements and laboratory reagents.

The Company's lead pharmaceutical development product is VivaGel<sup>™</sup> (SPL7013 Gel), a vaginal microbicide designed to prevent the transmission of STIs, including HIV and genital herpes.

Starpharma's proprietary dendrimer platform, which includes Priostar, also has potential in targeted diagnostics and in drug delivery for a wide variety of drugs. Improvements including enhanced solubility, targeting and reduced toxicity have been demonstrated for a number of existing drugs. More broadly the company, via DNT, is actively exploring dendrimer opportunities in materials science with applications as diverse as adhesives, lubricants and water remediation. SPL has a comprehensive IP portfolio that comprises more than 180 patents/applications issued and pending across 32 patent families - a unique level of IP concentration among nanotechnology companies.

**Dendrimers:** A type of precisely-defined, branched nanoparticle. Dendrimers have applications in the medical, electronics, chemicals and materials industries.

American Depositary Receipts (ADRs): Starpharma's ADRs trade under the code SPHRY (CUSIP number 855563102). Each Starpharma ADR is equivalent to 10 ordinary shares of Starpharma as traded on the Australian Stock Exchange. The Bank of New York is the depositary bank.

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#### For further information:



### ASX:SPL OTCQX:SPHRY

## Starpharma Holdings Limited

## **Investor Presentation**

*April 2007 Dr Jackie Fairley CEO* 



This document contains certain forward-looking statements, relating to Starpharma's business, which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "promising", "plans", "anticipated", "will", "project", "believe", "forecast", "expected", "estimated", "targeting", "aiming", "set to", "potential", "seeking to", "goal", "could provide", "intends", "is being developed", "could be", "on track", or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential filings or marketing approvals, or potential future sales of product candidates. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no assurance that any existing or future regulatory filings will satisfy the FDA's and other health authorities' requirements regarding any one or more product candidates nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any health authorities for sale in any market or that they will reach any particular level of sales. In particular, management's expectations regarding the approval and commercialization of the product candidates could be affected by, among other things, unexpected clinical trial results, including additional analysis of existing clinical data, and new clinical data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays, or government regulation generally; our ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing pressures; and additional factors that involve significant risks and uncertainties about our products, product candidates, financial results and business prospects. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Starpharma is providing this information as of the date of this presentation and does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or developments or otherwise.



- Investment Highlights and Company Overview
- VivaGel<sup>TM</sup> and Line Extensions
- Product Pipeline
- Conclusion

## Company Overview



- World leader in the development of dendrimer nanotechnology products for pharmaceutical and lifesciences
- Lead product VivaGeI<sup>™</sup> is being developed (under IND) as a microbicide to prevent HIV and Genital Herpes
  - US\$20.3m NIH contract to develop VivaGeI<sup>™</sup> for HIV
  - FDA Fast Track Status for HIV
  - VivaGel<sup>™</sup> is the only microbicide with NIH funding support for Genital Herpes
- Two line extensions to VivaGel<sup>™</sup> in development in addition to a broad portfolio of other dendrimer projects
- Wholly-owned US subsidiary (DNT Inc.)
  - Leader in the development of advanced dendrimers for life -science and industrial applications
  - Significant dendrimer IP portfolio; current revenues

Starpharma Holdings Limited			
ASX Code	SPL		
Level 1 ADR Code	SPHRY		
Share Price AUD	44c		
12 Month High/Low AUD	64 c / 35 c		
Shares on Issue	167.8M		
Market Capitalisation USD	~ \$60M		
Average Mthly Volume	4.5M shares		
Cash on Hand (Mar 07) USD			

\$1 AUD= 0.825 USD



Starpharma is the global leader in dendrimer based nanotechnology



### **Company Structure**





### ADR Program OTCOX:SPHRY and US Shareholding

- Starparma's ADR program has been extremely successful since launch in January 2005
  - >72% growth in ADRs issued in 06/07
- ~10.8% of issued capital
- Major brokers include Merrill Lynch, Credit Lyonnais, Natexis Bleichroeder
- SPHRY Most heavily traded Australian biotech Level-1 ADR

otc

- OTCQX launched March 2007
  - Daily volumes ~ 90K shares (+55%)
  - Hill Thompson acting as initial market maker
  - 3 additional market makers April 07
- Ongoing program to build liquidity and US interest in SPL/SPHRY
  - US investors ~ 20%
  - US Investor Relations firm
  - Working towards Level 2 ADR



\* 1ADR = 10 SPL shares

### **Unique Characteristics of Dendrimers:**

- Precisely defined, synthetic macromolecules (1-10nm)
- Precisely defined surface topology
- Can be designed to optimize potency, pharmacokinetics and localization; heat stable or biodegradable
- High multivalent binding affinity
  - ability to disrupt protein-protein interactions

### Commercial Advantages of Dendrimers:

- 1 nm 🕛
- Key enabling nanoscale technology
- Diverse range of Pharma, drug delivery, diagnostic & materials applications
- In the clinic VivaGel<sup>™</sup> ( the first dendrimer IND)
- Scalable chemical manufacturing process with competitive COGs
- Well tolerated







10 nm





## VivaGel<sup>TM</sup> – Lead Product for Prevention of STIs

- VivaGel<sup>™</sup> is a vaginal microbicide being developed to prevent sexually transmitted infections in women
  - Currently being developed under two INDs for the prevention of HIV and genital herpes
- Gel-based formulation with a nanotech active (SPL7013), delivered via an applicator
- Active ingredient inactivates HIV and HSV-2 (genital herpes) virus by binding with the virus preventing it attaching to the host
- Significant and growing recognition that microbicides offer the best alternative for prevention







### HIV

- Major health burden in both developed and developing countries
- 39 million people living with HIV; every day 7,000 women are newly infected
- No cure more than 50 HIV vaccines have failed and estimates are that an effective vaccine is many years away

### **Genital Herpes**

- Recurrent, lifelong viral infection
- Estimated to infect between 15-25% of male and female adults in developed countries, growing to between 40-50% in the US by 2025
- Existing prevention methods have proven ineffective and developmental vaccines disappointing



### Large, addressable markets

- HIV primarily in developing countries
- HSV-2 in both developing and developed countries

### Increasing market support for products

- US government firmly committed to development of safe and effective microbicides
- US opinion leaders now calling for National Herpes
   Control Program
- Several industry surveys have confirmed strong consumer demand
  - 30-40% female US college students would buy a microbicide increasing to 70% with contraceptive properties
  - Over 20 million women in US would use a microbicide
  - Microbicide market estimates >\$1.5-3 Billion

### Estimated Market for microbicides in <u>Developed</u> Countries

Market	Average Frequency of Use Per Annum			
Penetration	25x US\$M	50x US\$M	100x US\$M	
2.5%	365	730	1,460	
5.0%	725	1,450	2,900	
10.0%	1,450	2,900	5,800	

Key assumptions

- 291m women of reproductive age (15-49) in developed countries
- Unit sale price circa US\$2
- Usage rates according to published data

*"If I had a magic bullet to accelerate something it would be the microbicide..."...." Bill Gates, July 2006* 



HIV and AIDS (in the US): "Direct medical costs of up to \$15.5 billion per annum"

"AIDS is the number one cause of death in African-American women aged 25-34"

"If I had a magic bullet to accelerate something it would be the microbicide..."...." Bill Gates, July 2006

EDITORIAL COMMENTARY

""HIV prevention options as of 2005 are not enough" best option...technologies like microbicides which women can initiate and control"

Source: Microbicide Development Act 2005: US Senate

### Time to Translate New Knowledge into Practice: A Call for a National Genital Herpes Control Program

#### Edward W. Hook<sup>1,2</sup> and Peter Leone<sup>3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Alabama at Birmingham and <sup>2</sup>Jefferson County Department of Health, Birmingham; <sup>3</sup>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, and <sup>4</sup>North Carolina State Department of Public Health, Raleigh

Editorial Commentary in Journal of Infectious Disease 1 July 2006 p.194

Vaginal microbicides are recognised as a key element in the fight to slow the spread of STIs



VivaGel™Offers Several Key Advantages	<ul> <li>Market research indicates international user and payor demand for microbicide gels</li> <li>Compelling HSV-2 &amp;HIV efficacy; non-irritant</li> <li>Contraceptive activity (in animals)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Excellent Results in Human and Animal models</li> <li>Human trials (IND): VivaGel<sup>™</sup> is non-toxic and non-irritating</li> <li>Potent activity in <u>relevant</u> HIV &amp;HSV-2 strains in very stringent animation models</li> <li>Viruses appear not to develop resistance to VivaGel<sup>™</sup></li> </ul>	
Excellent Drug Characteristics	<ul> <li>Lower development risk – Topical gel, external to body</li> <li>Full development package; well defined chemical entity, scalable</li> <li>Affordable – Low manufacturing costs</li> <li>Excellent IP position</li> </ul>
Product Extensions	<ul> <li>Condom coating (N9 replacement)</li> <li>Additional indications, combination product</li> </ul>

## VivaGel<sup>TM</sup> - Development and Commercial Strategy



VivaGel™	<ul> <li>One of the most advanced 2<sup>nd</sup> generation microbicides for HIV&amp;HSV</li> <li>Significant non-dilutive NIH support</li> <li>Broad application; chronic-use product</li> <li>Partnering/commercial strategies likely to differ between developed (OTC/Pharma) markets and developing (NGO/Govt.) countries</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Public health data for HIV and HSV-2 support strong case for on-going public support and re-impursement</li> </ul>			
	Status: Expanded Safety human trials in US, Australia and Kenya			
	Discussion with various partners			
	<ul> <li>Common spermicidal coating in premium condoms is nonxynol-9 (N-9)</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Recent studies show that the detergent N-9 can result in a significant increase in the rate of infection by HIV</li> </ul>			
VivaGel™ Condom Coating	<ul> <li>Likely less onerous regulatory path for VivaGel<sup>™</sup> as a condom coating</li> <li>offering a shorter path to market.</li> </ul>			
opportunity	Status: In discussions with several potential international and regional commercial partners wishing to replace N-9 with a VivaGel™coating for their premium condoms			



- Compelling competitive advantages: HIV&Herpes efficacy; non-irritant; contraceptive activity
- FDA Fast Track Status for HIV
- Successfully completed Phase 1 human trial (under IND)
- Currently in human trials under 2 INDs in Australia, USA and Kenya
- 3 separate NIH funding initiatives:
  - US\$20.3m non-dilutive NIH development funding for HIV (Oct 05)
  - the only microbicide with NIH support for Genital Herpes (Apr 06)
  - Recently announced NIH/Microbicide Trials Network support (Feb 07)
- Full development package underway; good progress with scale-up and toxicology programs
- Excellent Commercial opportunities
  - Genital Herpes prevalence in the Western world is at epidemic levels
  - Market surveys indicate strong demand in the US and internationally
  - Authorities and funding bodies highly supportive of effective prevention strategies
- Condom coating and contraceptive indications offer additional market opportunities
- Regulatory approval expected in 2009/10

NIH supported HSV-2 Clinical Program: VivaGel™ Clinic, Kisumu, Kenya starpharma



Karibu "Welcome" to the VivaGel Clinic, Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kisumu, Kenya

## **Product Pipeline**

## Starpharma's Pipeline: Balanced for Risk



Pharmaceutical & Medical Products	Proof of Concept	Lead	Clinical Trials	Sales
<ul> <li>VivaGel™</li> <li>► HSV-2 prevention</li> <li>► HIV prevention</li> <li>► condoms coating &amp; other line extensions</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>ADME Engineering™</li> <li>► Therapeutic protein PK optimisation</li> </ul>				
Drug Delivery - Small Molecules ► Cancer therapeutic				
Drug Optimisation ► Enhanced solublisation				
<ul> <li><i>in-vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> Diagnostics</li> <li>► Stratus CS® (Cardiac Diagnostic)</li> <li>► MRI imaging (Ovarian cancer &amp; cardiovascular disease)</li> </ul>				
Life-science Products	Proof of Concept	Prototype	Pre-launch	Sales
Gene Transfection Reagents ► SuperFect®				
siRNA Transfection Reagents ▶ PrioFect™				
Materials Sciences Products	Early	Intermediate	Advanced, Partnered	Sales
<ul> <li>Specialty &amp; Fine Chemicals</li> <li>Priostar™ Dendrimers (multiple applications)</li> <li>Starburst™ Dendrimers (Catalogue of over 200 products)</li> </ul>			>	



Marketed Dendrimer Products		PrioFect™ siRNA Transfection Reagents	Ma Indu	aterials Sciend Istrial Applica	ce / tions
Value Capture Horizon	Current	Transfection Reagents Licensed to EMD Biosciences*	2007 / 08		
	Existing product sales and	Transfection reagent market:	Sector	Discussions with	Application
	licensed dendrimer royalty agreements	\$200M	Oil	"Top 5" US Oil Company	Lubricant additives
	Stratus CS® : Cardiac marker diagnostic licensed to Dade Behring	PrioFect <sup>™</sup> siRNA Transfection Reagents provide: <b>Precise size control</b> : allows	Plastics	Large Automotive Components Manufacturer	Plastics additive
Product area	SuperFect® : Gene transfection technology	optimisation according to cell type	Manufacturing	Major Technology Company	Dental resins
	licensed to Qiagen	Highly functionalised surface: allows targeting to specific cell types i.e. cell-specific delivery		Multiple avenues of exploration	Adhesives
	STARBURST® dendrimers commercially available			"Top 5" European electronics	Printed circuit board
		Pharmaceutical Quality: Low toxicity	Pharmaceutical	Global Healthcare Company	Solublisation
	DADE REHRING		Cosmetics	Cosmetic Company	Solubilisation
			Research Reagents	Major Reagent manufacturer	Laboratory reagents
	ALDRICH QIAGEN		Resources	Water quality specialists	Water filtering/ remediation



## Adding siRNA to a cell can "turn off" production of specific cellular proteins

### "The discovery of RNA interference (RNAi) may well be one of the transforming events in biology in the past decade" Nature

### **Merck buys Sirna Therapeutics**

By Bioperform Web Watch Posted 10/31/2006 11:01:00 AM

The Associated Press reports that Merck & Co. ha agreed to pay \$1.1 billion to buy Sirna Therapeutics Inc. Merck's 13-per-share offer for the San Francisco-based company is almost a 102 percent premium over Sirna's closing Nasdaq Stock Market price of \$6.45, which fell 5 cents before the bid was made public after the stock markets closed. Sirna's stock surged 98 percent to \$12.74 in after-hours trading. The stock's high for the past year is \$8.52.

The discovery of RNAi has already had an immense impact on biomedical research and will most likely lead to novel medical applications in the future. The Nobel Assembly



The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2006

"for their discovery of RNA interference - gene silencing by double-stranded RNA"

Andrew Z. Fire

Craig C. Mello

## starpharma

### Priofect<sup>™</sup> and siRNA transfection

- Enhances uptake of siRNA (and DNA) into cells
- 2 potential applications:
  - Research reagent
  - In vivo

### **Competitive Advantages**

- Superior efficacy through reagent size control
- Cell-specific targeting
- Pharmaceutical quality







### LOW TOXICITY . EFFECTIVE DELIVERY



Feb. 2007 – Worldwide exclusive license and supply agreement for PrioFect<sup>™</sup> siRNA and DNA transfection reagents for research market

- DNT will supply EMD Biosciences with Priostar<sup>™</sup> proprietary dendrimers for the DNA and siRNA transfection research markets.
- EMD has established worldwide sales and distribution channels; \$200 million research reagents market
- Agreement includes royalties and milestone payments
- First products to market in 2007
- Starpharma retains full rights to all *in vivo* aspects of transfecting nucleic acids, a market segment that experienced significant deal-making activity in 2006.



EMD Biosciences, Inc. is part of the Performance and Life Science Chemicals (PLS) division of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. EMD markets brands including Calbiochem®, Novabiochem®, and Novagen®.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company with sales of EUR 6.3 billion in 2006.



# starpharma

## Key Investment Highlights







### Starpharma Holdings Limited ASX:SPL OTCQX:SPHRY

SPL	US\$M	
Market Capitalisation	60	
NIH Support	26	
Cash on Hand (Mar07)	~ 10	

*Further information: www.starpharma.com* 

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## **Supplementary Information**



## Key Management





- Over 15 years international business development and general management experience in pharmaceuticals and biotechnology
- Former senior roles with CSL and Faulding (Mayne Pharma)
- Significant experience in marketing and business development in
- Extensive experience in medicinal chemistry and biochemistry
- Managing teams focussed on commercially directed drug discovery
- Integral role to advancement of VivaGel clinical program
- Extensive NIH liaison and product development experience
- Founder of four technology companies and consortia
- Previously President and CEO of CMU Research Corporation
- Extensive experience in finance and HR management
- Previously with CSIRO in VIC, SA and WA
- Experience in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.



## Board of Directors – depth of experience and influence



- Major player in corporate Australia: Coles Myer, Fosters Brewings
- Pharmaceutical experience at DHA Pharmaceuticals, Abbot Laboratories
- Founding CEO of Starpharma
- Highly respected industry and government participant
- Over 15 years international business development and general management experience in pharmaceuticals and biotechnology
- Former senior roles with CSL and Faulding (Mayne Pharma)
- Head of Structural Biology Division of WEHI, Founding director of Biota
- Well regarded internationally
- International investment background
- Executive Director of National Australia Bank's corporate advisory subsidiary
- Lawyer with extensive experience in technology licensing
- Advises on commercial transactions
- Retired chairman and CEO of Dow Corning Corporation (NASDAQ: DOW)
- Numerous positions in finance, engineering and manufacturing
- Former chairman of DNT, Starpharma's US subsidiary
- Consultant physician, Alfred Hospital
- Various clinical and management roles in Australian biotechnology

## VivaGel™: Animal Efficacy results





SHIV/HIV Protection

AIDS Research & Human Retroviruses, 21, pp207-213, 2005.

Advantage: VivaGel<sup>™</sup> is NOT a surfactant Surfactants damage epithelial cells INCREASING the chance of HIV transmission. VivaGel is NOT a surfactant and has been found not to damage epithelial cells in human trials. This is not true of all microbicides





Contraception 1998;57:341-348

**HSV** Protection



VivaGel<sup>™</sup>: animals protected from HSV-2

Approximately 45 million Americans (26% of women and 18% of men) are infected with HSV-2, the causative agent of genital herpes.

Epidemiology of HSV in Developed Countries, HERPES, 11 Supplement 1, 2004

"Women in the United States also need HIV prevention tools like microbicides. AIDS is now the number 1 cause of death among African-American women between the ages of 25 and 34."

"The Microbicide Development Act," in the Senate of the United States, 2005



	Competitor Category	Key Disadvantages	VivaGel™ Advantages	
HSV-2	VivaGel™ is the only microbicide being developed to prevent genital herpes			
	Surfacants/Detergents	<ul> <li>Ulceration possible</li> <li>Potential increased risk of infection</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No surfactant properties</li> <li>Non-irritant</li> <li>Does not increase infection risk</li> </ul>	
	Sulphated Carbohydrates	<ul> <li>Not active against clinical HIV strains</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Highly active against all HIV strains tested</li> </ul>	
HIV <ul> <li>Primary mode of action requires infection process to have begun</li> <li>Not active against HIV</li> <li>Sulphated Polymers</li> <li>High cost of synthesis</li> <li>Poor characterisation of the drug substance likely to present regulatory issues</li> </ul> <ul> <li>Second Agents</li> <li>Is acidity control Agents</li> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> <li>Not active against protection process to have begun</li> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> <li>Not active against protection as mono-therapy?</li> </ul> <ul> <li>Not active against protection process to have begun</li> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> <li>Not active against protection process to have begun</li> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> <li>Not active against protection process to have begun</li> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> <li>Not active against protection process to have begun</li> </ul>	Reverse Transcript Inhibitors and other anti-viral drugs	<ul> <li>Drug resistance is an issue</li> <li>Primary mode of action requires infection process to have begun</li> <li>Not active against HIV</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Very high barrier to development of viral resistance</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Excellent drug characteristics</li> <li>Low manufacturing costs</li> <li>Stable, well defined entity</li> </ul>			
	Acidity Control Agents	<ul> <li>Is acidity control sufficient protection as mono-therapy?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Potent activity against HIV and HSV-2 in animal models</li> <li>Non-irritant</li> </ul>	
	VivaGel™ has significant competitive advantages			



- Recent study has shown that SPL7013, the active ingredient in its VivaGel<sup>™</sup>, exhibits a potent contraceptive effect in rabbits
- Independent study undertaken at Johns Hopkins University under an NIH grant
- Fertility was reduced by more than 75% by SPL7013 in a VivaGel™ formulation and 95% in a HEC gel compared with an inactive gel
- If contraceptive activity is confirmed in humans it would allow for development with contraception as an additional claim
- Findings relevant to both the stand-alone gel and condom coating opportunities

Application of Vaginal Gels, and % Relative Fertility in Active Gel-Treated Rabbits Compared with HEC Control 100 6 Relative Fertility Average No. of Embryos Per Animal 80 5with HEC 60 3-Gel Compared 40 2-20 1-0 0 Hydroxyethyl 3% SPL7013 3% SPL7013 3% Nonox ynol-9 Gel \* Cellulose (VivaGel™ active) (VivaGel™ active) (HEC) Gel in HEC Gel in Carbopol® Gel (n=8) (n=8) (n=11)

> \* N-9 figure based on published historical data, Castle et al, Contraception 1998;58:51-60, and Zeitlin et al, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 2001:28:417-23

Average No. of Embryos Conceived Per Animal Following

### Portfolio of Opportunities







Plasma concentration-time profile in male SD rats for PEGylated poly-L-lysine dendrimers



Starpharma's dendrimers can be designed to optimize the Pharmacokinetics (PK) of:

- Small molecule drugs
- Therapeutic proteins
- Peptides
- Plasma residence time increases with dendrimer size, but:
  - PEG MW alone not the main determinant of t<sub>1/2</sub>





Compa	any	Clinical Development	Pre-clinical development
Acuity	,	Ph II AMD & DME	anti-inflammatories & anti-infectives
Alnyla	m	Ph 1 2006 (RSV)	pandemic flu, spinal cord injury, Parkinson's, cystic fibrosis, hypercholesterolemia, neuropathic pain
Sirna		Ph II AMD (w/ Allergan)	Asthma, RSV, Huntington's, viral hepatitis, diabetes, oncology, dermatology

Mainstream Pharmas are partnering up:	or acquiring:
- Novartis/Alnylam (flu) - Merck/Alnylam (AMD & spinal cord injun/)	Merck/Sirna
- GSK/Sirna (respiratory diseases)	
- Abbott/Dharmacon (oncology)	

For RNAi therapeutics, the ultimate goal is targeted delivery. The leaders have RNA expertise but delivery vehicles to provide the targeting capability are underdeveloped and in strong demand.