ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

AstraZeneca to develop oncology drug using SPL's DEP™ technology

Melbourne, Australia; 4 May 2015: Starpharma Holdings Ltd (ASX: SPL, OTCQX: SPHRY) today announced the signing of an extension to the existing collaboration agreement with AstraZeneca to commence scale up of a dendrimer enhanced oncology molecule ("DEP™ conjugate") for further development.

During 2014 Starpharma and AstraZeneca conducted a series of studies in which Starpharma's DEP™ drug delivery technology was used to modify a development candidate from AstraZeneca's cancer pipeline. This program has been successful with key enhancements for the DEP™ conjugate now having been demonstrated by AstraZeneca in animal models. Based on these results AstraZeneca is now conducting further pre-clinical studies with a view to subsequent commencement of clinical trials, if results of the current work continue to be positive.

"We are delighted that the DEP™ conjugate has performed so well in extensive testing by AstraZeneca over the last year or so" said Dr Jackie Fairley, Chief Executive Officer of Starpharma. "The collaboration has been a very productive one and AstraZeneca has been a tremendous partner. We look forward to working closely with them through the next stage of the program as the DEP™ conjugate is advanced for further development and clinical studies."

Andrew Potts, Project Director from AstraZeneca's Pharmaceutical Development organisation commented: "Combining the great science that's happening in our labs with the most innovative biotech science is an essential part of our plans to deliver the next generation of medicines. This collaboration will enable us to further harness the DEP™ technology supporting our plans to accelerate evaluation of a novel molecule within our oncology portfolio.''

Starpharma uses its DEP™ technology to improve the performance of pharmaceuticals. Both pre-clinical and early clinical data have shown DEP™ versions of drugs to be superior in a variety of ways to the unmodified drugs. Pre-clinical studies of DEP™ conjugates have already established improved efficacy and reduced toxicities with a number of different cancer drugs. In early results from Starpharma's phase 1 study, DEP™ docetaxel has shown very good tolerability and improved pharmacokinetics. This trial is ongoing and whilst the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) has not yet been reached a number of patients have exhibited potential anti-cancer activity and no neutropenia has been seen to date.

ABOUT STARPHARMA

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX:SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY), located in Melbourne Australia, is an ASX 300 company and is a world leader in the development of dendrimer products for pharmaceutical, life science and other applications.

Starpharma's underlying technology is built around dendrimers – a type of synthetic nanoscale polymer that is highly regular in size and structure and well suited to pharmaceutical and medical uses. Starpharma has three core development programs: VivaGel® portfolio, DEP™ drug delivery, and agrochemicals with the Company developing a number of products internally and others via commercial partnerships.

Starpharma's lead products are based on VivaGel® (SPL7013, astodrimer sodium), a proprietary dendrimer which is a potent microbicidal agent. VivaGel® formulated as a water based gel and delivered vaginally is under clinical development for the management and prevention of bacterial vaginosis (BV). Starpharma has also signed separate licence agreements with Ansell Limited (ASX:ANN) and Okamoto Industries. Inc., (TSE: JP3192800005) to market a value-added, VivaGel® condom. The VivaGel® condom is available for purchase in Australia under Ansell's Lifestyles® Dual Protect™ brand. Ansell manufactures and sells leading condom brands worldwide, including LifeStyles®, ZERO® and SKYN®. Okamoto is the market leader for condoms sold in Japan, which is the world's second largest condom market.

In the wider pharmaceutical and life science fields, Starpharma has both partnered and internal programs in Drug Delivery. Drug Delivery partners include GSK, Lilly and AstraZeneca. A number of dendrimer-enhanced, or DEP™ versions of existing drugs are under development. The most advanced of these is DEP™ docetaxel, a dendrimer-enhanced version of docetaxel (Taxotere®), which is in clinical development. In preclinical studies DEP™ docetaxel has shown significant tumour-targeting and superior anti-cancer effects across a range of important cancer types including breast, prostate, lung and ovarian tumour, when compared to Taxotere® (docetaxel).

In agrochemicals Starpharma has a series of partnerships with leading industry players including global leader Adama (formerly Makhteshim Agan) as well as internal programs including an enhanced version of glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup®).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Media:

Buchan Consulting
Rebecca Wilson
Mob: +61 417 382 391
rwilson@buchanwe.com.au

Starpharma:
Dr Jackie Fairley, Chief Executive Officer
Nigel Baade, CFO and Company Secretary

+61 3 8532 2704
investor.relations@starpharma.com
www.starpharma.com