

## Starpharma signs DEP Research Agreement with US Biopharma Co

- **Exploratory Research Agreement will utilise Starpharma's proprietary DEP<sup>®</sup> technology to Evaluate Drug Conjugates**

**Melbourne, Australia; 7 December 2021:** Starpharma (ASX: SPL, OTCQX: SPHRY) today announced that it has signed an exploratory DEP<sup>®</sup> Research Agreement with Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, with an initial focus on evaluating DEP<sup>®</sup> (dendrimer based) drug conjugates.

Starpharma also has a number of existing DEP<sup>®</sup> partnerships with leading international pharmaceutical companies, including AstraZeneca, Merck & Co., Inc., Chase Sun, as well as several undisclosed partnerships.

Starpharma's DEP<sup>®</sup> technology has already yielded four clinical stage products.

### About DEP<sup>®</sup>

Starpharma's proprietary dendrimer-based DEP<sup>®</sup> platform has broad commercial applicability in drug delivery by enhancing the therapeutic utility of drugs through improved solubility, efficacy and pharmacokinetic control, reductions in certain toxicities (e.g., bone marrow toxicity) and creating a unique intellectual property position. The novel DEP<sup>®</sup> platform has shown reproducible advantages across a wide range of drug classes and can be utilised with both small molecule drugs, peptides and proteins, and in the development of unique DEP<sup>®</sup> based ADCs, radiotherapies and radiodiagnostics.

Potential benefits of DEP<sup>®</sup> dendrimer drug delivery include:

- Improving efficacy
- Improving therapeutic index
- Reducing toxic side effects of drugs
- Enhanced and controllable pharmacokinetics
- Tumour targeting
- Increased aqueous solubility, avoiding the need for toxic excipients (e.g., polysorbate-80) thus reducing the need for steroid pre-treatment
- Delivering a variety of payloads (small molecules, proteins, radio-isotopes)
- Creation of new intellectual property

Starpharma has three phase 2 clinical stage DEP<sup>®</sup> assets, multiple preclinical DEP<sup>®</sup> programs, and has applied its DEP<sup>®</sup> technology in partnership with pharmaceutical companies for many different applications (passive and targeted ADC and radiotheranostics) and diseases (oncology and non-oncology applications).

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### About Starpharma

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX:SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY) is a global biopharmaceutical company and a world leader in the development of new pharmaceutical and medical products based on proprietary polymers called dendrimers, with programs for respiratory viruses, DEP<sup>®</sup> drug delivery and VivaGel<sup>®</sup>. Starpharma has developed VIRALEZE<sup>™</sup>, an antiviral nasal spray that is registered for sale in the Europe, Vietnam, India and New Zealand, and available outside Australia in certain markets online. VIRALEZE<sup>™</sup> is not approved for sale or supply in Australia. SPL7013 is utilised in approved products - the VivaGel<sup>®</sup> condom and VivaGel<sup>®</sup> BV. VivaGel<sup>®</sup> BV has been licensed in >160 countries, is registered in >45 countries and available for sale in the UK, Europe, Japan, South East Asia, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

As a leading company in dendrimer-based drug delivery, Starpharma's proprietary drug delivery platform technology, DEP<sup>®</sup>, is being used to improve pharmaceuticals, to reduce toxicities and enhance their performance. There are numerous internal and partnered programs underway to develop DEP<sup>®</sup> versions of existing drugs, particularly in the area of anti-cancer therapies. DEP<sup>®</sup> partnerships include oncology programs with AstraZeneca, with Merck in the area of Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADCs), with Chase Sun in the area of anti-infectives and other world leading pharmaceutical companies. Starpharma's partnered DEP<sup>®</sup> programs have the potential to generate significant future milestones and royalties.

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**Disclosure**

This ASX Announcement was authorised for release by the Chairman, Mr Rob Thomas.

**Forward Looking Statements**

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 authorities' requirements regarding any one or more product candidates nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any 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 trial results, including additional analysis of existing data, and new 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 document 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. Clinical case studies and other clinical information given in this document are given for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily a guide to product performance and no representation or warranty is made by any person as to the likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of future results. Nothing contained in this document nor any information made available to you is, or shall be relied upon as, a promise, representation, warranty or guarantee as to the past, present or the future performance of any Starpharma product.