



PRESS RELEASE

ASLAN PHARMACEUTICALS RECEIVES IND APPROVAL IN SINGAPORE TO INITIATE PHASE 2 STUDY OF ASLAN003 IN ACUTE MYELOID LEUKAEMIA

Singapore, 13 November 2017 – ASLAN Pharmaceuticals (ASLAN; 6497.TT), a biotech company focused on the development of immunotherapies and targeted agents for Asia prevalent tumour types, today announced the approval of its Investigational New Drug (IND) application by Singapore’s Health Sciences Authority to initiate a phase 2 study of ASLAN003 for the treatment of Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML). ASLAN003 is a highly potent, best-in-class, small molecule inhibitor of the human DiHydroOrotate DeHydrogenase (DHODH) enzyme.

Dr Bertil Lindmark, Chief Medical Officer of ASLAN Pharmaceuticals, said: *“This important approval enables ASLAN to initiate the first study in AML, a disease with poor treatment outcomes and increasing prevalence, with a highly potent and selective DHODH inhibitor. Recent published findings have identified DHODH as a therapeutic target for AML¹, and we look forward to initiating our study to investigate the potential of ASLAN003 as a novel treatment option.”*

AML is a rapidly progressing blood cancer that is characterised by the uncontrolled proliferation of immature blast cells in the bone marrow. The five-year cancer survival rate for AML patients is 26.9%². A majority of AML patients relapse or present with refractory disease and have overall poor prognosis³.

The phase 2 trial is a dose optimisation study, and the primary outcome is to determine the optimum monotherapy dose of ASLAN003 including efficacy evaluated by Overall Complete Remission Rate (OCRR). Earlier this year, ASLAN entered into a research and development collaboration with the Cancer Science Institute of Singapore (CSI) and the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore, to investigate the potential of ASLAN003 as a monotherapy and in combination with other targeted agents for haematological cancers.

A completed phase 1 trial showed that ASLAN003 has an excellent pharmacokinetic profile, and was safe and well tolerated in healthy volunteers, which is more favourable compared to the reported side effect profiles of existing AML induction and maintenance chemotherapies.

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¹ Sykes, D.B et al. Cell, 2016. Inhibition of Dihydroorotate Dehydrogenase Overcomes Differentiation Blockade in Acute Myeloid Leukemia. 167(1), p171–186.e15.

² National Cancer Institute

³ Szer, J. ASH. The prevalent predicament of relapsed acute myeloid leukemia



About ASLAN003

ASLAN003 is highly potent, oral once daily, best in class, small molecule inhibitor of DiHydroOrotate DeHydrogenase (DHODH), with excellent tolerability and pharmacokinetic properties in human subjects. ASLAN003 is structurally distinct from first generation DHODH inhibitors such as Leflunomide or Teriflunomide, and was exclusively licensed by ASLAN from Almirall. ASLAN has global rights for all non-topical and non-dermatological indications.

About ASLAN Pharmaceuticals

ASLAN Pharmaceuticals (6497.TT) is an oncology focused biotechnology company developing a portfolio of immunotherapies and targeted drugs, focusing on Asia prevalent tumour types. Led by a highly experienced management team with global pharmaceutical expertise, ASLAN is headquartered in Singapore with a platform that reaches across the region via its offices in Taiwan, China and Australia. The Company is developing 5 drugs addressing multiple indications including biliary tract cancer, gastric cancer and colorectal cancer, with the lead programme in pivotal studies. ASLAN's partners include Array BioPharma, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Almirall and CSL.

www.aslanpharma.com

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