



MEDIA RELEASE

G2 Therapies and Novo Nordisk announce the start of clinical trials of the anti-C5aR antibody in chronic inflammatory diseases

Sydney, 22 October 2008 – Australian biotechnology company, G2 Therapies Pty Limited, and global healthcare leader, Novo Nordisk, announce the commencement of clinical trials of G2's C5a Receptor (C5aR) antibodies.

The C5a receptor antibodies were first developed by Professor Mackay at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research and further developed by G2 Therapies before being licensed to Novo Nordisk A/S in what was one of Australia's most significant biotechnology licensing agreements. This agreement saw G2 and Novo Nordisk collaborate to develop, manufacture and commercialise new anti-inflammatory therapies based on the anti-C5aR antibodies.

The anti-C5aR antibodies will be trialled in two chronic autoimmune disorders that afflict millions of people worldwide: rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus.

"The commencement of clinical trials represents a major milestone for the project" said Charles Mackay, Director and founder of G2 Therapies. "G2's collaboration with Novo Nordisk on the C5aR project has proceeded exceptionally well and it has certainly been a pleasure working with Novo Nordisk to advance the anti-C5aR antibodies into the clinic."

About G2 Therapies

G2 Therapies is a biotechnology company founded in 2002 at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research with the aim of developing and commercialising antibody based therapeutics in inflammation and other areas. G2 is based at the Garvan Institute in Sydney, Australia, and conducts its research through its operating subsidiary, G2 Inflammation P/L. G2 Therapies is a private company chaired by Dr John Schubert, and its major shareholders include AMWIN, Baron Nominees, Professor Charles Mackay and the Garvan Institute of Medical Research. For further information, visit www.g2therapies.com.au.

About G2's anti-C5a Receptor antibodies

The body needs a certain amount of inflammation to protect itself against disease. The hallmarks of inflammation reflect the major events: swelling of localised blood capillaries, and the movement of fluid and immune cells into damaged tissue in an effort to contain infection.

When immune cells become overactive, as is the case with rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases, too many of them move into damaged tissue and exacerbate the condition. G2's antibodies bind to the C5a receptor expressed on these cells, and prevent C5a from binding, thereby blocking the action of one of the most important molecules for guiding inflammatory cells into tissue.

"We anticipate that our antibody will be a significant improvement over current therapies because it acts at a different point in the inflammatory process compared with current anti-inflammatory therapies," says Professor Mackay. Anti-C5aR antibody is a "cell migration inhibitor", a particularly promising class of new anti-inflammatory agents.

About the Garvan Institute

The Garvan Institute of Medical Research was founded in 1963 by the Sisters of Charity. Initially a small research department of St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, it is now one of Australia's largest medical research institutions with over three hundred scientists, students



and support staff. The Garvan Institute's main research programs are: Inflammation & Immunology, Osteoporosis, Cancer, Diabetes & Obesity, and Neuroscience. For further information, visit www.garvan.org.au.

About Novo Nordisk

Novo Nordisk is a healthcare company and a world leader in diabetes care. In addition, Novo Nordisk has a leading position within areas such as haemostasis management, growth hormone therapy and hormone replacement therapy. Novo Nordisk manufactures and markets pharmaceutical products and services that make a significant difference to patients, the medical profession and society. With headquarters in Denmark, Novo Nordisk employs approximately 26,550 employees in 80 countries, and markets its products in 179 countries. Novo Nordisk's B shares are listed on the stock exchanges in Copenhagen and London. Its ADRs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol 'NVO'. For more information, visit novonordisk.com

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