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Press Release

Antisense Pharma's AP 12009 for Treatment of High-Grade Glioma: First Clinical Data at ASCO Meeting

REGENSBURG, GERMANY - April 30, 2002. Antisense Pharma GmbH today announced the presentation of clinical data of AP 12009 in high-grade glioma at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) on May 21st in Orlando, Florida. The results will be presented by Dr. Peter Hau, investigator at the Department of Neurology, University of Regensburg, Germany:

Poster	#109
Title	TGF-beta2 Antisense Oligonucleotide AP12009 Administered Intratumorally to Patients with Malignant Glioma in a Clinical Phase I/II Dose Escalation Study: Safety and Preliminary Efficacy Data
Session	Tuesday, May 21, 2002
	Poster 12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. (Level 2, Hall C)
	Discussion 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. (Level 3, 311A)

In a preliminary analysis of a Phase I/II trial of the TGF-beta2 antisense compound AP 12009 as a single agent using an intratumoral high-flow microperfusion, the clinical investigators observed excellent safety and tolerability in patients with high-grade glioma (glioblastoma and anaplastic astrocytoma), surpassing the primary endpoint of the study.

Eighteen patients, all of whom had relapsed from extensive prior standard treatment, received AP 12009 in a single course. Within a 64fold escalation of the initial dose no dose-limiting side-effects were observed thus far.

A descriptive analysis also evaluated patient response. 6/18 patients receiving AP 12009 in the study achieved an objective response or stabilization after only a single course. "We are encouraged having observed first therapeutic effects", explained the primary investigator of this study, Professor Ulrich Bogdahn, Department of Neurology, University Regensburg.

"Both excellent tolerability and high patient acceptance together with first data on efficacy accelerate our development of AP 12009 for glioma patients", said Dr. Gerhard Stauder, Chief Scientific Officer at Antisense Pharma GmbH. "In addition, the recently received Orphan Drug Designation in the European Union supports our strategy to expand our clinical trial program to further trials and sites."

Antisense Pharma GmbH is exploiting its expertise in DNA antisense to develop novel human therapeutic drugs. AP 12009 is the most advanced in a portfolio of products.