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Press Release

Antisense Pharma announces start of clinical phase I/II study for systemic administration of AP 12009 in cancer patients

Regensburg, Germany, February 10th, 2005 - "The first patient with pancreatic carcinoma has just been included into the clinical phase I/II study for the systemic administration of our lead compound AP 12009. Thus, the clinical development of our drug in further malignant tumor indications progresses as expected", explains Dr. Karl-Hermann Schlingensiepen, Chief Executive Officer of Antisense Pharma GmbH.

Four renowned study centers located in Germany now enroll patients with pancreatic carcinoma or malignant melanoma (skin cancer), two forms of cancer with high and as yet unmet medical need. The tumors produce excessive amounts of the protein TGF- β 2 (transforming growth factor-beta2). As the most potent immunosuppressant known to date, the protein plays a key role in the disease progression. AP 12009 blocks the production of TGF- β 2. In this study AP 12009 is administered intravenously with the aim to collect safety and tolerability data. In high-grade glioma (brain tumor) three phase I/II studies with AP 12009 have already been successfully conducted. "In the currently ongoing phase IIb study more than 100 patients have already been enrolled. We have observed several cases in which the tumor lesions completely disappeared and patients remain tumor free until now. This includes one patient from the first phase I trial who is still free of tumor, three years after his first treatment with AP 12009. Considering the aggressiveness of high-grade glioma these clinical observations are highly unusual and very encouraging", says Dr. Schlingensiepen. This proof of concept was the basis for expanding the clinical development of AP 12009 into other tumor indications.

Antisense Pharma is a biopharmaceutical company located in Regensburg, Bavaria. The company focuses on targeted therapies for malignant tumors. Drugs based on antisense technology are discovered and developed for worldwide marketing. The agents specifically block the synthesis of key cancer proteins. The lead product AP 12009 is currently in clinical development for glioma, pancreatic cancer and melanoma. The further product pipeline comprises drugs for the treatment of lung, colorectal, prostate and other forms of cancer in advanced stages of preclinical development. Recently, the company received the Bavarian Innovation Award and the German Founders Award.

This document contains forward-looking statements with respect to the future business of Antisense Pharma GmbH. By their nature, forward-looking statements and forecasts involve risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that could occur in the future. There is a number of factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially. Antisense Pharma GmbH disclaims any intent of obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements.

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