



For further information please contact:

Antisense Pharma GmbH

Dr. Heike Specht / Public Relations
Josef-Engert-Str. 9, D-93053 Regensburg
Telefon: 0941-92013-0 / Fax: -29
e-mail: pr@antisense-pharma.com
www.antisense-pharma.com

Press Release

Encouraging First Results on TGF-beta 2 Inhibitor AP 12009 in the Systemic Treatment of Pancreatic Carcinoma, Malignant Melanoma and Colorectal Carcinoma

CHICAGO and REGENSBURG - June 21, 2007 - The TGF-beta 2 inhibitor AP 12009, under development by Antisense Pharma, reveals very good safety and tolerability in the systemic treatment of Pancreatic Carcinoma, Malignant Melanoma and Colorectal Carcinoma. Interim results of a Phase I/II study have been presented at this year's Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in Chicago, USA. Even though it was not the primary objective of the study, evidence of efficacy - including a complete response - has already been observed.

"The remarkably long survival times of two patients are very encouraging," said Hubert Heinrichs, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer at Antisense Pharma. One patient with malignant melanoma survived more than 60 weeks after start of treatment with AP 12009. Moreover, a patient suffering from pancreatic carcinoma experienced a complete response of a hepatic metastasis and is still alive, 103 weeks after start of treatment with AP 12009.

In the open-label, multicenter, dose-escalation Phase I/II study, patients with either pancreatic carcinoma (stage IVA/IVB), metastatic melanoma (stage III/IV), or advanced colorectal carcinoma (stage III/IV) repeatedly received intravenous infusions of AP 12009. One treatment cycle consisted of a 7-day continuous infusion followed by a weekly treatment-free interval. Up to ten treatment cycles could be administered. Primary study objective was to determine the maximum tolerated dose. 17 patients have been treated so far. Their clinical data support the excellent safety and tolerability profile obtained in preclinical studies. Three patients experienced a dose-limiting toxicity, one patient with an exanthema and two patients with mild and self-limiting thrombocytopenia, a well-known substance class specific effect. "As the maximum tolerated dose has been determined with this treatment regimen, the study is now continued with a modified dosing schedule," Hubert Heinrichs concluded.

General Background on AP 12009 and TGF-beta 2

AP 12009 is an antisense drug - a phosphorothioate oligodesoxynucleotide - designed to selectively downregulate the production of transforming growth factor-beta 2 (TGF-beta 2) at the translational level. TGF-beta 2 plays a pivotal role as a multimodally acting cytokine by regulating key mechanisms of tumor progression. Immunosuppression, invasion and migration, proliferation and angiogenesis are simultaneously promoted in a variety of malignant tumors. This multiple impact on cancer cells is inhibited by AP 12009.



Press Release

About Antisense Pharma GmbH

Antisense Pharma is a biopharmaceutical company located in Regensburg, Germany. The company focuses on targeted therapies for malignant tumors and is dedicated to discovering and developing drugs based on antisense technology for worldwide commercialization. The agents specifically block the synthesis of key cancer proteins. Antisense Pharma has been honored with the Bavarian Innovation Award and the German Founders Award.

Literature

Oettle, H. et al., Preliminary Results of a Phase I/II Study in Pancreatic Carcinoma, Malignant Melanoma, and Colorectal Carcinoma with the TGF-2 Inhibitor AP 12009, ASCO Annual Meeting, 2007, Abstract ID 4607.

Disclaimer

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.