ASX Announcement | 5 November 2020
Noxopharm Limited (ASX:NOX)

NOXCOVID Study Cleared To Expand

Highlights:

- **Veyonda® passes safety review of first two dosages**
- **Screening of patients for next highest dosages proceeding immediately**

Sydney 5 November 2020: Australian clinical-stage drug development company Noxopharm Limited (ASX:NOX) is pleased to announce that a safety review conducted by the Study Safety Steering Committee of the initial 6 patients in the NOXCOVID study has cleared the way for enrolment of the next 12 patients in the 800 and 1200 mg dosage cohorts.

The safety review was conducted after a minimum of 14 days of treatment with Veyonda®. The dose-increasing stage of this trial is being conducted at three clinical sites in the Republic of Moldova, a country currently experiencing a spike in COVID-19 infections and deaths.

The study has its origins in research conducted by Hudson Institute of Medical Research showing idronoxil, the active ingredient in Veyonda, as being a potent inhibitor of the STING signalling pathway. STING is being increasingly incriminated in the progression of COVID-19 disease into hyper-inflammation showing as a cytokine storm, septic shock and death. Veyonda is the only known STING pathway inhibitor in the clinic, highlighting the importance of the NOXCOVID-19 study in the quest to develop effective treatments preventing death and disability in COVID-19 patients.

Noxopharm now has built on this ground-breaking research by establishing the wholly owned subsidiary, Pharmorage Pty Ltd, to focus on the development of a purpose-designed drug to treat cytokine storm and septic shock.

Graham Kelly, CEO and Managing Director of Noxopharm, has approved the release of this document to the market on behalf of the Board of Directors.

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About STING

STING (Stimulator of Interferon Genes) is part of a primitive defence mechanism that detects the presence of invading pathogenic organisms such as viruses or bacteria. In addition, STING plays important roles in the clearance of damaged cells and tissues. Both responses trigger the production of cytokines whose task it is to coordinate the subsequent immune and tissue repair (inflammatory) responses. STING engagement in the early stages of infection can contribute positively to the body's immune response to the pathogens. However, STING engagement becomes a negative and self-destructive force if the infection persists and progresses to the point of causing extensive tissue damage. Under those conditions, the STING pathway contributes to the so-called 'cytokine storm', promoting further organ damage and forming the basis of septic shock.

About Veyonda and STING

Idronoxil (the active ingredient in Veyonda®) is being developed as an anti-cancer compound based on a mechanism of action that down-regulates sphingosine-1-phosphate production in tumour cells. Idronoxil also has been shown to be a potent inhibitor of the STING signalling pathway, with downstream abrogation of production of a wide range of cytokines including IL-6 and IFN-beta. This STING antagonism has been shown both in primary immune cells and human cancer cells. The Company believes that Veyonda® is the only STING antagonist in the clinic.

About Noxopharm

Noxopharm Limited (ASX:NOX) is an Australian clinical-stage drug development company focused on the treatment of cancer and septic shock. Veyonda® is the Company's first pipe-line drug candidate currently in Phase 2 clinical trialling as a second-generation immuno-oncology drug in various forms of late-stage cancer.

Noxopharm also is the major shareholder of US biotechnology company Nyrada Inc (ASX:NYR).

To learn more, please visit: noxopharm.com

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