Media Release

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Synosia Presents Data from Clinical Trial of SYN-118 As A New Treatment For Parkinson's Disease

- Promising First Clinical Results From SYN-118 Presented at World Parkinson Congress -

Basel, Switzerland, September 29, 2010 - Synosia Therapeutics today announced the first clinical study results showing that SYN-118 provides clinically meaningful benefits to Parkinson's patients, has a good safety profile and is well tolerated. Results from an open-label, proof-of-mechanism study of SYN-118 (CL02) were presented at the World Parkinson Congress in Glasgow, Scotland.

The trial at the Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm tested safety, efficacy and pharmacodynamic effects by giving SYN-118 as an add-on therapy to advanced PD patients' current medications.

At the end of the 28-day trial, patients treated with SYN-118 showed a statistically significant improvement in motor symptoms compared with baseline scores, as measured by the Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS) item III (motor function). In addition, SYN-118 generated a statistically significant signal by positron emission tomography (PET) imaging in brain regions relevant to PD.

"As we anticipated, the clinical results of this study confirm that SYN-118 produces stable increases in dopamine in the areas of the brain relevant to Parkinson's and results in an improvement in motor symptoms," said Stephen Bandak, Synosia's Chief Medical Officer.

"These encouraging efficacy and safety results provide a strong rationale to move forward our clinical programme for SYN-118," said Ian Massey, Synosia's Chief Executive Officer. "In addition, the successful completion of this innovative study, including imaging techniques, reinforces the value of Synosia's approach of using smart, efficient proof-of-concept studies to inform the start of extensive Phase II trials of promising compounds."

Based on these proof-of-mechanism results, Synosia started a randomised, placebo-controlled Phase II study using SYN-118 in Parkinson's disease patients in the final quarter of 2009.

About SYN-118

SYN-118 is a potent and selective inhibitor of hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase (HPPD), an enzyme responsible for the catabolism of tyrosine, the precursor of the neurotransmitter dopamine. Dopamine plays an important role in motor function control; decreased dopamine production in the brain causes many of the symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

Synosia licensed SYN-118 from Syngenta in 2007 with rights for development and commercialisation in non-orphan diseases.

About Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder, after Alzheimer's disease. It affects about one percent of people aged 65-69 years, rising to up to three percent of people aged 80 years and older.[1]

About Synosia Therapeutics

Synosia Therapeutics is a privately owned company, which develops and intends to commercialise innovative, first or best-in-class products for unmet medical needs in neurology and psychiatry. Synosia uses cutting-edge technologies and creative clinical study designs to de-risk its compounds before moving into larger, more extensive Phase II and III programmes.

Synosia has five clinical-stage compounds in development for neurological and psychiatric diseases that have high unmet medical need, including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. Synosia is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland. For more information, visit www.synosia.com.

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References

1. Guttmacher et al. Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease. New England Journal of Medicine (2003); 348; 1356-64

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