Multiple DEP® products showcased at AACR 2020

- Four DEP® products have been featured in five poster presentations at the 2020 Annual American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting
- Three posters feature AstraZeneca’s first DEP® oncology product AZD0466 which consistently outperformed in multiple preclinical tumour models
- Two posters showcase Starpharma’s clinical-stage products DEP® docetaxel, DEP® cabazitaxel and DEP® irinotecan demonstrating superior performance in a range of tumour models, both alone and in combination

Melbourne, Australia; 23 June 2020: Starpharma (ASX: SPL, OTCQX: SPHRY) today announced that five posters featuring products based on Starpharma’s DEP® platform have been presented at the AACR (American Association for Cancer Research) Annual Meeting. The AACR Annual Meeting brings together leading cancer research and medicine from institutions all over the world and is an important forum for both raising product awareness and commercial interactions.

The AACR Annual Meeting is one of the most widely attended cancer research meetings each year. AACR 2020 is being held 22-24 June 2020 as a virtual event this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. In 2019 the meeting was attended by more than 20,000 cancer scientists, industry personnel and clinicians.

Three of the five poster presentations feature AstraZeneca’s novel oncology DEP® product, AZD0466. This is the first time that the majority of this AZD0466 data presented in these posters has been made publicly available.

The AZD0466 posters highlight the significant improvement in therapeutic index delivered by the DEP® technology, enabling the progression of AZD0466 into the clinic. AZD0466 is currently in a multi-centre phase 1 trial in the US in both solid and haematological tumours (blood cancers).

The posters also highlight the potent and broad ranging anti-cancer activity of AZD0466 which results from the dual Bcl2 and Bcl/xL activity. AZD0466 demonstrated superior anti-cancer activity in a wide range of preclinical tumour models including Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML), Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL), Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC).

The remaining posters showcase preclinical data from Starpharma’s products DEP® docetaxel, DEP® cabazitaxel and DEP® irinotecan, which are all in phase 2 clinical trials. The preclinical data presented at AACR comprises a series of xenograft studies showing enhanced efficacy of DEP® candidates/products used as a monotherapy or in combination with standard of care therapies.

Dr Jackie Fairley, Starpharma CEO, commented: “It’s very pleasing to have five AACR posters dedicated to DEP® products this year and to present further compelling AZD0466 data for the first time. It is particularly exciting to see the superior anti-cancer activity of AZD0466 against venetoclax in preclinical leukemia and solid tumour models. These posters highlight the reproduceable improvements in efficacy and therapeutic index enabled by the DEP® technology which are platform benefits that we’ve seen in both our internal products and partner programs.”
Poster details with links:

Poster Session: Targeted Delivery of Small Molecules and Biologics 1

- 1715 / 1 - Anti-cancer activity of a SN-38 nanoparticle, DEP® irinotecan, in human colon and pancreatic cancer xenograft models
- 1716 / 2 - Anticancer activity of the taxane nanoparticles, DEP® docetaxel and DEP® cabazitaxel
- 1718 / 4 - Design and optimization of a dendrimer-conjugated dual Bcl-2/Bcl-x, inhibitor, AZD0466, with improved therapeutic index

Poster Session: BCL-2 Family and Mitochondrial Apoptosis

- 56 / 2 - AZD0466, a nanomedicine of a potent dual Bcl-2/Bcl-xL inhibitor, exhibits anti-tumor activity in a range of hematological and solid tumor models

Poster Session: Topoisomerases, Tubulin, and Other Small Molecule Therapeutic Agents (only available via the AACR website)


The e-posters are available for viewing by registered attendees, with links for the first four posters provided above and at https://starpharma.com/drug_delivery/dep-posters.

About Starpharma

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX: SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY), located in Melbourne Australia, is an ASX 300 company and is a world leader in the development of dendrimer products for pharmaceutical, life science and other applications.

Starpharma’s underlying technology is built around dendrimers – a type of synthetic nanoscale polymer that is highly regular in size and structure and well suited to pharmaceutical and medical uses. Starpharma has two core development programs: VivaGel® portfolio and DEP® drug delivery with the company developing several products internally and others via commercial partnerships.

VivaGel®: Starpharma’s women’s health product - VivaGel® BV is based on SPL7013, astodrimer sodium, a proprietary dendrimer. VivaGel® BV for bacterial vaginosis (BV), is available for sale under the brand names Betafem® BV Gel (UK), Betadine BV™ (Europe), Betadine™ BV Gel (Asia) and Fleurstat BVgel (Australia and New Zealand) and a new drug application has been submitted to the US FDA. Starpharma has licensed the sales and marketing of VivaGel® BV to ITF Pharma for the US, Mundipharma for Europe, Russia, CIS, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America; and to Aspen Pharmacare for Australia and New Zealand. Starpharma also has licence agreements to market the VivaGel® condom (an antiviral condom which includes VivaGel® in the lubricant) in several regions, including Australia, Europe, Canada, China and Japan (Okamoto). The VivaGel® condom has been launched in Japan under Okamoto's 003 brand, and in Australia and Canada under the LifeStyles Dual Protect® brand. The VivaGel® condom is approved in Europe.

DEP® - Dendrimer Enhanced Product®: Starpharma’s DEP® drug delivery platform has demonstrated reproducible preclinical benefits across multiple internal and partnered DEP® programs, including improved efficacy, safety and survival. Starpharma has three internal DEP® products – DEP® docetaxel, DEP® cabazitaxel and DEP® irinotecan - in clinical development in patients with solid tumours. Starpharma’s partnered DEP® programs include a multiproduct DEP® licence with AstraZeneca, which involves the development and commercialisation of two novel oncology compounds, with potential to add more. In June 2019 Starpharma signed a Development and Option agreement with AstraZeneca for a DEP® version of one of AstraZeneca’s major marketed oncology medicines.

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Disclosure
This ASX Announcement was authorised for release by the Chairman, Mr Rob Thomas.
Forward Looking Statements

This document contains certain forward-looking statements, relating to Starpharma's business, which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “promising”, “plans”, “anticipated”, “will”, “project”, “believe”, “forecast”, “expected”, “estimated”, “targeting”, “aiming”, “set to”, “potential”, “seeking to”, “goal”, “could provide”, “intends”, “is being developed”, “could be”, “on track”, or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential filings or marketing approvals, or potential future sales of product candidates. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no assurance that any existing or future regulatory filings will satisfy the FDA’s and other authorities’ requirements regarding any one or more product candidates nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any authorities for sale in any market or that they will reach any particular level of sales. In particular, management’s expectations regarding the approval and commercialization of the product candidates could be affected by, among other things, unexpected trial results, including additional analysis of existing data, and new data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays, or government regulation generally; our ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing pressures; and additional factors that involve significant risks and uncertainties about our products, product candidates, financial results and business prospects. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Starpharma is providing this information as of the date of this document and does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or developments or otherwise.