



ASX Release

Phase 1b/2 Ovarian Trial Commences 2nd Dose Escalation

- First patient dosed at 25 mg/m² PTX-200
- Resistant ovarian cancer an area of considerable unmet medical need
- Previous studies have shown PTX-200 to be effective at enhancing cell death in ovarian cancer cells

Melbourne, Australia – (8 December 2016) – Clinical-stage oncology company Prescient Therapeutics Limited (ASX: **PTX**) is pleased to announce that it has dosed its first patient at the next dose level (25mg/m²) of PTX-200 in the dose escalation stage of its Phase 1b/2 trial for the treatment of metastatic ovarian cancer at H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center in Florida (**Moffitt**).

The Phase 1b/2 trial combines PTX-200 with cisplatin (standard of care chemotherapy) in patients with recurrent or persistent platinum-resistant ovarian cancer.

Hyper-phosphorylated Akt is a key feature of platinum-resistant ovarian cancer, and that these patients no longer respond to conventional chemotherapy like cisplatin. This is a major problem in the treatment of ovarian cancer globally and is associated to extremely poor survival rates. There are currently very limited treatment options for women with platinum-resistant ovarian cancer.

Early studies have shown that novel Akt inhibitor, PTX-200, sensitizes chemoresistant ovarian cancer cells to the chemotherapy drug cisplatin both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Furthermore, PTX-200 it was successful in synergizing with cisplatin to enhance cell death in ovarian cancer cells.

The recently appointed Principal Investigator on the trial, Dr Rob Wenham, Director of Clinical Research in The Center of Women's Oncology at Moffitt said, "The Akt tumor survival pathway is an important target in cancer research, and early studies with PTX-200 suggest it may help the problem of chemoresistance. We hope that the addition of PTX-200 to the regimen of carboplatin will eventually lead to enhanced response rates and survival in women with platinum resistant, recurrent ovarian cancer. I am very excited to be part of this trial".

Ovarian cancer is the fifth most common cancer in women in the United States, but the fourth most common cause of cancer deaths and accounts for more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system.¹ Approximately half of those diagnosed will die from metastatic disease.

Chemotherapy has been a general standard of care, typically consisting of platinum-based drugs. However, ovarian cancer often recurs, and with each recurrence the disease-free interval tends to shorten and chemoresistance increases.² This is the disease setting that PTX-200 is seeking to address.

PTX's CEO and Managing Director, Steven Yatomi-Clarke said, "Despite decades of research on surgery and drugs for ovarian cancer, the reality is that current treatments have made little substantive impact on cure rates for the disease. In fact, death rates for ovarian cancer are still at the same levels they were in the 1940s¹. There is a vital need for new therapies that may be used in conjunction with current standards of care."

"PTX-200 is a highly promising drug candidate which has great potential as a new treatment for this problematic disease."

ENDS

¹ American Cancer Society, Inc., last reviewed 2/4/2016.

² Jayson GC, Kohn EC, Kitchener HC, Ledermann JA (October 2014). "Ovarian cancer". *Lancet*. 384 (9951): 1376–88.

About Prescient Therapeutics Limited (PTX)

PTX is a clinical stage oncology company developing novel compounds that show promise as potential new therapies to treat a range of cancers that have become resistant to front line chemotherapy.

PTX's lead drug candidate PTX-200 inhibits an important tumor survival pathway known as Akt, which plays a key role in the development of many cancers, including breast and ovarian cancer, as well as leukemia. Unlike other drug candidates that target Akt inhibition through the ATP binding site, PTX-200 has a novel mechanism of action, through PH domain binding, that specifically inhibits Akt, with less likely side effects. This highly promising compound is now the focus of three current clinical trials.

The first trial, soon to commence, is a Phase Ib/II trial evaluating PTX-200 as a new therapy for relapse and refractory Acute Myeloid Leukemia, being conducted at Florida's H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center (Moffitt) and Yale Cancer Center (Yale) in New Haven, Connecticut under the leadership of Principal Investigator Professor Jeffrey Lancet, MD.

PTX is also conducting a Phase Ib/II study examining PTX-200 in breast cancer patients at the prestigious Montefiore Cancer Center in New York and the Moffitt. The third trial is a Phase Ib/II trial of PTX-200 in combination with current standard of care is also underway in patients with recurrent or persistent platinum resistant ovarian cancer at the Moffitt.

PTX's second novel drug candidate, PTX-100, is a first in class compound with the ability to block an important cancer growth enzyme known as geranylgeranyl transferase (GGT). It also blocks the Ral and Rho circuits in cancer cells which act as key oncogenic survival pathways, leading to apoptosis (death) of cancer cells. PTX-100 was well tolerated and achieved stable disease in a Phase I trial in advanced solid tumors.

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