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Portola Pharmaceuticals Announces Several Scientific Presentations at International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis XII Congress

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. (July 10, 2009) – Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. today announced several scientific presentations at the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) XII Congress in Boston that will feature its investigational antiplatelet drug elinogrel, a P2Y₁₂ ADP receptor antagonist currently in Phase II clinical development, and its oral Factor Xa inhibitor anticoagulant antidote in pre-clinical development, as well as a presentation by Portola co-founder David Phillips on new directions in antithrombotic drug discovery.

In the past six months, Portola has announced global development and commercialization agreements with Novartis for elinogrel and with Merck & Co., Inc. for betrixaban, an investigational oral Factor Xa inhibitor anticoagulant currently in Phase II clinical development.

Scientific Presentations

A Functional Pool of P2Y₁₂ Receptors Exposed Upon Platelet Activation Persists in Mice Treated with High Dose Clopidogrel, and Can Be Blocked by Elinogrel, a Direct Acting Reversible P2Y₁₂ Inhibitor (Presentation #PP-MO-045)

Presenter: Helena Haberstock-Debic

Date: Monday, July 13, 12:30-2:15 p.m.

Location: Poster Area, Platelet Biology

New Directions in Antithrombotic Drug Discovery: Pharmacological Uncoupling of Arterial Thrombosis from Hemostasis (Presentation #AS-TU-026)

Presenter: David Phillips

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 1:15-1:45 p.m.

Location: Room 104 ABC, Platelets and Systemic Disorders

The Antiplatelet Effect of a New, Direct Acting, Reversible P2Y₁₂ Inhibitor, Elinogrel (PRT060128) in Patients with High Platelet Reactivity During Clopidogrel Therapy (Presentation #PP-WE-801)

Presenter: Paul Gurbel

Date: Wednesday, July 15, 12:30-2:15 p.m.

Location: Poster Area, Patient Oriented Studies of Antiplatelet Therapy

ADP-Mediated Aggregation as a Pharmacodynamic Assay Underestimates the Antithrombotic Activity of Elinogrel, a Competitive, Reversible P2Y₁₂ Inhibitor, Relative to Clopidogrel (Presentation #PP-TH-027)

Presenter: Pamela Conley

Date: Thursday, July 16, 12:30-2:15 p.m.

Location: Poster Area, Platelet Biology

Clopidogrel and Prasugrel Prolong Primary Hemostasis in the Mouse Beyond Levels Associated with P2Y₁₂ Inhibition (Presentation #AS-TH-022)

Presenter: Patrick Andre

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2:15-3:45 p.m.

Location: 157 ABC Oral, Platelets as Drug Targets

Reconstructed Recombinant Factor Xa as an Antidote to Reverse Anticoagulation by Factor Xa Inhibitors (Presentation #OC-TH-107)

Presenter: Genmin Lu

Date: Thursday, July 16, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Location: 102 AB Oral, Inhibitors of Coagulation and Fibrinolysis

About Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Portola Pharmaceuticals develops innovative therapeutics based on targets with established proof of concepts that are designed to provide significant advances over current treatments for cardiovascular disease, inflammatory disease and cancer. The company has global

development and commercialization agreements with two of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies collectively valued at about \$1B in upfront and milestone payments plus escalating double-digit royalties on future sales. Betrixaban, its oral Factor Xa inhibitor is licensed to Merck & Co., Inc., and elinogrel, its P2Y₁₂ ADP receptor antagonist and potential competitor for Plavix* (clopidogrel), is licensed to Novartis. Both betrixaban and elinogrel are Phase II product candidates that have best-in-class features to address the global multi-billion hospital, specialty, and chronic care anticoagulant and antiplatelet markets, respectively.

Portola also has proprietary pipeline programs focused on the discovery and development of novel, specific Syk and JAK inhibitors to treat cancer and inflammatory diseases; a thromboxane receptor antagonist, which is an aspirin replacement product for patients intolerant to aspirin; and a novel anticoagulant antidote program with the potential to help manage or reverse the bleeding complications in the tens of millions of patients expected to be treated with anticoagulants worldwide in the next decade. For additional information, visit www.portola.com.

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* Plavix® is a registered trademark of Sanofi/Aventis and Bristol Myers Squibb.