



ASX Release

Avexa Initiates Phase III ATC Trial

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Biotechnology company Avexa Limited (ASX: AVX) announced today that it has initiated the Phase III program for apricitabine (ATC), its anti-HIV drug. The Company recently received positive feedback from regulatory agencies allowing ATC's progress into pivotal, filing studies.

The Phase III trials will compare ATC to the current standard of care in HIV-infected patients who are resistant to current drugs. The program is being conducted in North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia (including Australia). "The high level of demand from clinics and physicians around the world to participate in the Phase III program indicates that physicians and patients believe ATC holds great importance for the improved treatment of drug-resistant HIV patients" said Dr Chick, CEO of Avexa. "Clinics which took part in the Phase IIb study were among the first to enroll in the Phase III program, which is a positive reflection of their enthusiasm and past experience with ATC through the Phase IIb study".

Avexa also reported that all patients in the Phase IIb study have now completed the 48 week dosing period and the final results are due in the first quarter of 2008. All except one of the eligible patients have entered into the extension study. "The large proportion of patients entered into the extension study certainly gives us confidence that the patients are receiving long-term therapeutic benefit with ATC as part of their daily treatment" stated Dr Julian Chick. "Coupled with the high level of interest in taking part in the phase III trial, this is a solid indicator of the important role that ATC can play in the management of patients with drug resistant HIV".

Contact:

For more information:

Dr Julian Chick
Chief Executive Officer
+61 3 9208 4300

Dr Susan Cox
Head of Development
+61 3 9208 4300

Mr. Rod North
Bourse Communications
+ 61 (03) 9510-8309

www.avexa.com.au

Avexa Limited is a Melbourne-based biotechnology company with a focus on research and development of drugs for the treatment of infectious diseases. Avexa has dedicated resources and funding for key projects including its HIV integrase program and an antibiotic program for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections. The Company's lead program is apricitabine (ATC), an anti-HIV drug which has successfully completed the 24 week dosing of its Phase IIb trial and continues to progress towards Phase III trials. Avexa has entered into a collaboration with TargetDrug in China to identify new CCR5 inhibitors for the treatment of HIV.