



Media Contact:  
Aaron Estrada  
The Ruth Group  
(646) 536 -7028  
[aestrada@theruthgroup.com](mailto:aestrada@theruthgroup.com)

Investor Contact:  
David Burke  
The Ruth Group  
(646) 536 -7009  
[dburke@theruthgroup.com](mailto:dburke@theruthgroup.com)

## **CORNERSTONE PHARMACEUTICALS APPOINTS DR. CHI VAN DANG TO SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

*Cutting-edge cancer metabolism expert and clinician will advise preclinical and clinical research and development of its drug portfolio*

**CRANBURY, NEW JERSEY (January 31, 2014)**– Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc., ([www.cornerstonepharma.com](http://www.cornerstonepharma.com)), a leader in the growing field of cancer metabolism-based therapeutics, today announced that Chi Van Dang, M.D., Ph.D., has been appointed to its Scientific Advisory Board (SAB).

Dr. Dang, Director of the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania, is a professor, physician-researcher, renowned cancer biologist, hematologist-oncologist, and a leading expert on the function of the *MYC* oncogene, a crucial genetic switch in many different forms of human cancers as well as the Editor-In-Chief of the Journal Cancer and Metabolism. His laboratory at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine described the role of *MYC* as a primary regulator of tumorigenesis, as well as how the function of *MYC* modulates the bioenergetic metabolism of cancer cells through its influence on the uptake and use of the amino acid glutamine.

"I am excited to join Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals at this point in the company's progress," said Dr. Dang. "Cornerstone's focus on the bioenergetics of cancer cells dovetails well with my own research and interests. The fact that their lead drug candidate, CPI-613, has advanced into Phase II human clinical trials is a testament to Cornerstone's approach on how best to utilize cancer cell metabolism in ways that have a direct impact on patient care. I am enthusiastic about working with Cornerstone to develop the technology so that we can help save cancer patients' lives."

"We are very privileged and pleased to have Dr. Chi Dang become part of our organization," said Dr. Paul Bingham, Cornerstone's VP of Research and member of their SAB. "His wealth of knowledge in both the areas of cancer metabolism and the clinical treatment of hematologic and other tumors represents a valuable resource in guiding our strategies in current and future development of our cancer metabolism-based pharmaceutical pipeline."



Dr. Dang is the director of the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania, ranked in the top twenty of US News and World Reports' Top Hospitals for Cancer in the United States and designated as a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute. He was formerly a professor at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the departments of medicine, cell biology, oncology, pathology, and molecular biology and genetics. Dr. Dang was also formerly the executive director and vice dean for research of The Johns Hopkins Institute for Cell Engineering. He received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Georgetown University and his M.D. from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Following an internship and residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Dr. Dang became a fellow in hematology-oncology at the Cancer Research Institute of the University of California at San Francisco.

CPI-613 is the lead drug candidate from Cornerstone's proprietary AEMD platform. Cornerstone's AEMD drug platform disrupts the biochemical alterations in the conversion of glucose to energy that occur in many types of cancer cells. These essential "bioenergetic" differences are linked to critical pathways, particularly those that support cancer cell growth and development.

CPI-613 induces cancer-specific inhibition of pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH) and alpha ketoglutarate dehydrogenase (KGDH), key mitochondrial enzymes involved in cancer cell metabolism. Disruption of PDH and KGDH function cuts off the tumor's energy supply and starves the cancer cell, culminating in cell death. CPI-613 is currently being evaluated in Phase I, I/II and II human clinical trials in solid tumors and hematological malignancies.

### **About Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals**

Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a privately held company that is committed to changing the way cancer is treated through the discovery and development of innovative therapies capitalizing on the unique metabolic processes of cancer cells. The company's founding members, management and scientific advisory team include pre-eminent scientists focused on cancer cell metabolism, cancer research and drug development. The company's unique approach to targeting cancer metabolism has led to the discovery of first-in-class drugs with the potential to transform the way cancer is treated. [www.cornerstonepharma.com](http://www.cornerstonepharma.com).

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This release contains forward-looking statements. These statements relate to future events or each company's future financial performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as "may", "will", "should", "expect", "plan", "anticipate", "believe", "estimate", "predict", "potential" or "continue", the negative of such terms, or other comparable terminology. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, such statements should not be regarded as a representation by the company, or any other person, that such forward looking statements will be achieved. The business and operations of the company are subject to substantial risks which increase the



uncertainty inherent in forward-looking statements. We undertake no duty to update any of the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In light of the foregoing, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

*Editor's Note: Dr. Dang will receive compensation from Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for this role.*