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CORNERSTONE PHARMACEUTICALS ANNOUNCES PRESENTATIONS REGARDING ITS PROPRIETARY ANTICANCER COMPOUND CPI-613 AT 2012 ANNUAL ASCO MEETING

Preclinical and clinical studies undertaken both in-house and in collaboration with other institutions demonstrate benefit in both in vitro and in vivo preclinical settings as well as clinical efficacy in a wide variety of tumor types

CRANBURY, NJ (June 01, 2012) Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (www.cornerstonepharma.com), a leader in the growing field of cancer metabolism-based therapeutics, announces its poster presentations exhibited at the 2012 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Cornerstone presented one poster and was a contributor to a second poster, both highlighting CPI-613, the lead candidate of Cornerstone's Altered Energy Metabolism Directed (AEMD) drug platform that is currently in human clinical trials, at the 2012 ASCO Annual Meeting. Details of each presentation are as follows:

Title: Evaluation of the first-in-class antimetabolic agent CPI-613 in hematologic malignancies

Presentation Date & Time: Friday, June 1, 2012, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (Poster)

Abstract: #6524

A copy of the abstract of this poster presentation is available at:

http://www.asco.org/ASCOv2/Meetings/Abstracts?&vmview=abst_detail_view&confID=114&abstractID=94301

In this poster, Wake Forest University Health Sciences presented its results of a dual-method study of CPI-613 both *in vitro* and *in vivo* against leukemia cell lines as well as from a Phase 1 clinical trial for patients with hematologic malignancies. Cornerstone provided the CPI-613 used in this study. It was found that CPI-613 was active against various leukemia cell lines and synergized with different anticancer agents when coadministered to a variety of cells both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Upon administration to patients in the clinical trial, CPI-613 was well tolerated, demonstrating a high therapeutic index with no evidence of marrow suppression and no dose limiting toxicity identified.



Title: Translational assessment of the efficacy of CPI-613 against pancreatic cancer in animal models versus patients with stage IV disease

Presentation Date & Time: Monday, June 4, 2012, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Poster)

Abstract: #3075

A copy of the abstract of this poster presentation is available at:

http://www.asco.org/ASCOv2/Meetings/Abstracts?&vmview=abst_detail_view&confID=114&abstractID=100736

In this poster Cornerstone summarizes research conducted in collaboration with the Eastchester Center for Cancer Care in Bronx, New York, in which the efficacy of CPI-613 was tested in mice with pancreatic tumor xenografts generated by the inoculation of BxPC-3 human pancreatic tumor cells. Simultaneously, the safety and efficacy of CPI-613 used in combination with gemcitabine was assessed in patients with stage IV pancreatic cancer. It was discovered that CPI-613 suppressed tumor growth by ~100% when compared to vehicle, compared to only ~50% suppression by gemcitabine alone. Furthermore, the median overall survival in tumor-bearing mice treated with CPI-613 was significantly longer than those treated with gemcitabine or the vehicle. In patients with stage IV pancreatic cancer treated with CPI-613 + gemcitabine, the combination prolonged survival in a manner that correlated with the dose of CPI-613.

Dr. Robert Shorr, Chief Executive Officer of Cornerstone, commented "It is gratifying to see that both preclinical and clinical studies demonstrate that CPI-613 not only shows low toxicity but also is of substantial benefit to a wide variety of cancer patients. We are especially pleased with the successful results reached by our colleagues at Wake Forest University. Cancer cell metabolism has been demonstrated to be altered in hematological cancers, thus having leukemia and lymphoma patients respond well to our drug is a sign that our preclinical research translates well in the clinic. Cornerstone hopes to see such results continue as our clinical program moves forward."

CPI-613 is the lead drug candidate from Cornerstone's proprietary AEMD platform. Cornerstone's AEMD drug platform disrupts biochemical alterations in the conversion of glucose to energy that occur in many types of cancer cells. These essential "bioenergetic" differences are linked to pathways that control, among other things, cancer cell growth and development, as well as various forms of cell death, including apoptosis and necrosis. The platform is designed to produce drugs, such as the company's lead drug CPI-613, that disrupt energy-production pathways whose organization or regulation are altered specifically in cancer cells. CPI-613 is currently being evaluated in a Phase 1 trial.

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.

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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.