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# CORNERSTONE PHARMACEUTICALS TO PRESENT AT THE 9TH ANNUAL DISCOVERY ON TARGET MEETINGS IN BOSTON

## Dr. Paul Bingham will present recently published research on the selective inhibition of cancer cell energy metabolism by novel lipoate derivative compounds

### CRANBURY, NJ, October 26, 2011 - Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals Inc.,

(http://www.cornerstonepharma.com), a leader in the growing field of cancer metabolism-based therapeutics, today announced it will present at the inaugural Cancer Cell Metabolism as a Drug Target Conference, Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 4:35 p.m. EST in Boston, MA during the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Discovery on Target Meetings.

Dr. Paul Bingham, vice president of research at Cornerstone, will provide an overview on the mechanism of action of Cornerstone's platform science focused on targeting cancer cell metabolism. This work is the basis for CPI-613, the Company's lead drug, in its Altered Energy Metabolism Directed (AEMD) drug platform.

"Our research indicates that Cornerstone's lead drug, CPI-613, attacks cancer cell metabolism in a powerful new way, yielding very strong anti-cancer effects in pre-clinical human tumor models," said Dr. Bingham.

The discussion, based on Bingham's research published July 2011 in the *Journal of Molecular Medicine,* titled "Potent Anti-Cancer Lipoate Analogs Selectively Attack Tumor Cell Mitochondrial Metabolism" (http://bit.ly/rxtP87) will cover the mechanism by which CPI-613, a lipoic acid mimetic, selectively attacks the regulatory aspects of tumor cell mitochondrial metabolism, activating both apoptotic and non-apoptotic (necrosis-like) cell death pathways.



Key to this mechanism of action is the role of pyruvate dehydrogenase complex (PDH), whose regulation is reprogrammed in many tumor cells. The lipoate moieties of PDH serve both catalytic and regulatory functions. Dr. Bingham will explain how non-redox active lipoate analogs attack cancers-specific elements of this lipoate-sensitive regulatory apparatus, causing cancer cell death in cell culture and in human tumor xenograft models.

Cornerstone's proprietary Altered Energy Metabolism Directed (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 several ongoing Phase I/II trials.

#### **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

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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.