



BioPharmica Limited

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BioPharmica (ASX: BPH) ASX Announcement

HLS5 at BIO2008

BioPharmica's representatives attended BIO2008 in San Diego this year to discuss with international pharma groups potential licensing opportunities for HLS5. BioPharmica's collaborative research program with the University of Western Australia (UWA) and the Western Australia Institute for Medical Research (WAIMR) on the tumour suppressor gene HLS5 has made significant progress over the last year.

It has previously been demonstrated that increased expression of the HLS5 gene in human cancer cells can profoundly suppress tumour growth. BioPharmica now has an extensive patent portfolio around HLS5 both as a potential therapeutic target and underpinning its involvement in a variety of disease pathways.

BioPharmica has undertaken high throughput screening of a 70,000 strong synthetic compound library to identify molecules that can modulate HLS5 activity. This screening program has yielded a number of 'hits' that demonstrate potential for further anti-tumour analyses and drug development. Further validation work on these leads is progressing as a high priority.

HLS5 has also been implicated in the switching of erythroid (immature red blood cell) to myeloid (white cell) cell lineages. Since findings indicate that minor changes in HLS5 levels can result in pronounced biological responses, there is the potential for modulation of this gene to be of significant clinical relevance for blood cell differentiation and leukaemia.

As a result BioPharmica has been able to approach international pharmaceutical and specialised biotechnology companies for expressions of interest either for licensing of the technology or to establish a commercial research partnership. This marketing program has commenced and has yielded a number of potential leads.

David Breeze the Chairman of BioPharmica stated "the company's progress and development within the recent quarter has steered the company to a point in the commercialization cycle, whereby considerable research investment and effort by our scientific teams have now delivered a portfolio of technologies which are attracting interest from potential global partners."

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Yours sincerely,

David Breeze
Chairman