

PRESS RELEASE

CHROMA ANNOUNCES POSITIVE PHASE II EFFICACY DATA FOR NOVEL CANCER THERAPY TOSEDOSTAT IN ACUTE MYELOID LEUKAEMIA

Oxford, 11 December 2008 – Chroma Therapeutics Limited, a leading European specialist cancer research company, announced today positive data from a Phase II study with its oral, once-daily experimental cancer therapy tosedostat (CHR-2797) in the treatment of patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) who have failed on, or who are unsuitable for, chemotherapy.

Headline data from the study, which was presented at the December 2008 American Society of Hematology (ASH) meeting, were as follows:

- 10 out of 38 AML patients (26%) treated showed a complete or partial response to therapy during the study;
- of three MDS patients treated in this study, one showed a partial response and one achieved stable disease;
- despite a poor prognosis upon entering the study, 10 out of 41 patients were able to continue treatment beyond the 84 days specified in the protocol; and
- the drug was very well-tolerated during the study

Chroma is currently preparing for a registration study with tosedostat in AML, to commence during 2009.

Ian Nicholson, Chief Executive Officer of Chroma, commented: “We are very pleased that this Phase II study, in patients with a poor prognosis, has confirmed the activity we saw in earlier studies. We look forward to accelerating tosedostat into Phase III registration studies during 2009, particularly in light of the lack of treatment options currently available for patients with this debilitating disease”.

The full abstract presented at the ASH meeting is available at the company’s website, www.chromatherapeutics.com.

Enquiries

Chroma Therapeutics Limited

Ian Nicholson	Chief Executive Officer	+44 (0)1235 829120
Richard Bungay	Chief Financial Officer	

Brunswick

Jon Coles	+44 (0)20 7404 5959
Justine McIlroy	

PRESS RELEASE

About aminopeptidases and tosedostat (CHR-2797)

Aminopeptidases are a family of intracellular enzymes involved in the supply of amino acids that are essential for cell growth. Inhibition of aminopeptidases has been shown to halt cell growth or cause apoptosis (cell death) in a large number of cancer cell lines. Conversely, normal (non-tumour) cell lines have been shown to be insensitive to aminopeptidase inhibition. Tosedostat is a potent inhibitor of aminopeptidases that has demonstrated strong preclinical efficacy as monotherapy and has also been shown to strongly synergise with a number of leading cancer therapies in a range of cancer cells.

About Chroma Therapeutics

Chroma Therapeutics, based in Oxford (UK), is a drug discovery and development company focused in the fields of oncology and inflammatory disorders. Chroma is building a broad pipeline of first- or best-in-class treatments utilising its expertise in chromatin biology and its novel intracellular accumulation technologies, which include the ability to selectively target drugs to macrophages. Chroma is backed by a number of leading specialist investors, including Abingworth, Essex Woodlands, Gilde, Nomura Phase4 and The Wellcome Trust.

More information about Chroma can be found at www.chromatherapeutics.com.