Press release archive

BioCentury and Nature Publishing Group Release A Roadmap to Innovation for an Emerging Class of Therapies

PRESS RELEASE FROM NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP
15 November 2012

Contact: Rachel Scheer
Corporate Public Relations, Nature Publishing Group
T: +1 212 451 8569
E: **r.scheer@us.nature.com**

Contact: Thomas Carey
BioCentury Publications, Inc.
T: +1-650-595-5333
E: **tcarey@biocentury.com**

REDWOOD CITY, Calif., and NEW YORK, N.Y., November 15, 2012 -- *SciBX: Science-Business eXchange* today announced the publication of "Bringing Macrocycles Full Circle," a *Roadmap to Innovation* in the field of macrocycles and constrained peptides. This first-of-its-kind *SciBX Roadmap to Innovation* is being published in the November 15 edition of *SciBX*, a joint venture between BioCentury Publications, Inc., the internationally respected source of biopharma business intelligence, and Nature Publishing Group (NPG). *SciBX* identifies commercially promising translational science and assesses the next steps required to develop it.

The *Roadmap* identifies four critical areas in the macrocycle space where more research is needed to advance a field that promises to reach therapeutic targets that have been inaccessible to existing small molecule drugs and biologics. More effort in three of these areas -- pharmacokinetics, cell permeability and oral bioavailability -- would create an understanding of the rules that govern the behavior of macrocycles and thus enable developers to better identify drug-like compounds. The fourth critical area is the issue of how macrocycles engage their targets.

The *Roadmap* is available for download at **www.nature.com/scibx/journal/v5/n45/full/scibx.2012.1176.html**.

"Bringing Macrocycles Full Circle" is the result of the inaugural *SciBX* Innovation in Drug Discovery and Development Summit. The Summit was organized by BioCentury and Nature Publishing Group and sponsored by Aileron Therapeutics Inc.; Amgen Inc. (NASDAQ:AMGN); BioDuro/PPD Inc. (NASDAQ:PPDI); Ipsen (Euronext:IPN; ADR:IPSEY); MedImmune LLC; PeptiDream Inc.; Sanofi (Euronext:SAN; NYSE:SNY); Sofinnova Ventures; Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. (Tokyo:4502); and Third Rock Ventures.

The Summit culminated the work of a "think tank" of key opinion leaders from academia, biotech, pharma and the investment community, organized and moderated by the *SciBX* editorial team over the summer. The think tank consisted of Bruce Booth, Partner at Atlas Venture; Spiros Liras, Vice President of Cardiovascular, Metabolic and Endocrine Medicinal Chemistry at Pfizer Inc. (NYSE:PFE); Barry Morgan, Vice President of Molecular Discovery Research at GlaxoSmithKline plc (LSE:GSK; NYSE:GSK); Patrick Reid, Co-Founder & Chief Scientific Officer at PeptiDream; Tomi Sawyer, Chief Scientific Officer and Senior Vice President of Drug Discovery & Innovative Technologies at Aileron; and Gregory Verdine, Professor at Harvard University and Venture Partner at Third Rock Ventures.

The think tank convened with other key opinion leaders, including CEOs and CSOs of macrocycle companies and top academics in the field, at the recent *SciBX* Summit in Boston to discuss the challenges and opportunities afforded by the field and how to best direct efforts towards realizing its innovation potential.

The *Roadmap* includes calls by the Summit participants for the establishment of precompetitive collaborations to tackle challenges such as the systematic study of which macrocycles pass into cells, and for the prioritization by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other funding agencies of initiatives to improve our understanding of key underlying biological mechanisms.

"The unique approach to these Summits, consisting of in depth discussions with the members of the think tank and culminating with an open forum with additional key stake holders, allowed the *SciBX* editorial team to generate an independent and detailed Roadmap to Innovation in the macrocycle space that presents a one-of-a-kind perspective of what will be needed to make innovation happen," said Gaspar Taroncher-Oldenburg, Managing Editor and Associate Publisher of *SciBX*.

"The goal of the *SciBX* Summit initiative was to address an unmet need for key opinion leaders to reach consensus on how to overcome roadblocks to drug innovation," said Karen Bernstein, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of BioCentury. "The resulting *SciBX Roadmap to Innovation* provides a template for our future efforts with Nature Publishing Group as we address other translational challenges that must be solved to bring healthcare innovation to patients."

The *SciBX* editorial team is already preparing for the next SciBX Summit in 2013. The editors are considering new targets, pathways and therapeutic approaches that will become the subject of the next *SciBX Roadmap for Innovation*.

For information about sponsoring the next *SciBX* Summit, contact Thomas Carey at BioCentury, or Claire Thompson at Nature Publishing Group.

-ENDS-

About Macrocycles & Constrained Peptides

Molecules in the 500-5,000 Da size range have burst onto the drug discovery stage as a way to bridge the gap between small molecules and biologics. The hope is that these molecular entities will combine the pharmacological properties of small molecules with the specificity of biologics to address intracellular protein-protein interactions that have been considered undruggable.

About BioCentury

Now in its 20th year, BioCentury Publications, Inc. provides essential biopharma industry intelligence to a global audience of biotech and pharmaceutical executives, investors, regulators and public policy makers, and the scientific community. This audience has benefited from BioCentury's deep knowledge, data-driven analysis, independent perspective and trustworthy content available through the company's publications, data products and collaborative industry conferences in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

BioCentury's titles include the flagship *BioCentury®, the Bernstein Report on BioBusiness*; its *SciBX: Science-Business eXchange*™ translational science partnership with Nature Publishing Group; and its *BioCentury Extra*™ online daily newspaper. These timely journals are backed by *BCIQ: BioCentury Online Intelligence*™, an online business intelligence resource. BioCentury also produces its *BioCentury This Week* biotech public affairs television program in partnership with the Gannett-owned WUSA9 CBS affiliate in Washington, D.C. The program is aired in Washington each Sunday as part of the WUSA9 "Sunday Morning Power Block," and distributed globally online at **www.biocenturytv.com**.

For more information, visit **www.biocentury.com** and **www.biocenturytv.com**.

About Nature Publishing Group (NPG)

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) is a publisher of high impact scientific and medical information in print and online. NPG publishes journals, online databases and services across the life, physical, chemical and applied sciences and clinical medicine.

Focusing on the needs of scientists, *Nature* (founded in 1869) is the leading weekly, international scientific journal. In addition, for this audience, NPG publishes a range of *Nature* research journals and *Nature Reviews* journals, plus a range of prestigious academic journals including society-owned publications. Online, nature.com provides over 6 million visitors per month with access to NPG publications and online databases and services, including news and comment from *Nature*, *NatureJobs* plus access to *Nature Network* and Nature Education's Scitable.com.

Scientific American is at the heart of NPG's consumer media division, meeting the needs of the general public. Founded in 1845, *Scientific American* is the oldest continuously published magazine in the US and the leading authoritative publication for science in the general media. Together with scientificamerican.com and 14 local language editions around the world it reaches over 5 million consumers and scientists. Other titles include *Scientific American Mind* and *Spektrum der Wissenschaft* in Germany.

Throughout all its businesses NPG is dedicated to serving the scientific and medical communities and the wider scientifically interested general public. Part of Macmillan Publishers Limited, NPG is a global company with principal offices in London, New York and Tokyo, and offices in cities worldwide including Boston, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Delhi, Mumbai, Hong Kong, Madrid, Barcelona, Munich, Heidelberg, Basingstoke, Melbourne, Paris, San Francisco, Seoul and Washington DC. For more information, please go to **www.nature.com**.

About us
Contact us
Accessibility statement
Help
Privacy policy
Use of cookies
Legal notice
Terms
Naturejobs
Nature Asia
Nature Education
RSS web feeds

Search: go

SPRINGER NATURE

© 2019 Nature is part of Springer Nature. All Rights Reserved.

partner of AGORA, HINARI, OARE, INASP, ORCID, CrossRef, COUNTER and COPE