Synta Announces Presentations at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research

April 7, 2014

LEXINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 7, 2014-- Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. (NASDAQ: SNTA) announced today that poster presentations related to studies with ganetespib, a selective Hsp90 inhibitor in clinical development by the company, and the company's Hsp90 inhibitor drug conjugates (HDC) will be presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research in San Diego, California. Poster presentations include:

Ganetespib in Breast Cancer (Clinical)

Gene expression and proteomic analysis to identify predictive biomarkers of response in the ENCHANT-1 Trial (NCT01677455), a Phase 2 Proof of Concept study evaluation first-line ganetespib monotherapy in women with metastatic HER2 positive or triple negative breast cancer (TNBC)
Presentation: Monday, April 7, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 1612
Authors: Petricoin, et al.

Ganetespib in Lung Cancer (Pre-Clinical)

The HSP90 inhibitor ganetespib potentiates effect of ionizing radiation in human non-small cell lung cancer
Presentation: Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 4894
Authors: Gomez-Casal, et al.

Low dose Ganetespib (STA-9090) enhances radiotherapy effects on lung cancer cells by synergistically altering levels of cell cycle progression proteins
Presentation: Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 4902
Authors: Liu, et al.

Screening >60 human SCLC lines with approved and investigational agents indicates complex patterns of response: Identification of HSP90 and HDACs as potential targets
Presentation: Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 5450
Authors: Evans, et al.

Ganetespib in Other Cancers (Pre-Clinical)

Functional inhibition of HSP90 induces G0/G1 arrest and downregulates thymidylate synthase in colorectal cancer
Presentation: Monday, April 7, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 1308
Authors: Nagaraju, et al.

The Hsp90 inhibitor ganetespib overcomes EGFR-based intratumoral heterogeneity to block glioma proliferation
Presentation: Monday, April 7, 1:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Abstract number: LB-140
Authors: Driscoll, et al.

The HSP90 inhibitor ganetespib synergizes with the MET kinase inhibitor crizotinib in both crizotinib-sensitive and crizotinib-resistant MET driven renal tumor models
Presentation: Tuesday, April 8, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 3722
Authors: Miyajima, et al.

HSP90 mediates tumor-associated matrix metalloproteinase 2 and Cathepsin L protease activities in ovarian carcinoma
Presentation: Tuesday, April 8, 1:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 3916
Authors: O'Brien, et al.

HSP90 as a therapeutic target in colorectal cancer
Presentation: Tuesday, April 8, 1:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 4221
Authors: Nagaraju, et al.

A multimodality imaging end-point study of everolimus and ganetespib in treatment of pancreatic cancer: A pre-clinical PET/MRI/MRS study

Presentation: Tuesday, April 8, 1:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 4690
Authors: Lee, et al.

The Hsp90 inhibitor ganetespib is a potent chemosensitizer in preclinical colorectal cancer models
Presentation: Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 5108
Authors: He, et al.

Hsp90 inhibitor Drug Conjugates (HDC)

Hsp90 inhibitor drug conjugates (HDC): Construct design and preliminary evaluation
Presentation: Monday April 7, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 1619
Authors: Ying, et al.

Hsp90 inhibitor drug conjugates (HDC): Novel tumor selective drug delivery platform with superior anticancer activity
Presentation: Monday, April 7, 1:00 – 5:00 PM PT
Abstract number: 2509
Authors: Chimmanamada, et al.

About Ganetespib

Ganetespib, an investigational drug candidate, is a selective inhibitor of heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90), a molecular chaperone which controls the folding and activation of a number of client proteins that drive tumor development and progression. Many solid and hematologic tumors are dependent on Hsp90 client proteins including proteins involved in “oncogene addiction” (ALK, HER2, mutant BRAF and EGFR, androgen receptor, estrogen receptor, and JAK2); proteins involved in resistance to chemotherapy and radiation therapy (ATR, BCL2, BRCA1/2, CDK1/4, CHK1, survivin, and WEE1); proteins involved in angiogenesis (HIF-1alpha, VEGFR, PDFGR, and VEGF); and proteins involved in metastasis (MET, RAF, AKT, MMPs, HIF-1alpha, and IGF-1R). In preclinical models, inhibition of Hsp90 by ganetespib results in the inactivation, destabilization, and eventual degradation of these cancer-promoting proteins. Ganetespib is being evaluated in trials in lung cancer, breast cancer, and other tumor types. The most common adverse event seen to date has been transient, mild or moderate diarrhea, which has been manageable with standard supportive care. Information on these trials can be found at www.clinicaltrials.gov. Ganetespib has received Fast Track designation from FDA for second-line treatment of non-small cell lung adenocarcinoma in combination with docetaxel.

About Hsp90 inhibitor Drug Conjugates (HDC)

HDCs are small-molecule drugs consisting of an Hsp90 inhibitor (targeting moiety) joined to an anti-cancer agent (payload) via a cleavable chemical linker optimized for controlled release of payload drug inside cancer cells. They exploit the preferential retention of Hsp90 inhibitors in tumors to selectively deliver anti-cancer payloads. HDCs represent a promising new therapeutic class with the potential to enhance the safety and efficacy of a wide range of small molecule anti-cancer drugs.

Synta has established proof of concept for HDC lead candidates in preclinical studies and has developed HDCs using a range of Hsp90 inhibitor moieties, cleavable linkers, and over 40 anti-cancer payloads. The latter include cytotoxic chemotherapeutics, kinase inhibitors, hormone therapies, immunomodulators, and epigenetic modifiers, creating the potential for next-generation compounds in each of these categories. Synta has filed worldwide patent applications that include comprehensive claims covering the HDC platform, compositions of matter, methods for identifying therapeutically effective compounds, and methods of use of such compounds against a wide range of diseases and conditions.

About Synta Pharmaceuticals

Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, developing, and commercializing small molecule drugs to extend and enhance the lives of patients with severe medical conditions, including cancer and chronic inflammatory diseases. Synta has a unique chemical compound library, an integrated discovery engine, and a diverse pipeline of clinical- and preclinical-stage drug candidates with distinct mechanisms of action and novel chemical structures. All Synta drug candidates were invented by Synta scientists using its compound library and discovery capabilities. For more information, please visit www.syntapharma.com.

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This media release may contain forward-looking statements about Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. Such forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "will", "would", "should", "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "may", "estimates", "predicts", "projects", or similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect Synta’s current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements, including those described in "Risk Factors" of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Synta undertakes no obligation to publicly update forward-looking statements, whether because of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

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