

## Distinguished Moffitt Cancer Center Scientist Appointed Chief Scientific Officer

**Melbourne, Australia – May 26, 2015** – Prescient Therapeutics (ASX: PTX), a clinical stage oncology company, announced today that Professor Said M. Sebti, Ph.D., the Chair of Drug Discovery at the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cancer centre in the US, Moffitt Cancer Center, has joined Prescient as Chief Scientific Officer (CSO).

"As the co-inventor of our two drug products, Professor Sebti's experience in drug discovery and cancer research are exemplary. He will bring a wealth of expertise to Prescient, assisting the Company's clinical stage cancer drug candidates through the clinical trial process towards commercialization," said Dr. Robert Crombie, Managing Director of Prescient.

As a faculty member at the Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Professor Sebti is responsible for leading the Drug Discovery Department, and spearheaded the development of Chemistry, Structural Biology and High Throughput Screening cores at Moffitt. He has held several positions throughout his tenure at Moffitt including Program Leader of Molecular Oncology and Drug Discovery and more recently, Program Leader of Chemical Biology and Molecular Medicine. Professor Sebti previously held positions at University of South Florida, and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine as well as member of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. Professor Sebti earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Purdue University and a BS in Biochemistry from Washington State University. He conducted a post-doctoral fellowship in pharmacology at Yale University.

Dr Sebti's outstanding track record has led to grants totaling more than US\$35 million, including the National Cooperative Drug Discovery Award from the NCI, RO1 and PO1 program project grants which have funded his work continuously since 1989, culminating in over 35 issued patents and an impressive 280 research articles.

"I am thrilled to join Prescient as their CSO, and excited about seeing drug candidates that I helped generate at the bench, advance through further clinical development in humans. I am delighted and look forward to taking on the CSO role and with aiding the advancement of the Company's promising lead compounds as they move through clinical trials towards market" commented Professor Sebti.

## **About Prescient Therapeutics**

Prescient Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology company developing novel compounds that show great promise as potential new therapies to treat a range of cancers that have become resistant to front line chemotherapy.

Lead drug candidate PTX-200 inhibits an important tumor survival pathway known as AKT, which plays a key role in the development of many cancers, including breast and ovarian cancer, as well as leukemia. This highly promising compound is now the focus of two current clinical trials. The first is a Phase 1b/2 study examining PTX-200 in breast cancer patients at the prestigious Montefiore Cancer Center in New York. A further Phase 1b/2 trial of the compound in combination with current standard of care has commenced at Florida's Moffitt Cancer Center in patients with recurrent or persistent platinum resistant



ovarian cancer. These trials have been supported in part, with grants from the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. National Cancer Institute. In addition, Prescient is planning a Phase 1b/2 trial evaluating PTX-200 as a new therapy for acute myeloid leukemia in 2015.

Prescient's second novel drug candidate, PTX-100, is a first in class compound with the ability to block an important cancer associated enzyme known as geranylgeranyl transferase (GGT). It also blocks the Ral and Rho circuits in cancer cells which act as key oncogenic survival pathways, leading to apoptosis (death) of cancer cells. PTX-100 was well tolerated and achieved stable disease in a Phase 1 human trial in advanced solid tumors. Prescient expects to commence Phase 1b/2 clinical trials in breast cancer and multiple myeloma in 2015. At the same time, Prescient plans to develop its novel p27 cancer biomarker as a companion diagnostic that will potentially identify those patients that are most likely to respond to PTX-100 therapy.

Prescient has licensed access to its Co-X-Gene™ platform technology to French biotechnology company Transgene for use in two immunotherapeutic products.

## **Further Inquiries:**

Dr Robert CrombiePaul Hopper (LA)Rudi MichaelsonManaging DirectorExecutive DirectorMonsoon Communications+61 439 361 331+1 858-334-5820+61 3 9620 3333

Stephanie Carrington (NYC)
Integrated Corporate Relations (ICR)
+1 646-277-1282