ARGENICA AWARDED $1.2M GRANT FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY PROJECT UNDER THE CRC-P PROGRAM

Highlights:

- *Argenica has been awarded $1.2M in non-dilutive grant funding under the federal government's Cooperative Research Centre Projects (CRC-P) program.*
- *The funding is for Argenica to collaborate with its project partners to undertake preclinical activities to determine the efficacy of ARG-007 in preclinical animal models of mild repeated and moderate **Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)**.*
- *This project builds on existing preclinical data in animal models of severe TBI showing the polyarginine drug R18 (ARG-007) is effective in reducing injury to brain cells following severe TBI[1,2,3].*
- *The Company will work with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and project partners to finalise the grant agreements. Further details on the program of work and the terms and conditions of the grant will be provided once agreed.*

Perth, Australia; 20 January 2023 - Argenica Therapeutics Limited (ASX: AGN) ("Argenica" or the "Company"), a biotechnology company developing novel therapeutics to reduce brain tissue death following various types of brain injury, is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a federal government grant under the Cooperative Research Centres Projects (CRC-P) grant program for its **Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)** preclinical research activities.

The Company has been advised by the federal government's Department of Industry, Science and Resources that the *project "A novel therapeutic for the treatment of traumatic brain injury"* has been awarded $1.2M in grant funding to contribute towards a preclinical program of work in collaboration with Curtin University, The University of Adelaide, peptide

[1] Chiu LS, Anderton RS, Cross JL, Clark VW, Edwards AB, Knuckey NW, Meloni BP. Assessment of R18, COG1410, and APP96-110 in Excitotoxicity and Traumatic Brain Injury. Transl Neurosci. 2017 Nov 15;8:147-157.
[2] Chiu LS, Anderton RS, Clark VW, Cross JL, Knuckey NW, Meloni BP. Effect of Polyarginine Peptide R18D Following a Traumatic Brain Injury in Sprague-Dawley Rats. Curr Ther Res Clin Exp. 2020 Mar 19;92:100584.
[3] Batulu H, Du GJ, Li DZ, Sailike D, Fan YH, Geng D. Effect of poly-arginine R18 on neurocyte cell growth via autophagy in traumatic brain injury. Exp Ther Med. 2019 May;17(5):4109-4115. doi: 10.3892/etm.2019.7423. Epub 2019 Mar 20.

manufacturer AusPep and Connectivity Traumatic Brain Injury Australia, to assess the efficacy of ARG-007 in preclinical animal models of mild to moderate TBI.

The Company refers to a media release by the Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science made on 19 January 2023 announcing the outcomes of CRC-P round 13 successful applicants.

This project builds on previous preclinical studies showing R18 (ARG-007) reduces damage to neuron axonal injury[1,2] and promotes brain cell proliferation[3] following severe TBI.

The CRC-P program provides matched funding grants to recipients. The project's total cost is approximately $2.7M, therefore Argenica and its project collaborators will make salary, cash and in-kind contributions towards the remaining $1.5M of project costs. All intellectual property and commercialisation rights will remain solely with Argenica. Argenica will now work with the Department of Industry, Science and Resources on next steps, including finalising the grant agreements. Further details on the program of work and the terms and conditions of the grant will be provided once agreed.

This announcement has been approved for release by the Board of Argenica

For more information please contact: info@argenica.com.au

ABOUT ARGENICA

Argenica (ASX: AGN) is developing novel therapeutics to reduce brain tissue death after neurological injuries and improve patient outcomes. Our lead neuroprotective peptide candidate, ARG-007 has been successfully demonstrated to improve outcomes in preclinical stroke, hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy (HIE) and traumatic brain injury (TBI) models and have recently completed dosing in a Phase 1 clinical trial in healthy human volunteers to test its safety and tolerability. The aim is for our therapeutic to be administered by first responders to protect brain tissue against damage during a stroke and other types of brain injury, including HIE and TBI, with further potential to enhance recovery once a brain injury has taken place.