PharmAust secures broad European patent for non-cancer applications

8 June 2017 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust Limited (ASX: PAA), a clinical-stage oncology company, is pleased to announce the grant of a new patent in Europe covering the use of its lead drug for non-cancer applications including neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes and age-related disorders.

The patent (EP2880014) entitled **"Compounds For The Treatment Of mTOR Pathway Related Diseases",** relates to the use of aminoacetonitrile derivatives (AADs) for the treatment of mTOR pathway-related diseases and provides the company with protection for this IP until 2033.

'Aminoacetonitrile derivatives' include the Novartis animal health compound monepantel (MPL), which PharmAust has patented for cancer and now non-cancer applications and which is being evaluated in clinical trials.

PharmAust CEO Dr Richard Hopkins commented, "We are delighted with the grant of this Method of Use patent for non-cancer applications of MPL in Europe. This patent provides coverage for our intellectual property in a major market that expands our commercial opportunities."

"PharmAust has shown that MPL acts via the mTOR pathway, which is increasingly recognised as playing a major role in non-cancer indications such as neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes and age-related disorders. The company is assessing potential applications of MPL in these fields along with its core focus on developing MPL as a cancer therapy."

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About PharmAust (PAA):
PAA is a clinical-stage company developing targeted cancer therapeutics for both humans and animals. The company specialises in repurposing marketed drugs lowering the risks and costs of development. These efforts are supported by PAA's subsidiary, Epichem, a contract synthetic drug manufacturer forecast to generate Aus$3m in revenues in 2017 at a CAGR of 28%.

PAA's lead drug candidate is Monopantel (MPL), a novel, potent and safe inhibitor of the mTOR pathway - a key driver of cancer. MPL has been evaluated in Phase 1 clinical trials in humans and dogs. MPL treatment was well-tolerated and produced a significant reduction in key prognostic biomarkers. PAA is uniquely positioned to commercialise MPL for treatment of human and veterinary cancers as it advances the drug into Phase 2 clinical trial.