

Level 2, 66 Hunter Street Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: (61-2) 9300 3344 Fax: (61-2) 9221 6333

E-mail: pnightingale@biotron.com.au Website: www.biotron.com.au

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The Manager Companies ASX Limited 20 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

(2 pages by email)

Dear Madam,

## DATA INDICATES BIT225 MAY HAVE A BROADER ROLE IN LIMITING HIV-1 INFECTION

- New data shows the potential for BIT225 to prevent new HIV-1 infection.
- Extends potential benefit of BIT225 to include at-risk populations, in addition to eradication of reservoirs in long-term infected patients.
- Data published in prestigious international scientific journal.

The Directors of Biotron Limited ('Biotron') are pleased to advise that a manuscript containing new data on the anti-HIV-1 activity of BIT225 has been published in an international scientific journal.

The peer-reviewed paper, entitled "The antiviral compound BIT225 inhibits HIV-1 replication in myeloid dendritic cells" was published on 8 February 2016 as a short report online in the journal AIDS Research and Therapy.

The latest data shows that BIT225 is active against HIV-1 in specialised cells called dendritic cells (DCs). Dendritic cells are among the first cells to become infected with HIV-1 when a person is exposed to the virus. The cells are responsible for spreading virus throughout the body. Stopping HIV-1 in its tracks in those cells has the potential to prevent HIV-1 infection becoming established.

This published data broadens BIT225's antiviral activity profile within cells of the myeloid lineage. These findings suggest a potential role for BIT225 in reducing HIV-1 production and preventing viral spread in early and chronic infection, and may assist in limiting virus spread with any ongoing viral replication during antiretroviral therapy.

Biotron's lead drug, BIT225 has shown promising efficacy against HCV and HIV-1, and has been tested in more than 200 healthy volunteers and patients. A Phase 2 HIV-1 trial is anticipated to commence mid-2016.

A copy of the manuscript can be viewed at the following link: <a href="http://1.usa.gov/1PEstoE">http://1.usa.gov/1PEstoE</a>

## Yours sincerely

Peter J. Nightingale Company Secretary

pjn8393

## **About Biotron**

Biotron Limited is engaged in the research, development, and commercialisation of drugs targeting significant viral diseases with unmet medical need, with a major focus on HIV and HCV. The Company has BIT225 in clinical development for both HIV and HCV, and also has several earlier stage preclinical and research programs for several other viral infections including Dengue.

## **Enquiries**

Dr Michelle Miller Managing Director Biotron Limited +61-2 9805 0488 +61-(0)412313329 Rudi Michelson Monsoon Communications +61-3 9620 3333