



## Two Prescient Assets Selected by Doherty Institute as Group 1 Candidate for COVID-19 Antiviral Testing Program

- **Both assets chosen based on potential antiviral qualities**
- **Doherty Institute will conduct testing**
- **New patent applications filed to protect all new intellectual property generated**

**MELBOURNE Australia 21 July 2020:** Prescient Therapeutics Limited (Prescient; ASX: PTX) today announced it has signed a research agreement with the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunology (Doherty Institute), a joint venture between the University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital, following selection of two of its existing assets for the Doherty Institute's Testing Program for SARS-CoV-2 Antiviral Drugs Program. Both were assessed as Group 1 priority candidates.

The program guidelines define, Group 1 candidates as having the "highest or strong likelihood of antiviral efficacy – compounds in this grouping will be eligible for Tier 1 laboratory testing."

The Doherty Institute is a centre of excellence of leading scientists, clinicians and researchers dedicated to the prevention, treatment and cure of infectious diseases. The Doherty Institute investigates a wide variety of infectious diseases but has pivoted its expertise towards the COVID-19 response. Notably, the Doherty Institute gained international prominence in the fight against COVID-19 in January 2020 when it became the first centre outside China to grow the SARS-CoV-2 strain in cell culture and share with laboratories across the world.

Antiviral candidates for the testing program were assessed by an independent Scientific Review Panel of experts in virology, antivirals and the clinical trials of antiviral drugs.

Prescient's assets were selected based on a detailed review of available existing data; as well as additional pre-clinical data supporting their rationale for use as anti-viral therapies.

Prescient has already filed new patent applications for both assets for their use as anti- SARS-CoV-2 agents and all additional intellectual property created during the Doherty Institute screening process will be owned by Prescient.



Prescient Therapeutics CEO Steven Yatomi-Clarke said, “While we remain totally focused on advancing our promising anti-cancer clinical pipeline, we are delighted that two of our assets have been selected for this important national effort by some of the world’s leading medical researchers to help address this urgent global health emergency.”

### Testing program process, costs and timing

The testing program is a two-step process involving *in-vitro* testing at the Doherty Institute, and potentially *in-vivo* tests in a small animal model. Eligibility for the second stage depends on positive results in the first.

Prescient’s contribution to the study is immaterial, being \$70,000 for the testing of both assets in the first instance. Initial results are expected to be available in September and October 2020.

Prescient will provide an update for investors on material developments as information is made available.

– Ends –

### About Prescient Therapeutics Limited (Prescient)

Prescient Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology company developing personalised medicine approaches to cancer, including targeted and cellular therapies.

#### Cell Therapies

**OmniCAR:** is a universal immune receptor platform enabling controllable T-cell activity and multi-antigen targeting with a single cell product. OmniCAR’s modular CAR system decouples antigen recognition from the T-cell signalling domain. It is the first universal immune receptor allowing post-translational covalent loading of binders to T-cells. OmniCAR is based on technology licensed from Penn; the SpyTag/SpyCatcher binding system licensed from Oxford University; and other assets.

The targeting ligand can be administered separately to CAR-T cells, creating on-demand T-cell activity post infusion and enables the CAR-T to be directed to an array of different tumour antigens.

OmniCAR provides a method for single-vector, single cell product targeting of multiple antigens simultaneous or sequentially, whilst allowing continual re-arming to generate, regulate and diversify a sustained T-cell response over time.

**Cell Therapy:** Prescient has several other initiatives underway to develop new cell therapy approaches.

#### Targeted Therapies

**PTX-100** is a first in class compound with the ability to block an important cancer growth enzyme known as geranylgeranyl transferase-1 (GGT-1). It disrupts oncogenic Ras pathways by inhibiting the activation of Rho, Rac and Ral circuits in cancer cells, leading to apoptosis (death) of cancer cells. PTX-100 is believed to be the only RhoA inhibitor in the world in clinical development. PTX-100 is currently in a PK/PD basket study of hematological and solid malignancies, focusing on cancers with Ras and RhoA mutations. In a previous Phase 1 trial in advanced solid tumours, PTX-100 was well tolerated and achieved stable disease.



**PTX-200** is a novel PH domain inhibitor that inhibits an important tumour 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. Unlike other drug candidates that target Akt inhibition which are non-specific kinase inhibitors that have toxicity problems, PTX-200 has a novel mechanism of action that specifically inhibits Akt whilst being comparatively safer. This highly promising compound has encouraging Phase 2a data in HER2-negative breast cancer; Phase 1b/2 in relapsed and refractory AML and Phase 1b in recurrent or persistent platinum resistant ovarian cancer:

### **COVID-19 Therapies**

Two assets are being assessed by the Doherty Institute for antiviral activity against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 disease.

Find out more at [ptxtherapeutics.com](http://ptxtherapeutics.com), or connect with us via Twitter [@PTX\\_AUS](https://twitter.com/PTX_AUS) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ptxtherapeutics).

The Board of Prescient Therapeutics Limited have approved the release of this announcement.

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### **Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors**

Please see our website : [Supplemental COVID-19 Risk Factors](#)