



PharmAust Identifies New Proprietary Monepantel-related Compounds With Greater Anti-cancer Activity

23 November 2017 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust (ASX: PAA), a clinical-stage oncology company, is pleased to report that initial screens of its proprietary library of aminoacetonitrile (AAD) compounds have identified molecules that can kill cancer cells grown in vitro up to six times more effectively than the parent compound, Monepantel.

All of these more active AAD analogues are chemically distinct from Monepantel, which is currently being developed as a novel anti-cancer therapy for dogs and humans by PharmAust. Although Monepantel is owned by Elanco, PharmAust owns the intellectual property rights to use this drug as an anti-cancer treatment.

Dr Richard Hopkins, PharmAust's CEO commented, "We are encouraged by these early stage cell-screening results, which suggest there is considerable scope to improve on the efficacy of Monepantel. It also supports our decision to acquire the library of AAD compounds from Nihon Nohyaku in order to develop our own proprietary pipeline of cancer drugs. The fact we've already identified compounds with improved potency, which we fully own, is a very encouraging start."

PharmAust will continue working with its team at Epichem to synthesise and screen new and improved AAD compounds. The ability to access the in-house medicinal chemistry experts at Epichem highlights a key competitive advantage for PharmAust.

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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

support by PAA's subsidiary, Epichem, a highly successful contract medicinal chemistry company which is forecast to generate ~Aus\$4m in revenues in the 2018 FY

PAA's lead drug candidate is monepantel (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.