Monepantel successfully reformulated for canine clinical trial

28 May 2018 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust Limited (ASX:PAA) is pleased to announce it has successfully reformulated monepantel into a tablet form suitable for canine clinical trials, which are expected to commence in Q4, 2018.

In collaboration with BRI Pharmaceutical Research, PharmAust has shown that this new dry tablet-based formulation, which uses micronised monepantel, successfully meets the company's requirements for palatability and dosing in order to undertake a clinical trial in dogs.

PharmAust will now scale production of the tablets using GMP-grade monepantel sourced directly from Elanco, a leading global animal health company. Elanco have previously registered and marketed this same product in animals for an alternative indication.

PharmAust intends to initiate a pharmacokinetic study directed to refining and optimising the use of the new formulation in canines in Q4, 2018, before moving onto Phase II clinical trials.

PharmAust Executive Director, Dr Roger Aston said "We are pleased the BRI collaboration has identified a new tablet-based formulation that clears the path for us to re-initiate clinical trials in late 2018. These efforts will focus initially in dogs before moving into human clinical trials"

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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 highly successful contract synthetic drug manufacturer which generated Aus$3.05m in revenues in the 2017 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.