



ASX Release

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#### Tickers:

Australia (ASX): ZLD  
USA (OTCQB): ZLDAF

**Ordinary Shares:**  
755,341,934

**Options:**  
85,700,000

## Collaboration Identifies Novel Cannabis Pathway for Treatment of Breast Cancer

- Study identifies a novel role for the CB2 cannabinoid receptor in HER2+ breast cancer
- Results supports role for HER2/CB2 receptor complex as a new therapeutic target and prognostic tool for HER2+ breast cancer
- Study supports Zelda's strategic engagement with world-leading researchers
- Zelda at forefront of efforts to develop new cannabis treatments for cancer

Zelda Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ZLD, OTCQB: ZLDAF) is pleased to advise the results of a study undertaken by a member of its Medical Advisory Board, Professor Cristina Sanchez, were recently published in the prestigious *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The findings identified a new target in the endocannabinoid system for treatment of HER2+ breast cancer.

The paper, entitled "*Therapeutic targeting of HER2-CB2R heteromers in HER2-positive breast cancer*" was published by Professor Cristina Sanchez and her team based at the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. The study describes a mechanism by which the cannabinoid receptor, CB2, can bind the HER2 receptor to form a novel complex. HER2 is a classic biomarker for aggressive cancer and is found in approximately 20% of breast cancer patients.

The study showed that expression of CB2/HER2 receptor complexes correlates with poor prognosis in breast cancer patients. Further, treatment with  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which binds the CB2 receptor, disrupted CB2/HER2 heteromers and promoted anti-tumour responses.

Zelda's CEO Dr Richard Hopkins commented "*This paper makes an important contribution to our understanding of the role of the endocannabinoid system in cancer and has identified a novel therapeutic target for management of HER2+ breast cancer.*"

*Zelda is delighted to be collaborating with Professor Sanchez and her team. This study provides further validation of Zelda's strategy to partner with the world's leading researchers and represents an important step towards development of new cannabis-based therapies for treatment of cancer."*

Zelda's cancer focused pre-clinical research is designed to build a comprehensive data set and novel intellectual property in a form that can be licensed to third parties in the future. As part of the agreement with Professor Sanchez and the Complutense University, IP generated from the collaboration will be assigned to Zelda. This strategy complements the existing clinical trial portfolio to validate formulations and provide robust clinical evidence demanded by the medical community and regulators. Successful completion of these trials allows Zelda to quickly move towards commercialisation.

**Tim Slate**

## **Company Secretary**

### **About Zelda Therapeutics ([www.zeldatherapeutics.com](http://www.zeldatherapeutics.com))**

Zelda Therapeutics Ltd is an Australian-based bio-pharmaceutical company developing a range of cannabinoid-based formulations for the treatment of a variety of medical conditions. The Company is undertaking:

- A **human clinical trial programme** focused on insomnia, autism and opioid reduction with activities in Australia and the USA.
- A **pre-clinical research programme** examining the effect of cannabinoids in breast, brain and pancreatic cancer as well as research examining the potential for cannabinoids to treat diabetes-associated cognitive decline.

The company conducts this work in partnership with world-leading researchers and organisations including Complutense University in Madrid, Spain; Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia; the Telethon Kids Institute in Perth; the University of Western Australia, in Perth; St. Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia; and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) in the United States

Zelda has also formed a strategic partnership with European medicinal cannabis group HAPA Medical BV, to access HAPA's EU-GMP grade manufacturing capabilities and accessing its German distribution network providing a credible and rapid path to commercialisation for successful clinically validated formulations.