

Monepantel Tablets Demonstrate Positive Performance in Phase I

- A single tablet of PharmAust's monepantel in healthy dogs provides drug levels in serum consistent with previously achieved anti-cancer activity
- Phase I repeat dose and safety confirmation commences in the USA with CRO

14 March 2019 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust Ltd (ASX:PAA), a clinical-stage oncology company, is pleased to announce that it has received early positive results from its Phase I trial that was announced and commenced 20 February 2019. The trial in nine canines is evaluating a reformulated monepantel (MPL) tablet for absorption and pharmacokinetic parameters. The serum levels of MPL from a single tablet align with those predicted, to produce suppression of tumour markers and tumour regression.

Following a single dose administration of one tablet to dogs, blood concentrations of MPL exceeded those observed in the Phase I clinical trial in humans, which were associated with reduced tumour marker levels in blood. Further, the serum concentrations from one tablet in dogs also exceeded MPL levels observed to achieve anti-cancer activity in mice bearing human cancer xenografts. As previously noted with the earlier prototype tablets, achieving these concentrations was dependent upon the dietary setting where the tablet is preferentially taken during or after a meal. These data have meant that the next dose escalation component of the Phase I trial has commenced on track.

PharmAust's Chief Scientific Officer Dr Richard Mollard stated, "This preliminary data set provides early evidence that a single dose of PharmAust's monepantel tablets can provide sufficient drug levels in serum to achieve anti-cancer activity. This is a pleasing result as it means dosing of canines by their owners will be much less of a challenge using these tablets. PharmAust will next investigate dose escalation and repeat dose administration to align long term administration frequency with these same blood levels, anti-cancer activity and the very good safety setting established for this drug."

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About PharmAust (PAA):

PAA is a clinical-stage company developing 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 medicinal chemistry company which generated ~Aus\$3.02m in revenues in the 2018 FY.