亞盛醫藥
Ascentage Pharma

ASCENTAGE PHARMA GROUP INTERNATIONAL

亞盛醫藥集團

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 6855)

Voluntary Announcement

APG-115 Granted Approval for the Phase Ib/II Clinical Study in China

Ascentage Pharma Group International (the "**Company**" or "**Ascentage Pharma**") is pleased to announce that the Center for Drug Evaluation (CDE) of the China National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) has granted clinical approval for a Phase Ib/II clinical study of the Company's novel MDM2-p53 inhibitor APG-115 in combination with PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors for the treatment of patients with advanced liposarcoma (LPS) or other advanced solid tumors.

This multi-center, open-label Phase Ib/II study of the combination therapy in patients with advanced LPS or other advanced solid tumors in China will be conducted in two stages — a Phase Ib dose-escalation stage designed to evaluate the safety and tolerability of APG-115 in combination with a PD-1 inhibitor (toripalimab); and a Phase II dose-expansion phase which will also assess the efficacy in the treatment of patients with TP53 wild-type MDM2-amplified advanced LPS.

LPS is a common histologic sub-type of soft issue sarcomas, accounting for around 20% of all soft tissue sarcoma incidences. MDM2 amplification is common in LPS, while TP53 wild-type LPS accounts for approximately half of all LPS patients[1]. Surgical resection is the current primary standard of care treatment for LPS, and pre/post-surgical chemotherapy, with or without radiation, are also recommended. Patients with advanced relapsed or metastatic LPS also receive systemic chemotherapy. However, according to the existing data, chemotherapy only offers limited benefits to patients with advanced LPS, with over 80% of LPS cases eventually relapsing[2]. Furthermore, current targeted therapies and immunotherapies for the treatment of LPS remain very limited in terms of medication and efficacy[3]. Therefore, a comprehensive understanding of the pathological characteristics of LPS and the development of novel and effective combination therapies for LPS are clinical issues that need to be resolved urgently.

APG-115 is an orally administered, selective, small-molecule inhibitor of the MDM2-p53 PPI. APG-115 has strong binding affinity to MDM2 and is designed to activate p53 tumor suppression activity by blocking the MDM2-p53 protein-protein interaction (PPI). APG-115 is the first MDM2-p53 inhibitor entering clinical development in China, with multiple ongoing clinical studies in solid tumors and hematologic malignancies in China and the US. It is worth noting that APG-115 as a single agent in clinical studies of the treatment of advanced LPS has already shown promising antitumor activities. The study has observed over 10 months of sustained post-treatment response in a patient who had achieved partial response (PR), indicating the potential host immune-modulating effect of APG-115. These results paved the way for the further assessment of treatment using APG-115 as a single agent or in combination with immunotherapies[4].

Cautionary Statement required by Rule 18A.05 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited: We cannot guarantee that we will be able to obtain further approval for, or ultimately market, APG-115 successfully.

By order of the Board
Ascentage Pharma Group International
Dr. Yang Dajun
Chairman and Executive Director

Suzhou, People's Republic of China, October 27, 2020

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the Company comprises Dr. Yang Dajun as Chairman and executive Director, Dr. Wang Shaomeng, Dr. Tian Yuan, Mr. Zhao Qun, Dr. Lu Simon Dazhong and Mr. Liu Qian as non-executive Directors, and Mr. Ye Changqing, Dr. Yin Zheng and Mr. Ren Wei as independent non-executive Directors.

References

1. Rayburn E, Zhang R, He J, Wang R. MDM2 and human malignancies: expression, clinical pathology, prognostic markers, and implications for chemotherapy. Curr Cancer Drug Targets. 2005 Feb;5(1):27–41.

2. Mankin H J, Mankin K P, Harmon D C. Liposarcoma: a soft tissue tumor with many presentations. Musculoskelet Surg. 2014 Dec;98(3):171–7.

3. Soft Tissue Sarcoma, Version 2.2018, US National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. J Natl Compr Canc Netw 2018;16(5):536–563.

4. Zhang, X. Phase I study results of APG-115, a MDM2-p53 antagonist in Chinese patients with advanced liposarcoma and other solid tumors. ASCO 2020 Annual meeting, Poster #430.