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ASCENTAGE PHARMA GROUP INTERNATIONAL

亞盛醫藥集團

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 6855)

Voluntary Announcement

APG-2575 Receives Approvals for Two Phase Ib/II Clinical Studies in China

Ascentage Pharma Group International (the “**Company**” or “**Ascentage Pharma**”) is pleased to announce that the Center for Drug Evaluation (CDE) of China National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) has approved two Phase Ib/II clinical studies of the novel Class 1 Bcl-2 inhibitor APG-2575 which is being developed by the Company; one for APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Ibrutinib/Rituximab for the treatment of patients with Waldenström Macroglobulinemia (WM), and the other one for APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Lenalidomide/Dexamethasone for the treatment of patients with Multiple Myeloma (MM).

The Phase Ib/II study of APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Ibrutinib/Rituximab for the treatment of patients with WM, is a global multicenter, open-label Phase Ib/II dose-expansion study designed to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, and preliminary efficacy of APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Ibrutinib/Rituximab for the treatment of patients with WM.

WM is a rare indolent B-cell lymphoma, accounting for less than 2% of all non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma (NHL) cases. Treatment recommendations for WM from current guidelines suggest an objective response rate (ORR) of about 80%, but they deliver a very low rate of very good partial response (VGPR) or above deeper responses (approximately 20% or lower), with most patients eventually relapsing or experiencing further disease progression. Furthermore, patients are diagnosed with WM at a median age of 70, when many individuals are intolerant of aggressive therapies, hence presenting an urgent clinical need for the enhancement of efficacy of WM treatments¹.

Preclinical study data of APG-2575 have shown responses generated in resistant WM models which are insensitive to Ibrutinib, as well as the significant synergistic effect with Ibrutinib in various models of NHL, including follicular lymphoma, diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, and WM.

The Phase Ib/II study of APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Lenalidomide/Dexamethasone for the treatment of patients with MM, which is a multicenter, open-label Phase Ib/II dose-escalation study to be carried out in China, is designed to evaluate the safety, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and preliminary efficacy of APG-2575 as a single agent or in combination with Lenalidomide/Dexamethasone in patients with relapsed/refractory MM.

MM is a plasma cell proliferative disorder with manifestations like hypercalcemia, anemia, renal failure, and bone disease. MM remains incurable. Based on statistics, MM accounts for about 1.8% of all malignant tumors and 18.2% of all hematopoietic neoplasms. MM is the second most common hematological malignancy². The age-standardized incidence rate of MM in the US is approximately 6.9 per 100,000³. The incidence rate of MM in China has increased significantly in recent years, and the mortality rate increased with age, especially for patients over 60 years old. The median age at diagnosis in China is 59 years old, much younger than that in the US which is 69 years old. The incidence also increases with age. With an aging population and advanced diagnostic capabilities, the prevalence of MM is anticipated to keep growing in China⁴.

In the preclinical studies of Ascentage Pharma, APG-2575 demonstrated potent antiproliferative activity in MM cell lines bearing the chromosomal t (11;14). In MM cell lines without chromosomal t (11;14), the combinations with Lenalidomide or Pomalidomide and Dexamethasone demonstrated apparent synergistic effect which greatly enhanced APG-2575 cell sensitivity and triggered more potent cell death.

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-2575 successfully.

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

Suzhou, People's Republic of China, November 23, 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. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology for Waldenström Macroglobulinemia, Version 1.2020-December 6,2019
2. Siegel, R. L., Miller, K. D., & Jemal, A. (2019). Cancer statistics, 2019. *CA: a cancer journal for clinicians*, 69(1), 7–34.
3. Cancer Stat Facts: Myeloma; Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program, US National Cancer Institute. <https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/mulmy.html> Accessed on 2020.3.18