

Bern, 17 December 2018

## **SAKK 17/16 Phase II trial of lurbinectedin in progressive mesothelioma finalizes its patient recruitment**

- This is a single-arm, multicenter, phase II trial for the treatment of progressive malignant pleural mesothelioma.
- The primary endpoint of this study is progression-free survival (PFS) at 12 weeks and the results are expected early in 2019.

The Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) has announced that the patient recruitment of the phase II trial of lurbinectedin as a single-agent for the treatment of patients with progressive malignant pleural mesothelioma has been completed.

This trial is being carried out by SAKK in collaboration with PharmaMar. It is a single-arm, multicenter Phase II trial involving 42 patients for the treatment of progressive malignant pleural mesothelioma. The primary endpoint of the study is progression-free survival (PFS) at 12 weeks and these results are expected early in 2019.

According to **Dr. Yannis Metaxas**, coordinating investigator of this trial: *"Patient recruitment has been very rapid far better as we had expected. From what we have been able to observe so far, we hope to get first results in the first few months of 2019."*

Malignant pleural mesothelioma is a rare tumor that arises from the mesothelial cells of the pleural, peritoneal, or pericardial lining, and is often associated with asbestos exposure, usually with a very poor prognosis at the time of diagnosis. There is no cure for most malignant mesotheliomas, the goal of current cancer treatments (surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy) is to reduce or eliminate symptoms as well as prolong progression-free survival (PFS) and/or overall survival (OS). There is currently no standard treatment for progressive disease.

### **Legal warning**

This press release does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities, and shall not constitute an offer, solicitation or sale in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of that jurisdiction.

### **About SAKK**

The Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) is a non-profit organization, which has been conducting clinical trials in oncology since 1965. Its primary objective is to research new

cancer therapies, to develop existing treatments further and to improve the chances of a cure for patients with cancer. This takes place through cooperative projects within Switzerland and in collaboration with centers and study groups abroad. The SAKK is supported by a service-level agreement with the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and also by partners such as the Swiss Cancer League and Swiss Cancer Research. For more information, go to [www.sakk.ch](http://www.sakk.ch), [info@sakk.ch](mailto:info@sakk.ch)

### **About PharmaMar**

Headquartered in Madrid, PharmaMar is a biopharmaceutical company, focused on oncology and committed to research and development which takes its inspiration from the sea to discover molecules with antitumor activity. It is a company that seeks innovative products to provide healthcare professionals with new tools to treat cancer. Its commitment to patients and to research has made it one of the world leaders in the discovery of antitumor drugs of marine origin.

PharmaMar has a pipeline of drug candidates and a robust R&D oncology program. It develops and commercializes Yondelis® in Europe and has other clinical-stage programs under development for several ty-pes of solid cancers: lurbinectedin (PM1183), PM184 and PM14. With subsidiaries in Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria and the United States. PharmaMar wholly owns other companies: GENOMICA, a molecular diagnostics company; Sylentis, dedicated to researching therapeutic applications of gene silencing (RNAi); and a chemical enterprise, Zelnova Zeltia. To learn more about PharmaMar, please visit us at [www.pharmamar.com](http://www.pharmamar.com).

### **About lurbinectedin**

Lurbinectedin (PM1183) is a compound under clinical investigation. It is an inhibitor of RNA polymerase II. This enzyme is essential for the transcription process that is over-activated in tumors with transcription addiction.

### **Media Contact SAKK:**

Flurina Hoffmann - Head of Fundraising & Communication, [flurina.hoffmann@sakk.ch](mailto:flurina.hoffmann@sakk.ch), +41 31 508 41 78

### **Media Contact PharmaMar:**

Alfonso Ortín - Communications Director, [aortin@pharmamar.com](mailto:aortin@pharmamar.com), Mobile: +34 609493127;  
Miguel Martínez-Cava - Digital Communication Manager, [mmartinez-cava@pharmamar.com](mailto:mmartinez-cava@pharmamar.com),  
Mobile: +34 606597464, Phone: +34 918466000