
**CuraGen Announces Results of CR002 Study Honored with a Congress Award at the World Congress of Nephrology Meeting**

NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 9 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- CuraGen Corporation (Nasdaq: CRGN), a genomics-based pharmaceutical company, today announced that CR002, a preclinical fully human PDGF-D specific neutralizing monoclonal antibody generated with XenoMouse® technology, demonstrated activity in an animal model of nephritis, or kidney inflammation. Nephritis can lead to kidney failure and ultimately to the need for dialysis and kidney transplantation. This condition reduces the quality of life for patients as there are currently no approved products to specifically treat this disease.

Results of research conducted by CuraGen's scientists and their colleagues from Abgenix, Inc. (Nasdaq: ABGX) and the University of Aachen, Germany will be presented at the World Congress of Nephrology meeting by Dr. Juergen Floege, Director, Medical Clinic II, Nephrology and Clinical Immunology at the University of Aachen. Dr. Floege will describe the role of CR002 in an animal model of nephritis in an oral presentation on Monday, June 9 and in a poster session on Wednesday, June 11 at the meeting being held in Berlin, Germany. The abstract, titled "Identification of PDGF-D as a novel mediator of mesangioproliferative glomerulonephritis," was also honored with a Congress Award as one of the six best abstracts in the Basic Sciences category.

The abstract describes the results of a preclinical study designed to investigate the functional role of CR002 in reducing glomerular mesangial cell proliferation. CR002, a fully human antibody under preclinical development at CuraGen, was shown to reduce mesangial cell proliferation in an anti-Thy 1.1 nephritis animal model. Furthermore, these data show that PDGF-D is over-expressed in mesangioproliferative states and can act as an auto-, para- or even endocrine glomerular cell mitogen, indicating that antagonism of PDGF-D may represent a novel therapeutic approach for the treatment of mesangioproliferative glomerulonephritides. A complete abstract is available online at http://www.abstracts2view.com/era/sessionindex.php.

"We remain focused on bringing CR002 into the clinic next year to potentially help patients with nephritis and address this critical unmet medical need," stated Henri Lichenstein, Ph.D., Vice President of Preclinical Development at CuraGen. "The initial indication we are pursuing for CR002 will be in IgA nephropathy. In addition, we are also evaluating it for lupus nephritis and diabetic nephropathy," added Dr. Lichenstein.

"We are pleased to have earned a Congress Award at the World Congress of Nephrology meeting as it serves as an important outside validation of our genomics-based approach to antibody development. While our motivation is first and foremost on unmet medical needs, our strategy is based on an understanding of the clearest route to the clinic," stated Tim Shannon, M.D., Senior Vice President of Research and Development and Chief Medical Officer at CuraGen.

CR002 is one of 28 fully human monoclonal antibodies generated to date as part of CuraGen's antibody collaboration with Abgenix. In addition, CuraGen has a broad pipeline of novel protein therapeutics it is developing in-house, and a broad pipeline of small molecules to treat diabetes and obesity it is developing in collaboration with Bayer. With a focus on the genes that play an important role in the fundamental mechanisms that underlie disease, such as inflammation, proliferation and angiogenesis, CuraGen has been able to develop a portfolio of products that the Company hopes will address major unmet medical needs.

Background on Kidney Inflammation

IgA nephropathy, lupus nephritis, and diabetic nephropathy are forms of kidney inflammation, also known as nephritides. These conditions are typically characterized by glomerular mesangial cell proliferation and extracellular matrix accumulation that can sometimes lead to kidney failure and the eventual need for dialysis or kidney transplantation. Current treatment focuses on slowing the progression of the disease and preventing complications. There are no approved therapies to specifically treat these diseases.

About CuraGen

CuraGen Corporation (Nasdaq: CRGN) is a genomics-based pharmaceutical company. The Company is applying its industrialized genomic technologies, informatics, and validation technologies to develop a pipeline of protein, antibody, and small molecule therapeutics in the areas of obesity and diabetes, oncology, inflammation, and central nervous system (CNS) disorders. CuraGen's integrated, functional genomic technologies and Internet-based bioinformatic systems are designed to generate comprehensive information about genes, human genetic variations,

gene expression, protein interactions, protein pathways, and potential drugs that affect these pathways. CuraGen's technology platform and genomics expertise has been used with collaborators including Abgenix, Alexion, Bayer, Biogen, COR Therapeutics, Dupont/Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Gemini Genomics, Genentech, GlaxoSmithKline, Hoffmann-La Roche and its affiliate Roche Vitamins, Mitsubishi, Monsanto, Ono Pharmaceuticals, Pfizer and Sequenom. CuraGen is headquartered in New Haven, CT and additional information is available at http://www.curagen.com.

This press release may contain forward-looking statements including statements about the use of CR002 as a potential therapeutic for treating nephritis, or kidney inflammation; the ability of CR002 to reduce glomerular mesangial cell proliferation; the possibility that antagonism of PDGF-D may represent a novel therapeutic approach for the treatment of mesangioproliferative glomerulonephritides; our ability to bring CR002 into the clinic next year; and the ability of our portfolio of products to address major unmet medical needs. Such statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. CuraGen cautions investors that there can be no assurance that actual results or business conditions will not differ materially from those projected or suggested in such forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including, but not limited to, the following: our ability to apply proprietary genomic technologies to understand the molecular basis of disease and develop the next generation of therapeutic products for important diseases, our ability to develop pharmaceutical products with greater efficacy and fewer side effects and increase the probability that the most appropriate drugs will be administered to patients, our ability to generate data and information that will help the pharmaceutical industry to significantly reduce the time and cost of drug development, our expectation that we will incur operating losses in the near future, the early stage of development of our products and technologies, uncertainties related to preclinical and clinical testing and trials, uncertainties and adverse results relating to our ability to obtain regulatory approval for our products in development, uncertainties surrounding the availability of additional funding, our reliance on research collaborations and strategic alliances, the actions of competitors, the development of competing technologies, our ability to protect our patents and proprietary rights, patent infringement actions and uncertainties relating to commercialization rights. Please refer to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 for a description of these risks. We disclaim any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

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