

PharmAust secures core China patent

5 May 2017 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust (ASX: PAA), a clinical-stage oncology company, is pleased to announce the issue of a core patent in China.

The patent (No. 201380024851.3), entitled “Kinase Inhibitors for the Treatment of Cancer”, claims the use aminoacetonitrile derivatives as potent kinase inhibitors for the treatment of cancer. The priority date for the patent is 2013, which provides the company with a minimum of 16 more years of IP protection.

‘Aminoacetonitrile derivatives’ include the Novartis Animal Health compound, Monepantel (MPL) that PharmAust has patented for cancer applications and which is currently being evaluated in clinical trials.

Dr Richard Hopkins, PharmAust’s CEO commented, “We are delighted with the allowance of this “Method of Use” patent for aminocetonitriles as it secures PharmAust’s core intellectual property in a key world market. This represents the first member of our MPL-related patent portfolio to be issued and we expect others to follow later this year.

We are also pleased by the broad claims that were granted, providing us with very strong protection for this class of molecule,” added Dr Hopkins.

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About PharmAust (PAA):

PAA is a clinical-stage company developing targeted cancer 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 synthetic drug manufacturer which is forecast to generate Aus\$3m in revenues in 2017 at a CAGR of 28%.

PAA’s lead drug candidate is Monopantel (MPL), a novel, potent and safe inhibitor of the mTOR pathway - a key driver of cancer. MPL has been evaluated in Phase 1 clinical trials in humans and dogs. MPL treatment was well-tolerated and produced a significant reduction in key prognostic biomarkers. Further, 50% of end-stage individuals achieved stable disease at low therapeutic doses providing support for MPL efficacy observed in preclinical studies.

PAA is uniquely positioned to commercialise MPL for treatment of human and veterinary cancers as it advances the drug into Phase 2 clinical trial.

About NewSouth Innovations (NSi): NSi are a commercialisation company responsible for the protection and management of Intellectual Property (IP) developed at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). PharmAust acknowledges that the IP referred to in this announcement was assigned to Pitney Pharmaceuticals, a subsidiary of PharmAust, from the University of New South Wales in 2013.