

Optimisation of Monepantel Uptake

- Beneficial impact of monepantel absorption in canines by specific dietary conditions
- Optimisation of tablet manufacture has a beneficial impact upon the absorption of monepantel into the blood
- Improved tablet design minimises tablets for cancer therapy in canines
- Collectively these developments increase the flexibility for optimising anti-cancer dosing schedules.

21st January 2019 – Perth, Australia: PharmAust Limited (ASX: PAA), a clinical stage oncology company, is pleased to announce the generation of novel data relevant to the efficient administration of monepantel tablets to humans and dogs. These data have been generated in collaboration with BRI Biopharmaceutical Research Inc., Vancouver, Canada.

The treatment of canines with monepantel tablets under different dietary conditions and with different excipient formulations has demonstrated that higher than expected doses of monepantel can be delivered in a single tablet. Excipients are agents included in tablets that help shape or dissolve the tablet but are not the active ingredient itself. With a certain specific combination of diet and excipient, twice the amount of monepantel can be delivered into the bloodstream of dogs following administration of just one tablet. This means that the treatment of canine cancers with monepantel by the veterinarian and the owner can be made much simpler.

Previously, on 15 October last year, PharmAust announced that, even in the absence of dietary and excipient considerations, one tablet administered to dogs can provide blood levels of monepantel that exceed those previously predicted to achieve anti-cancer activity.

PharmAust's Chief Scientific Officer, Dr Richard Mollard, commented, "This is a very good outcome for both PharmAust and future patients, both canine and human. Over the past 18 months, PharmAust has put considerable effort into generating a new formulation of monepantel and having conditions for its use optimised. This new knowledge that diet and excipients can together positively increase monepantel uptake provides PharmAust and future patients with a much greater degree of flexibility to facilitate and optimise the most convenient and active dosing schedules."

PharmAust remains on track to commence clinical trials in dogs using these tablets early this calendar year.

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About PharmAust (PAA):

PAA is a clinical-stage company developing 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 medicinal chemistry company which generated ~Aus\$3.02m in revenues in the 2018 FY.