

Date: 10 April 2017

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Sydney, Australia

# ASX: NOX

# **Noxopharm Limited**

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# NOXOPHARM FILES PATENT APPLICATION ON 'SMART'-IDRONOXIL

- PCT patent lodged
  - 'Smarter' form of idronoxil
- Opportunity for range of new anti-cancer products.

Sydney, 10 April 2017: : Following an announcement on 27 March 2017 about receiving Federal funding for developing drugs products based on a recent discovery referred to as 'idronoxil-C', Noxopharm (ASX: NOX) announces today a key step in securing ownership over what it believes is an important new drug discovery by lodging a PCT patent application. The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) is an international patent law treaty covering 152 countries and is designed to facilitate global patent grant.

The significance of this patent application lies in terms of the following:

- Idronoxil-C accounts for a significant part of the idronoxil in animal blood after dosing with NOX66
- Idronoxil-C is a form of idronoxil not previously identified
- Idronoxil-C has important 'smart drug'-like properties that the Company believes will be critical to the success of NOX66
- Idronoxil-C is a new drug in its own right.

Graham Kelly, Noxopharm CEO, said, "In the test-tube, idronoxil is an extraordinarily effective drug in sensitising cancer cells to standard cancer therapies. The challenge always has been with patients to get idronoxil into the bloodstream in exactly that same form in order to deliver the same potent anti-cancer effect. That has proved difficult to date."

"NOX66 was developed with that aim in mind, and it is an aim that we are confident we have achieved. But animal studies have shown that NOX66 goes one important step further. The form that idronoxil appears in blood after being delivered as NOX66 is actually smarter than what we saw in the test-tube. By 'smart', we mean a drug that stays in the body for long enough for it to work, plus an ability to seek out cancer cells in all areas of the body, including, it appears, the brain. Earlier ways idronoxil was used meant that it left the body relatively quickly and it did not cross into the brain. We have called this new form, idronoxil-C. It is still idronoxil, just in a form that makes it a better drug."

"In terms of where the value lies in this discovery, there are two answers. The first is that it helps us understand how NOX66 is working, a key factor in bringing a new drug to market."

"The second is that idronoxil-C is a new drug in its own right and that gives the Company the opportunity to create more specialised drug products to complement NOX66. NOX66 will aways remain our workhorse product. It leads to idronoxil-C being formed in the body. But now we are in a position to design additional products that mean we can deliver pure idronoxil-C directly in certain cancer situations. But I emphasise, these newer products will add to, not replace, NOX66. This is a matter of time to market....NOX66 has a significant headstart on these other specialised products, so NOX66 remains our priority in terms of bringing a product to market." Kelly added.

Ian Minns, Director of Clinical Development and Medical Affairs, said, "For those patients currently being treated with NOX66 in our clinical development program, we now are in a position to look at the predictive value of blood idronoxil-C levels in relation to clinical outcomes."

## About idronoxil

Idronoxil is an experimental anti-cancer drug currently undergoing clinical development. Idronoxil works by cancelling mechanisms (such as PARP1/Akt) in cancer cells that allow those cells to resist the killing effects of chemotherapies and radiotherapy. Idronoxil targets an external NADH oxidase, ENOX 2, responsible for maintaining the transmembrane electron potential (TMEP) in the plasma membrane. Inhibition of this enzyme causes loss of TMEP and disruption of key downstream prosurvival mechanisms including PARP1/Akt/PI3 kinase. ENOX2 is an oncogene whose expression is restricted to cancer cells.

Idronoxil is undergoing clinical studies in the NOX66 dosage form, with the objective of making existing chemotherapies and radiotherapies work far more effectively and safely than is the case currently.

## About NOX66

NOX66 is an innovative dosage formulation of the experimental anti-cancer drug, idronoxil, developed specifically to protect idronoxil from being inactivated in the human body by Phase 2 metabolism. The purpose is to maximize the amount of idronoxil remaining in an active form rather than as inactive Phase 2 metabolites.

## **About Noxopharm**

Noxopharm is an Australian drug development company with offices in Sydney and Melbourne. The Company has a primary focus on the development of drugs to address the problem of drug-resistance in cancer cells, the major hurdle facing improved survival prospects for cancer patients. NOX66 is the first pipeline product, with later generation drug candidates under development. The Company also has initiated a pipeline of non-oncology drugs.

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## **Forward Looking Statements**

This announcement may contain forward-looking statements. You can identify these statements by the fact they use words such as "aim", "anticipate", "assume", "believe", "continue", "could",

"estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "plan", "predict", "project", "plan", "should", "target", "will" or "would" or the negative of such terms or other similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on estimates, projections and assumptions made by Noxopharm about circumstances and events that have not yet taken place. Although Noxopharm believes the forward-looking statements to be reasonable, they are not certain. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that are in some cases beyond the Company's control that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statement. No representation, warranty or assurance (express or implied) is given or made by Noxopharm that the forward-looking statements contained in this announcement are accurate and undue reliance should not be placed upon such statements.