



News Release

Opiant Pharmaceuticals Announces Development of O Nalmefene, for Treatment of Opioid Overdose

Based on FDA Feedback, Opiant Intends to Pursue 505(b)(2) De

Opiant Anticipates Submitting an NDA for this Product Car

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Feb. 12, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Opiant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Opiant), a pharmaceutical company developing pharmacological treatments for addictions, today announced the results of a Phase I study of its product candidate OPNT003 (intranasal nalmefene), and provided an update on its development program. OPNT003 is a novel opioid antagonist for the treatment of opioid overdose. Based on feedback from the FDA in a meeting, Opiant intends to pursue a 505(b)(2) development path, and anticipates the potential to submit a New Drug Application (NDA) for an intranasal delivery device combination in 2020. Nalmefene for injection was previously approved for the treatment of confirmed opioid overdose. The 505(b)(2) pathway allows companies to rely in part on the safety and efficacy data of a previously approved product and to supplement these findings with a more limited set of data, as opposed to conducting the full array of preclinical and clinical studies that would typically be required for a full New Drug Application (NDA).

Data generated in a Phase I study completed under a clinical trial agreement with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) was the basis for the FDA meeting. These data demonstrate that an intranasal nalmefene formulation (Intravail®, from Aegis Therapeutics) resulted in rapid increases in plasma levels compared to intramuscular injection and a comparatively long half-life (6.7-7.8 hours). Naloxone, the only FDA medication approved for the treatment of overdose, has a half-life of approximately 2 hours.

"We are pleased with the positive outcome of this meeting and the beneficial guidance received from the FDA regarding our development program. We are committed to continuing our development program and providing our patients with the best possible treatment options for opioid overdose."

Chief Executive Officer of Opiant. "We now have a well-defined development and regulatory pathway in the U.S. for the treatment of opioid overdose. Following the feedback received from the FDA, we have a development pathway that allows certain information required for NDA approval to be derived from Phase I data. We anticipate submitting an NDA for OPNT003 in 2020. Based on its profile and the Phase I data, we believe OPNT003 has the potential to be a transformative treatment for opioid overdose, a growing U.S. health epidemic. "Opiant has full commercial rights to OPNT003 and has submitted a grant application to the NIH to advance the development to an NDA ready stage," continued Dr. Crystal. "Based on the NIH calling for long-acting formulations, we are optimistic that this grant will be funded."

Synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl, are now responsible for more overdose deaths than either heroin or natural opiates. In 2016, there were 20,000 synthetic opioid overdose deaths. Fentanyl and derivatives, such as carfentanyl, have a long half-life of seven to ten hours that may require repeated dosing of naloxone to overcome the effects. An overdose-reversal drug may reduce this burden.

NIH leadership recently called for the development of "...stronger, longer-acting formulations of synthetic opioids that are now claiming thousands of lives each year." (Volkow and

An easy-to-use nasal formulation of nalmefene with a rapid onset and long duration of action would be a valuable tool for medically trained persons to administer. If approved by the FDA, OPNT003 may be especially valuable in areas where a growing number of overdoses are occurring, and where access to emergency medical response is limited.

About Opiant Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Opiant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a specialty pharmaceutical company developing pharmaceuticals for the treatment of relapsing brain diseases which burden society at both the individual and community levels. With our innovative delivery technology, Opiant is positioned to become a leader in these treatment markets. OPNT003 is approved for marketing in the U.S. and Canada by its partner, Adapt Pharma. Opiant owns all commercial rights to OPNT003. For more information please visit: www.opiant.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements relate to future operations and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels or activities expressed, implied or inferred by these forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify these statements by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expects," "plans," "intends," "anticipates," "projects," "potential," or "continue" or the negative of such terms and other comparable terms. These statements are predictions based on our current expectations and projections about future events. You should not rely on these statements. Actual events or results may differ materially. In evaluating these statements, y

factors. These and other factors may cause our actual results to differ materially from any f obligation to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this press relec occurrence of unanticipated events, except as required by applicable law.

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ABOUT OPIANT

Opiant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a specialty pharmaceutical company developing treatments for substance use, addictive and eating disorders.

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