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## **Peregrine Pharmaceuticals Announces Promising Baviximab Phase I Data Published in the Peer-Reviewed Journal *Cancer Medicine* in Advanced Metastatic Breast Cancer**

*- Combination of Baviximab and Paclitaxel Achieved an 85% Objective Response-*

*- Design of Phase II Clinical Trial Underway -*

TUSTIN, Calif., March 31, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Peregrine Pharmaceuticals (Nasdaq:PPHM) (Nasdaq:PPHMP), today announced the peer-reviewed publication of clinical data from a Phase I investigator-sponsored trial evaluating the company's lead investigational immunotherapy baviximab plus paclitaxel therapy in patients with HER2-negative metastatic breast cancer. The manuscript details the results of the Phase I trial showing that the combination produced an objective tumor response in 85% of patients, including 15% of these patients achieving a complete response, measured in accordance with Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid Tumors (RECIST) criteria.

"The publication of these data marks an important milestone in the development of this novel therapeutic in a difficult to treat patient population," said Alison Stopeck, M.D., the principal investigator on the trial and Professor, Department of Medicine and Associate Director for Translational Research at the Stony Brook Cancer Center in Stony Brook, New York. "The regimen was very well tolerated and the clinical responses were encouraging. The data also suggest baviximab may uniquely affect the coagulation system in a beneficial way for cancer patients. It is my belief that the combination of baviximab with weekly paclitaxel is a feasible regimen that is associated with a promising response rate in patients with metastatic breast cancer and warrants further clinical exploration."

In the online released manuscript, researchers at the University of Arizona Medical Center led by Alison Stopeck, M.D. enrolled 14 patients with metastatic breast cancer (MBC) and while all were evaluable for toxicity, 13 were evaluable for response and progression free survival (PFS). These patients with HER2-negative MBC were treated with paclitaxel (80 mg/m<sup>2</sup>) weekly for three weeks of each four-week cycle and baviximab (3 mg/kg) administered weekly beginning on day 15 after two weekly doses of paclitaxel. Results from 13 evaluable patients showed that 11 patients (85%) achieved an objective response, including two patients (15%) that achieved a complete response (CR), 9 patients with partial responses (PR) and 2 patients with progressive disease (PD). Median PFS for the combination of baviximab with weekly paclitaxel was 7.3 months. In addition, the combination of baviximab and paclitaxel was safe and well-tolerated with the majority of grade 1 or 2 adverse events being paclitaxel related. Approximately half of these patients were classified as "triple negative," a traditionally difficult-to-treat patient population. In addition, treatment with baviximab reduced circulating PS-expressing microparticles (exosomes) which are immunosuppressive.

"These compelling results in a very difficult to treat patient population provide the foundation to move with confidence into a later stage trial," said Joseph Shan, vice president of clinical and regulatory affairs at Peregrine Pharmaceuticals. "These data build upon our historical clinical experience in the area of breast cancer and when combined with recent preclinical data demonstrating baviximab's ability to promote antitumor immune activity, increase our understanding of the immune-stimulatory aspects of baviximab."

These results appear in the March issue of the peer-reviewed journal, *Cancer Medicine*, in a manuscript titled: "A Phase I Clinical Trial of Baviximab and Paclitaxel in Patients with HER-2 Negative Metastatic Breast Cancer."

The online article is available at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cam4.447/full>

About Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company with a pipeline of novel drug candidates in clinical trials for the treatment and diagnosis of cancer. The company's lead immunotherapy candidate, baviximab is in Phase III development for the treatment of second-line non-small lung cancer (the "SUNRISE trial") along with several investigator-sponsored trials evaluating other treatment combinations and additional oncology indications. The company is also advancing a molecular imaging agent, 124I-PGN650, in an exploratory clinical trial for the imaging of multiple solid tumor types. Peregrine also has in-house cGMP manufacturing capabilities through its wholly-owned subsidiary Avid Bioservices, Inc. ([www.avidbio.com](http://www.avidbio.com)), which provides development and biomanufacturing services for both Peregrine and third-party customers. Additional information about Peregrine can be found at [www.peregrineinc.com](http://www.peregrineinc.com).

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