



SuperGen Presents PIM kinase inhibitor SGI-1776 at American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting

DUBLIN, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 21, 2009-- SuperGen Inc., (NASDAQ:SUPG), a pharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of novel cancer therapies, announced that its PIM kinase inhibitor SGI-1776 is highlighted in oral and poster presentations at the 100th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR).

The oral presentation (**Abstract No. 2013**) on Monday, April 20th, entitled, "**Discovery of SGI-1776, a potent and selective PIM-1 kinase inhibitor,**" highlighted SGI-1776 development strategies for potency and selectivity against the PIM-1 kinase, for which a First-in-Human study was recently initiated in patients with hormone and docetaxel refractory prostate cancer and relapsed/refractory non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In addition, today a poster presentation (**Abstract No. 3743**) entitled, "**SGI-1776: A novel PIM kinase inhibitor with potent preclinical activity against Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)**" discusses preclinical results of low nanomolar concentrations of SGI-1776 potently diminishing cell viability in human AML cell lines. SGI-1776 inhibited tumor growth significantly more effectively in xenograph models than administration of standard of care agents cytarabine and daunorubicin. A follow on Phase 1 AML trial is planned to be initiated later this year after the first few cohorts of patients have been treated in the current Phase 1 lymphoma and prostate trial.

"We have reached a significant milestone in the development of SGI-1776, the first clinical-stage investigational product targeted to inhibit PIM kinases," said Dr. Gregory Berk, Chief Medical Officer of SuperGen. "PIM kinases mediate a variety of critical cellular processes in cancer, making it an important target for cancer therapeutics."

Copies of the 2009 AACR Annual Meeting poster presentations will be available in the pipeline section of SuperGen's Web site www.supergen.com.

About PIM as a Target

The three PIM kinases (PIM-1, PIM-2 and PIM-3) are highly conserved serine-threonine kinases that are key regulators in many signaling pathways implicated in cancer. PIM kinases can induce progression of the cell cycle, inhibition of apoptosis, and modulation of other signal transduction pathways. Transformation of PIM kinase in conjunction with other oncogenes is thought to contribute to malignancies including Burkitt's lymphoma, prostate cancer, diffuse large cell lymphoma, as well as several types of human leukemias.

About SuperGen

Based in Dublin, California, SuperGen is a pharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery and development of novel cancer therapies. SuperGen is developing a number of therapeutic anticancer products focused on kinase and cell signaling inhibitors and DNA methyltransferase inhibitors. For more information about SuperGen, please visit <http://www.supergen.com>.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains certain "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are typically preceded by words such as "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "will," "may," "should," or similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from the results discussed in these statements. Factors that might cause the company's results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, our ability to discover, develop and move target compounds into clinical development and other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission including its most recently filed Form 10-Q and 10-K. SuperGen, Inc. undertakes no duty to update any of these forward-looking statements to conform them to actual results.

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