Sunesis Pharmaceuticals Announces Presentations at 60th American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting

November 1, 2018

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Nov. 01, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Sunesis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: SNSS) today announced two poster presentations and an oral presentation at the 60thAmerican Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting being held December 1-4, 2018 in San Diego, California.

The details for the poster presentations are as follows:

Date and Time: Saturday, December 1, 2018, 6:15 PM-8:15 PM
Abstract Title: Vecabrutinib Is Efficacious In Vivo in a Preclinical CLL Adoptive Transfer Model
Session Number: 642
Session Name: CLL: Therapy, excluding Transplantation: Poster I
Publication Number: 1868
Location: San Diego Convention Center, Hall GH

The full abstract can be viewed here.

Date and Time: Sunday, December 2, 2018, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
Abstract Title: Preliminary Safety, Pharmacokinetic, and Pharmacodynamic Results from a Phase 1b/2 Dose-Escalation and Cohort-Expansion Study of the Noncovalent, Reversible Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (BTKi), Vecabrutinib, in B-Lymphoid Malignancies
Session Number: 642
Session Name: CLL: Therapy, excluding Transplantation: Poster II
Publication Number: 3141
Location: San Diego Convention Center, Hall GH

The full abstract can be viewed here.

The details for the oral presentation are as follows:

Date and Time: Monday, December 3, 2018, 7:15 AM (Session runs from 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM)
Abstract Title: High Prevalence of BTK Mutations on Ibrutinib Therapy after 3 Years of Treatment in a Real-Life Cohort of CLL Patients: A Study from the French Innovative Leukemia Organization (FILO) Group
Session Number: 641
Session Name: CLL: Biology and Pathophysiology, excluding Therapy: Mechanisms of Action and Resistance to Targeted Agents
Publication Number: 584
Location: Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, Grand Ballroom 5

The full abstract can be viewed here.

About Sunesis Pharmaceuticals

Sunesis is a biopharmaceutical company developing new therapeutics for the treatment of hematologic and solid cancers. Sunesis has built an experienced drug development organization committed to improving the lives of people with cancer. The Company is focused on advancing its novel kinase inhibitor pipeline, with an emphasis on its oral non-covalent BTK inhibitor vecabrutinib. Vecabrutinib is currently being evaluated in a Phase 1b/2 study in adults with chronic lymphocytic leukemia and other B-cell malignancies that have progressed after prior therapies. The Company's proprietary PDK1 inhibitor SNS-510 is in preclinical development. PDK1 is a master kinase that activates other kinases important to cell growth and survival including members of the AKT, PKC, RSK, and SGK families. Sunesis plans to submit an IND for SNS-510 in 2019. Sunesis is exploring strategic alternatives for vosaroxin, a late-stage investigational product for relapsed or refractory AML. Sunesis also has an interest in the pan-RAF inhibitor TAK-580 which is licensed to Takeda. TAK-580 is in a clinical trial for pediatric low-grade glioma.

For additional information on Sunesis, please visit www.sunesis.com.

This press release contains forward-looking statements, including statements related to Sunesis' continued development of vecabrutinib (SNS-062), including the timing of Phase 1b/2 trial of vecabrutinib and the therapeutic potential of vecabrutinib, further development and potential of its kinase inhibitor pipeline and vosaroxin, and planned development of SNS-510. Words such as "believe," "expect," "look forward," "potential," "will" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based upon Sunesis' current expectations. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Sunesis' actual results and the timing of events could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements as a result of these risks and uncertainties, which include, without limitation, the risk related to the timing or conduct of Sunesis' clinical trials, including the vecabrutinib Phase 1b/2 trial, the risk that Sunesis' clinical or preclinical studies for vecabrutinib, SNS-510 or other product candidate may not demonstrate safety or efficacy or lead to regulatory approval, the risk that data to date and

trends may not be predictive of future data or results, risks related to the timing or conduct of Sunesis' clinical trials, that Sunesis' development activities for vecabrutinib or SNS-510 could be otherwise halted or significantly delayed for various reasons, that Sunesis may not be able to receive regulatory approval of vecabrutinib, or SNS-510 in the U.S. or Europe, and risks related to Sunesis' ability to raise the capital that it believes to be accessible and is required to fully finance the development and commercialization of vecabrutinib, SNS-510 and other product candidates. These and other risk factors are discussed under "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in Sunesis' Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2018 and Sunesis' other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Sunesis expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein reflect any change in Sunesis' expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statements are based.

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