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Sydney, Australia

ASX: NOX

Noxopharm Limited

ABN 50 608 966 123

**Registered Office
and
Operational Office:**

Suite 3, Level 4
828 Pacific Highway
Gordon NSW 2072
Australia

**Board of Directors
Mr Peter Marks**

Chairman
Non-Executive
Director

Dr Graham Kelly

Chief Executive Officer
Managing Director

Dr Ian Dixon

Non-Executive
Director

ASX Limited
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

NOX RECEIVES 2016/2017 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESEARCH and DEVELOPMENT TAX REBATE

- **\$855K received for inaugural year of operation**
- **Funds to boost key R&D projects in brain cancer and abscopal response**

Sydney, 17 January 2018: Noxopharm (NOX: ASX) is pleased to announce that it has received \$855,518 under the Federal Government's Research and Development (R&D) Tax Incentive Scheme. This amount pertains to expenditure in the 2016/2017 financial year and follows the Company's listing on the ASX in August 2016.

Noxopharm CEO, Graham Kelly, explained that the funds have been earmarked for two key company R&D initiatives: (i) the brain cancer project, and (ii) an abscopal response project.

The brain cancer project is a multi-institution initiative involving the Lowy Cancer Research Centre, Sydney Children's Hospital, Olivia Newton John Cancer Research Institute, and University of Hong Kong. The project, we believe, is unique, firstly in investigating the ability of NOX66 to enhance the effectiveness of radiotherapy in the treatment of most brain cancer, and, secondly, in looking at this potential use across the broad spectrum of cancers of the brain involving primary brain cancers in both adults and children, as well as cancers that arise outside of the brain and spread to the brain (secondary brain cancer).

Dr Kelly explained, "After surgery, clinical experience points to radiotherapy as holding the most promise in the treatment of cancers of the brain. Chemotherapy has proven generally to be palliative with a relatively short-term benefit, whereas radiotherapy has the potential to be curative, but is limited by healthy brain cells being so sensitive to radiation damage."

To date NOX66 has ticked the key boxes required for the broad brain cancer program the Company is targeting: (a) NOX66 readily delivers its active component, idronoxil, into the brain in animals;

(b) In laboratory tests, idronoxil enhances the effect of radiotherapy on human cancer cells while sparing healthy cells;

(c) In the laboratory, idronoxil appears to be unaffected by multidrug-resistant mechanisms in killing brain cancer cells that are highly resistant to standard-of-care chemotherapy drugs such as temozolomide;

(d) Pre-clinically, the action of idronoxil on brain cancer cells is unaffected by their MGMT status. That is, idronoxil is independent of the activity of a certain gene (MGMT) that GBM cancers are tested for routinely as a predictor of patient survival. That gene (MGMT) is active in approximately 80% of GBM cancers. GBM cancer (Glioblastoma multiforme) is the most common and most aggressive form of cancer that begins in the brain.

Importantly, current clinical studies to date also have confirmed that NOX66 is well tolerated by humans.

Dr Kelly added, "Our main objective is to have NOX66 in the clinic in both adults and children with brain cancer just as soon as practicable, with the current pre-clinical program looking to identify the optimal way to use NOX66 in the different forms of brain cancer, specifically including secondary brain cancer."

The second R&D program to receive funding from this rebate is seeking to identify the role of idronoxil (as NOX66) in facilitating the induction of the bystander or **abscopal** effects, phenomena where the treatment of isolated cancer lesions with radiotherapy leads to the complete remission of both irradiated and non-irradiated lesions. This program is investigating the involvement of immune and epigenetic components in those phenomena. This second program is linked to the brain cancer project in the possibility of using NOX66 + radiotherapy in patients with cancers such as lung, melanoma, breast and prostate cancers etc, and where these can spread to the brain. An abscopal response involving an epigenetic component may possibly lead to the remission of the secondary brain cancers *without* requiring radiation of the brain.

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About NOX66

NOX66 is an innovative dosage formulation of the experimental anti-cancer drug, idronoxil, developed specifically to preserve the anti-cancer activity of idronoxil in the body and to enhance its drug-like behaviour. Idronoxil is a kinase inhibitor that works by inhibiting a range of enzymes including sphingosine kinase and PI3 kinase that regulate cell pro-survival mechanisms and which are over-expressed in cancer cells, as well as inhibiting external NADH oxidase Type 2 (ENOX 2) which is responsible for maintaining the transmembrane electron potential (TMEP) in the plasma membrane of cancer cells and whose expression is limited to cancer cells. Inhibition of these enzymes results in disruption of key downstream prosurvival mechanisms including resistance mechanisms, sensitizing the cancer cell to the cytotoxic effects of chemotherapy drugs and radiotherapies.

About Noxopharm

Noxopharm is an Australian drug development company with offices in Sydney and Hong Kong. The Company has a primary focus on the development of drugs to sensitise cancer cells to radiotherapy. NOX66 is the first pipeline product, with later generation drug candidates under development.

Investor & Corporate Enquiries:

Prue Kelly
M: 0459 022 445
E: info@noxopharm.com

Company Secretary:

David Franks
T: +61 2 9299 9690
E: dfranks@fa.com.au

www.noxopharm.com

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