

SAJE Pharma Announces a Revolutionary Multi-Drug Discovery Platform Focused on the Regulation of Nitrosylation Pathways

SAJE Pharma seeks licensing partners for its unique, novel and game changing drug discovery platform and drug candidate library of GSNOR inhibitors

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, USA, January 4, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Baltimore, Maryland, 4 January 2018 – SAJE Pharma ("SAJE"; <u>www.sajepharma.com</u>) announces its intention to license access to its novel drug discovery platform based on modulation



of <u>nitrosylation</u> pathways, which it believes to be potentially as powerful as more conventional phosphorylation pathways. There is only one human GSNOR (S-nitrosoglutathione reductase), making it a very drug-able target.

SAJE has invented and patented a large platform of innovative S-nitrosoglutathione reductase inhibitors (GSNORi). This technology targets the last and controlling step in the nitrosylation signal transduction pathway that regulates many therapeutically important cellular responses. SAJE is using this technology for drug discovery across a wide range of diseases, and following a strategic review, has decided to widen access to this platform through an out-licensing and partnership program.

SAJE and others have shown, in a range of animal models, that GSNORi compounds have strong activity in the treatment of diseases involving inflammation, oxidant damage, and fibrosis. These include COPD, Asthma, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), Endothelial dysfunction, Renal hypertensive damage, Oxidant Lung Damage, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Vascular Disease, Ischemia Reperfusion Injury after myocardial thrombosis, Rheumatoid arthritis, Cardiac Arrest/CPR, Neurological damage, NASH, Diabetes, and LPS induced Inflammation. SAJE has strong evidence that GSNORi compounds prevent and/or reverse fibrotic processes in many diseases in which fibrosis plays a prominent role, including idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and non-alcholic steatohepatitis (NASH). Heart failure after myocardial infarction is being tested now.

The platform has already yielded a composition of matter protected lead drug candidate (SPL-891) which is being advanced through the development process. SPL-891 has shown no safety issues at 200 mg/kg, but activity in inflammatory models as low as 0.03 mg/kg. Many other SAJE candidates exist for future development. SAJE's platform is based on its proprietary knowledge of the Structure Activity Relationship (SAR) of the GSNOR enzyme from which it has developed a growing drug library. The Company has demonstrated pre-clinical efficacy and early safety for two potential drugs, and has filed composition of matter and use patents on the basis of the platform and compounds derived from it.

The importance of nitrosylation in physiology and medicine was discovered in 1977 when nitric oxide

(NO), a gas, was discovered to have important signaling roles in many different cells and organs. That discovery resulted Nobel Prizes being awarded in 1998 to Ferid Murad, Robert F. Furchgott and Louis J. Ignarro. Dr. Murad joined SAJE's scientific advisory board in December of 2015 and plays a key role in their programs.

SAJE Pharma's data suggests that GSNOR inhibition represents a new paradigm in the pharmacological therapy of many human and animal diseases. The pleiotropic effects that result from inhibiting GSNOR are able to simultaneously regulate multiple disease pathways in a controlled and evolutionarily selected way that avoids toxicity. Thus, GSNOR inhibition by small molecules provides powerful synergistic therapies for many important diseases, with so far limited or no toxicity.

SAJE Pharma (<u>www.sajepharma.com</u>) seeks a licensee or acquirer of its game-changing GSNORi (S-nitrosoglutathione reductase inhibitor) drug discovery platform. This is a novel approach based on regulating the nitrosylation signal transduction pathways which will lead to multiple drug candidates to treat many major-market diseases driven by inflammation, oxidant damage, and fibrosis.

SAJE Pharma is working with the global healthcare advisory company, The Sage Group, to identify licensing and acquisition candidates for its GSNORi technology platform, and welcomes enquiries from pharma companies worldwide who wish to gain access to this revolutionary drug discovery platform as well as SAJE's lead composition of matter drug compounds. Non-confidential white papers on the technology are available on request.

Dr. Ferid Murad, recipient of the Lasker & Nobel Prizes for Nitric Oxide, and a member of SAJE's Scientific Advisory board states: "I think that what SAJE is doing is some of the most exciting work in the nitric oxide/nitrosylation field. I can see many novel and important therapies coming from their work."

Matthews Bradley, SAJE's Founder, President, and Chairman, stated, "We are excited by the GSNORi technology platform we have developed and have shown that it has the power to identify many novel lead compounds across a range of diseases. Our planned approach is to seek licensing or acquisition partners who can work with our Company to realize the considerable power of this platform and to rapidly exploit our intellectual property to generate new pipeline products."

About SAJE Pharma, LLC

SAJE Pharma is based in Baltimore, Maryland. SAJE is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing new therapeutic agents that provide significant benefits over available therapies for rare and common diseases with unmet medical needs.

With management and advisors very experienced with nitrosylation research and development, SAJE Pharma is positioned to be a leader in the development of a new therapy for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), NASH, cardiovascular and, potentially, other fibrotic, inflammatory, immunologic, and oxidant-based diseases. Since SAJE's drugs regulate the evolutionarily conserved nitrosylation signal transduction system used for regulating and stabilizing cell physiology, it has applications in many other diseases, some of which SAJE is pursuing.

The SAJE team has over 125 years of in-depth drug research and development expertise from discovery chemistry to regulatory filings. This broad range of expertise enables SAJE to move development projects forward that provide the greatest potential for clinical benefit and success. It is the goal of SAJE to manage their programs through late preclinical or early phases of clinical development, thereby building company value with novel therapies. In tandem with this goal, it will work with global pharma companies to broaden access to the GSNORi discovery platform.

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