



Affinium Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. Announces the Initiation of a Phase I Clinical Trial for the New Tablet Form of AFN-1252, its Novel Anti-staphylococcal Antibiotic

Austin, Texas, December 8, 2008 — Affinium Pharmaceuticals announced today the commencement of a second Phase I study utilizing a new tablet formulation for its novel molecular entity and lead clinical candidate, AFN-1252. The study, which also marks the first clinical trial of AFN-1252 in the United States, will evaluate the safety and tolerability of the new tablet formulation in preparation for advanced clinical trials scheduled in the first half of 2009.

Dr. Barry Hafkin, Chief Medical Officer of Affinium Pharmaceuticals, commented that, "Following the successful completion of our first clinical trial earlier this year, we are excited about the development of a new tablet form of AFN-1252 which we will utilize in future clinical trials. We expect that the trial, which is being conducted in the United States, will be completed in early 2009, and that AFN-1252 will continue to demonstrate excellent tolerability and safety."

AFN-1252 is an investigational antibiotic, with a novel mechanism of action, and exceptional potency against all drug-resistant phenotypes of staphylococci including hospital and community-acquired MRSA. Oral bioavailability has been demonstrated in a previous Phase I clinical trial and in human microdosing studies. The antibiotic has also shown excellent *in vivo* efficacy in animal models of infection.

About Affinium Pharmaceuticals

Affinium Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of novel anti-infective medicines. AFN-1252 utilizes a unique mechanism of action by directly inhibiting the function of the bacterial fatty acid synthesis (FAS) II pathway. Affinium's FASII antibacterial programs constitute a new antibiotic franchise with the potential for multiple products targeting the FASII pathway. These programs include a broad base of long-term intellectual property: issued and pending composition of matter patents on potent orally available small molecule inhibitors of a new class of antibiotics with a unique mechanism of action, targeting an underexploited pathway.

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