



US Army presents Neuren research results at leading scientific conference in US

24 August 2005: Neuren Pharmaceuticals Ltd (ASX: NEU) today announced that positive results of research on traumatic brain injury with its neuroprotective compound, NNZ-2566, were presented by Army scientists at the Advanced Technology Applications for Combat Casualty Care (ATACCC) conference in St. Petersburg, Florida (US) last week.

The ATACCC Conference is the Department of Defense's premier scientific meeting that addresses critical advances in trauma medicine and is widely attended by physicians and scientists from across the Defense Department, industry and academia. The meeting focuses on growing and changing operational issues in trauma care and the technologies available today and in the future that can be used to meet these increasingly complex goals.

The Army's paper, "A Glypromate[®] Analog, NNZ-2566, is Neuroprotective in Rats Subjected to Penetrating Ballistic-Like Brain Injury", presented data and analyses confirming that NNZ-2566 significantly reduces functional deficits from severe brain trauma.

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (Walter Reed) is collaborating with Neuren to optimise the dose and duration of treatment, to further investigate NNZ-2566's mechanisms of action, and to evaluate its effects on a new biological marker of brain injury in preparation for clinical trials.

Walter Reed found that NNZ-2566 improves functional recovery in a dose and time-dependent manner and significantly inhibits activation of a type of cell found in the brain called microglia. Neuren believes that inhibition of microglia, part of the inflammatory response to brain injury that increases damage to brain cells, is a major component of the drug's biological activity and that this action will be important in determining its effectiveness in brain injured patients.

Under the previously announced agreement, Walter Reed will consult with Neuren in preparation of regulatory documents including Investigational New Drug (IND) applications. Neuren is responsible for producing the drug, for required safety studies in animals, and for regulatory filings. FDA compliant drug manufacturing and toxicology studies are underway.

Neuren plans to initiate the first Phase I human clinical trial of NNZ-2566 in the first part of 2006.

About NNZ-2566

NNZ-2566 is a neuroprotectant closely related to Glypromate[®], a compound that occurs naturally in the brain in response to injury and which is Neuren's most advanced drug candidate. Glypromate[®] has successfully completed Phase I clinical trials in Australia and is expected to



enter Phase II clinical trials in late 2005. In late 2004, Neuren entered into a Material Transfer Agreement with Walter Reed under which the Institute performed preliminary testing of NNZ-2566 in an animal model of traumatic brain injury. Following positive results from those preliminary studies, Neuren and the Army executed a follow-on Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) to further develop NNZ-2566 as a therapy for traumatic brain injury. Under the agreement, the Institute is conducting additional tests of NNZ-2566 and optimising the dose and timing of administration in animal models while Neuren is responsible for manufacturing, pharmacology and toxicology. If the results of the preclinical research warrant testing in humans, Neuren and Walter Reed will cooperate in preparing Investigational New Drug (IND) applications to evaluate the drug in human patients and the CRADA will be modified to reflect the resources to be provided by each party in clinical trials of NNZ-2566.

About Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Walter Reed is the largest, most diverse, and oldest laboratory in the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. It conducts research on a range of military relevant issues, including naturally occurring infectious diseases, combat casualty care, operational health hazards, and medical defense against biological and chemical weapons. Walter Reed is the Department of Defense's lead agency for infectious disease research and a crucial source of research support for medical product development.

About Neuren Pharmaceuticals

Neuren Pharmaceuticals (ASX: NEU) is a biotechnology company developing novel therapeutics in the fields of neuroprotection and metabolic disorders. The Neuren portfolio consists of 72 patents across five product families, targeting markets with large unmet needs and limited competition. Neuren has two lead candidates, Glypromate[®] and NNZ-2566, targeting a range of acute neurological conditions. Neuren has commercial and development partnerships, including with Pfizer and the US Army's Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

For more information, please visit the Company's website at www.neurenpharma.com

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