



ASX Release

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ZELDA THERAPEUTICS LIMITED
ACN 103 782 378

Level 45
108 St Georges Terrace,
Perth Western Australia 6000
Tel: +61 8 6558 0886
Fax: +61 8 6316 3337
E: enquiries@zeldatherapeutics.com
Web: www.zeldatherapeutics.com

Contacts

Corporate

Mr Harry Karelis
Executive Chairman
+61 413 056 328
hkarelis@zeldatherapeutics.com

Investors

Dr Stewart Washer
Executive Director
+61 418 288 212
swasher@zeldatherapeutics.com

Directors

Mr Harry Karelis
Dr Stewart Washer
Ms Mara Gordon
Mr Jason Peterson

ASX Code:

ZLD

Ordinary Shares:

754,841,934

Options:

48,000,000

6,000,000 (\$0.04 - 6/2/2020 -
subject to vesting conditions)
2,000,000 (\$0.04 - 6/2/2020)
40,000,000 (\$0.03125-17/11/2021)

ZELDA EXPANDS ITS BREAST CANCER RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH COMPLUTENSE UNIVERSITY MADRID

- World renowned researchers at Complutense University have been undertaking cutting edge research on Zelda's formulations against certain breast cancers.
- Positive initial results showing Zelda's formulations had anti-cancer effects across different breast cancer cell lines have already been reported, and ongoing studies in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* models are continuing with additional results expected in coming months.
- Exciting results to date, has prompted expansion of the research collaboration to investigate the effect of cannabinoids on cancer stem cell-like cells.
- The collaboration will also be extended into late 2019 providing the opportunity to gain a deep understanding of how cannabinoids are interacting with cancer cells.
- Positive results from this new research area could potentially provide new treatment avenues for highly resistant tumours.

The Board of **Zelda Therapeutics Ltd (ASX: ZLD, Zelda or the Company)** is pleased to announce it has expanded its research collaboration with Complutense University, based on positive initial research results from its breast cancer research programme.

Zelda has reported positive results from its initial proof of concept study (announced 30 November 2016) and follow-on studies (announced 2 June 2017), on its pre-clinical research on cannabinoids as anti-cancer agents. The results showed a number of key findings, but most importantly that there were anti-cancer effects observed across a range of different breast cancer cell lines using Zelda's formulations. The next stage of this research will continue with both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies.

These encouraging results have led to an expansion and extension of Zelda's current research programme with Complutense University, to investigate the effect of cannabinoids on cancer stem cell-like cells. These cells are cancer cells found within tumours that are self-renewing, causing tumour re-growths¹. Tumour re-occurrence is a common concern for women following treatment of breast cancer. The majority of current anti-cancer therapies are primarily focused on trying to inhibit cancer cell growth, causing cancer cells to die, or a combination of both¹. However, even if initial treatments appear successful, some tumours can re-occur at a later date.

Understanding how tumours re-occur and what controls the ability of cancer cells to spread throughout the body, is a crucial aspect of cancer research¹. Furthermore, investigating the impacts that cannabinoids could have on cancer stem-cell like cells could provide much needed data in this area of research, and most importantly lead to new treatment regimes for highly resistant tumours.

Leading the Company's pre-clinical research focus are Professors Sánchez and Guzmán, from Complutense University and Zelda's Medical Advisory Board, who are acknowledged as world leaders in studying the anti-cancer effects of cannabinoids, and have provided significant input into Zelda's pre-clinical breast cancer research programme to date.

With positive data already at hand and expansion into further research areas, Zelda continues to make progress on its pre-clinical activities, in-line with its strategic plan. The Company is focused on developing high quality data packs and an intellectual property portfolio expected to be of great interest to the bio-pharmaceutical industry and potential future partnering deals.

Executive Chairman Harry Karelis stated: *“We are delighted to be in a position to expand our research collaboration with Complutense University, who have already generated exciting results using Zelda formulations on breast cancers. Expanding our research to gain a deeper understanding of the impact of cannabinoids on tumour re-occurrence is a critical area of research to be able to develop effective anti-cancer therapies in future. We are also very pleased to be able to undertake this important work with world renowned researchers in the study of cannabinoids as anti-cancer agents.”*

Professor Cristina Sánchez stated: *“Our pre-clinical research to date, has shown that Zelda’s formulations have demonstrated anti-cancer effects. We look forward to continuing the next stage of this research and are very excited to further extend this work to examine the impact of cannabinoids on cancer stem-like cells. These studies will provide us with a greater understanding of how cannabinoids can work as a possible adjunct therapy in combination with standard treatments against resistant tumours”.*

Tim Slate
Company Secretary

About Zelda Therapeutics (www.zeldatherapeutics.com)

Zelda Therapeutics (“Zelda”) is an Australian-based bio-pharmaceutical company that has secured exclusive, global access to an extensive set of human data related to medicinal cannabis based formulations and treatment protocols. This human data has been generated over several years by a California-based group (*Aunt Zelda’s*) that has a very high profile within the USA and a growing international profile based upon its deep knowledge of the scientific rationale for certain cannabis-based formulations and protocols to treat a variety of medical conditions.

Zelda has embarked on a programme of human clinical trials initially in sleep disorder (insomnia), autism and eczema indications.

In addition, Zelda is building a pre-clinical research portfolio targeting cancer. It has partnered with the world’s leading cancer cannabis researchers at Complutense University Madrid in Spain to conduct certain pre-clinical work testing cannabis-based formulations known to have an effect in humans in order to generate data packs in a form expected by regulators and the pharmaceutical industry. A similar programme is in place with the Australian Telethon Kids Institute targeting paediatric brain cancer and Curtin University targeting pancreatic cancer.

¹<http://www.stemcells.ox.ac.uk/cancer-stem-cells>