

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Positive recommendations from RAC and final pre-IND meeting request lodged with FDA

Sydney, Australia, 2 July 2013: RNAi-based therapeutics company Benitec Biopharma Limited (ASX Code: BLT) today announced that the company's wholly owned US subsidiary, Tacere Therapeutics Inc., has received the written report from the NIH's Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting held on 11 June 2013. The report confirms the RAC's favourable view of Benitec's planned US-based Phase I/IIa clinical trial of its ddRNAi-based therapeutic (TT-034) for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection.

Following minor changes made to the trial design after the recommendations of the RAC committee, Benitec has requested a final pre-IND meeting with the US Food & Drug Administration (FDA) prior to lodging the Investigational New Drug (IND) application.

Benitec's CEO, Dr Peter French, commented on the announcement, saying:

"We are clearly pleased with the formal RAC recommendations, and the move to request a final pre-IND meeting aims to ensure that Benitec, as the new sponsor (previously Pfizer), establishes a close working relationship with the FDA as we proceed to file the IND application. The company is on track to commence the US-based trial in the second half of 2013."

For more information please contact: Dr Peter French | Chief Executive Officer
Phone: +61 (02) 9555 6986 | pfrench@benitec.com | www.benitec.com

About TT-034: TT-034 is a potentially transformative therapeutic that is intended to provide a "one-shot-cure" for hepatitis C with a single injection. Preclinical studies have shown that the vector used to deliver TT-034 specifically targets liver cells where it transfects almost every cell without causing toxic effects. TT-034 is designed to prevent development of viral resistance (a major problem for most hepatitis C drugs) by simultaneously silencing three separate highly conserved regions on the virus genome. Studies have demonstrated that a single treatment of TT-034 is active out to 180 days (the duration of the studies).

About Benitec Biopharma Limited: Benitec Biopharma Limited is an ASX-listed biotechnology company (ASX Code: BLT) based in Sydney, Australia. The company has a pipeline of in-house and partnered therapeutic programs based on its patented gene-silencing technology, ddRNAi. Benitec is developing treatments for chronic and life-threatening human conditions such as hepatitis C, hepatitis B, wet age-related macular degeneration, cancer-associated pain, drug resistant lung cancer and oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophy based on this technology. In addition, Benitec has licensed ddRNAi technology to other biopharmaceutical companies who are progressing their programs towards the clinic for applications including HIV/AIDS, retinitis pigmentosa and Huntington's disease. For more information on Benitec refer to the Company's website at www.benitec.com.