Aptinyx Initiates Phase 2b Study of NYX-783 in Patients with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

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EVANSTON, Ill.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aptinyx Inc. (Nasdaq: APTX), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing transformative therapies for the treatment of brain and nervous system disorders, today announced the initiation of a Phase 2b study evaluating 50 mg QD of NYX-783 in 300 patients with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The Phase 2b study is designed to be well-positioned for consideration as registration-supportive, taking into account guidance received in a Type C meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) earlier this year. Initiation of this study follows the observation of clinically meaningful symptom improvements in a previously completed exploratory Phase 2a study of NYX-783 in PTSD. The company anticipates reporting data from the Phase 2b study in the second half of 2023.

“New therapeutic approaches are urgently needed for the millions of people living with PTSD,” said Chadi Abdallah, M.D., Associate Professor and Beth K. and Stuart C. Yudofsky Chair in the Neuropsychiatry of Military Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome at Baylor College of Medicine. “The safety profile and encouraging efficacy signals observed in prior clinical studies of NYX-783 highlight its therapeutic potential and suggest NMDA receptor modulation may represent a promising and innovative mechanism for the treatment of this devastating neuropsychiatric disorder.”

“Today’s study initiation is an important step forward on the path to establishing NYX-783 as a novel treatment option for patients with PTSD,” said Norbert Riedel, Ph.D., chief executive officer of Aptinyx. “This is the first of two well-controlled Phase 2b studies that will evaluate different dose levels of NYX-783. The level of unmet need surrounding PTSD and mental health has never been more prevalent than it is today, and we are excited to be advancing NYX-783 into late-stage development for a disease area that has not seen a new therapy approved in over 20 years.”

About the NYX-783 Phase 2b PTSD Program
The NYX-783 Phase 2b PTSD program will consist of two separate studies to evaluate NYX-783 at two dose levels: 50 mg and 150 mg. The studies will be multi-center, placebo-controlled, double-blind, randomized, parallel design studies in patients with moderate to severe PTSD, as characterized by criteria set forth in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5). The primary efficacy endpoint of each study will be the change from baseline in the Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale for the DSM-5 (CAPS-5) Total score. Key secondary endpoints in both studies will include various measures of global impression of severity and improvement (CGI-S, CGI-I, PGI-S, PGI-I).

In the first Phase 2b study, approximately 300 patients will be randomized to receive either placebo or 50 mg of NYX-783 administered orally once daily. The study will comprise a 1- to 4-week screening period, a 10-week treatment period, and a follow-up evaluation period. Following the initiation of the 50 mg study, a second Phase 2b study will commence in which approximately 300 patients will be randomized to receive either placebo or 150 mg of NYX-783 administered orally once daily. The other design parameters of the 150 mg study will be consistent with those of the 50 mg study.

About Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Approximately fifteen million adults in the United States suffer from PTSD in a given year, which is characterized by intrusive symptoms, avoidance, negative alteration in cognition and mood, hyperarousal, and/or arousal alterations following the experience of trauma. PTSD can result from various forms of trauma, including combat exposure, car accidents, sexual or other physical assault, abuse, natural disasters, and others. The lifetime prevalence of PTSD is approximately seven percent in the general population but is much higher in populations at risk for exposure to trauma, such as military service members and first responders. In addition to the challenges associated with the direct symptoms, PTSD sufferers have a higher rate of suicide and often struggle with simultaneous addiction, leading to an even greater social and economic burden of the disorder. Available therapeutic options are limited in treating PTSD, including only two approved conventional SSRI antidepressants, which have limited efficacy, undesirable side effects, and target only the symptoms of PTSD, not the underlying disorder itself.

About NYX-783
NYX-783 is a novel, oral, positive allosteric modulator of NMDA receptors currently in Phase 2 development for the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In preclinical studies of NYX-783, particularly strong results were observed in psychiatric models, models of fear extinction, and models of substance abuse. In a Phase 1 clinical study of NYX-783, ample central nervous system exposure was observed and the product candidate demonstrated a favorable adverse event and tolerability profile, with no serious adverse effects, across a wide dose range. In an exploratory Phase 2a study in patients with PTSD, patients receiving a 50 mg dose level of NYX-783 showed meaningful symptom improvements and rates of response. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted Fast Track designation to the development of NYX-783 for the treatment of PTSD.
About Aptinyx
Aptinyx Inc. is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of proprietary synthetic small molecules for the treatment of brain and nervous system disorders. Aptinyx has a platform for discovery of novel compounds that work through a unique mechanism to modulate—rather than block or over-activate—NMDA receptors and enhance synaptic plasticity, the foundation of neural cell communication. The company has three product candidates in clinical development in central nervous system indications, including chronic pain, post-traumatic stress disorder, and cognitive impairment. Aptinyx is also advancing additional compounds from its proprietary discovery platform, which continues to generate a rich and diverse pipeline of small-molecule NMDA receptor modulators with the potential to treat an array of neurologic disorders. For more information, visit www.aptinyx.com or follow Aptinyx on Twitter @Aptinyx.

Forward-Looking Statements
Statements contained in this press release regarding matters that are not historical facts are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Because such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the company’s business plans and objectives, including future plans or expectations for the company’s product candidates, therapeutic effects of the company’s product candidates, expectations regarding the design, implementation, timing, and success of its current and planned clinical studies, the timing for the company’s receipt of data from its clinical studies, expectations regarding its preclinical development activities, and expectations regarding its uses and sufficiency of capital. Risks that contribute to the uncertain nature of the forward-looking statements include: the success, cost, and timing of the company’s product candidate development activities and planned clinical studies; the company’s ability to execute on its strategy; positive results from a clinical study may not necessarily be predictive of the results of future or ongoing clinical studies; regulatory developments in the United States and foreign countries; the company’s estimates regarding expenses, future revenue, and capital requirements, and other financial results; the company’s ability to fund operations; as well as those risks and uncertainties set forth in the company’s most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our upcoming quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2021. All forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date on which they were made. Aptinyx undertakes no obligation to update such statements to reflect events that occur or circumstances that exist after the date on which they were made.

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