

NuCana BioMed appoints Ian Abercrombie as Chief Operating Officer

Edinburgh, UK, Wednesday 2nd May 2012: NuCana BioMed ("NuCana") the oncology focused biopharmaceutical company announced today the appointment of Ian Abercrombie as Chief Operating Officer. Ian brings extensive experience in the biopharmaceutical sector, including senior management positions in Caris Life Sciences, Genzyme, Bioenvision and J&J.

"At a time of rapid expansion, lan brings exactly the right skills to NuCana" said Hugh Griffith, NuCana's CEO. "His operational acumen enhances our ability to exploit the tremendous potential of our product portfolio."

Ian Abercrombie said, "I am delighted to join NuCana at this important time. The company has a very exciting pipeline based on its innovative ProTide Technology Platform. I look forward to working with healthcare professionals to develop targeted therapies for patients with limited options".

NuCana is at an important stage in its development. Its first ProTide is about to enter clinical studies at the Hammersmith Hospital, Imperial College, London for the treatment of patients with advanced cancers. Several additional ProTides are currently at late stage non clinical development and will enter the clinic in 2013.

The ProTide technology has recently been validated through its application to antiviral therapies and the high profile acquisitions of Pharmasset and Inhibitex.

NuCana have global, exclusive rights to apply the ProTide technology to key anti-cancer agents.

Ian Abercrombie joins NuCana from Caris Life Sciences, where he was responsible for building the company's international operations. Ian was previously European Director of Oncology with Genzyme and prior to that Programme Director at Bioenvision.

About Nucana

About Nucana NuCana BioMed is an oncology focused biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the development and commercialisation of the ProTide Technology Platform, which has the potential to transform broad based chemotherapy to targeted therapy. Our technology applies a proprietary phosphoramidate strategy to certain commonly used anti cancer drugs (nucleoside analogues), resulting in new medicines with significantly improved efficacy and safety profiles. The Protide Technology Platform has been designed to target specific patient populations for whom existing chemotherapy is not likely to be effective by overcoming the key resistance pathways. Our management team has extensive experience of building successful biopharmaceutical companies. This includes the formation and subsequent growth of Bioenvision into a NASDAQ National listed, global biopharmaceutical company. Bioenvision was acquired by Genzyme Corporation for US\$345 million in October 2007.

About ProTides

ProTides have the potential to transform broad based chemotherapy to targeted therapy. A ProTide is a nucleoside analogue to which a phosphoramidate mojety has been attached. The key advantage of a ProTide is that it allows the parent nucleoside analogue to bypass key resistance mechanisms within the cancer cell. By overcoming cancer cell resistance, ProTides aim to significantly improve efficacy, broaden clinical utility and improve the safety profile of many established anti-cancer agents.

Our ProTides have been designed to target specific patient populations for whom existing chemotherapy is not likely to be effective. The ProTide technology was invented by Chris McGuigan, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at Cardiff University.