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Acousia Therapeutics to present its clinical Phase 2 PROHEAR study on hearing loss treatment candidate ACOU085 at upcoming conferences

Tübingen, Germany (ots) -

Acousia Therapeutics GmbH, a Tübingen-based clinical stage biotech company focused on the enhancement and preservation of natural hearing, will be presenting the ACOU085 Phase 2 PROHEAR clinical study at the HansonWade 4th Inner Ear Disorders Therapeutics Summit in Boston (MA) from August 20-22, and at the 36th World Congress of Audiology from September 19-22, 2024.

The PROHEAR study is a placebo-controlled Phase 2a study with split-body design investigating the otoprotective efficacy of ACOU085 in patients with testicular cancer undergoing high-dose, cisplatin-based chemotherapy regimens (cis-Pt ≥ 300 mg/m²). Formally endorsed by the Study Group of the German Society of Otorhinolaryngology (DSZ-HNO), the PROHEAR study is being conducted across major university clinics in Germany under a CTA granted by the German Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfArM) and European Medicines Agency (EMA).

On August 21, Dr. Jonas Dyhrfeld-Johnsen will be presenting the Phase 2 PROHEAR clinical study on ACOU085 at the industry-leading 4th Inner Ear Disorders Therapeutics Summit organized by HansonWade in Boston (MA) in the *Discovering & Validating Brand-New Drug Targets For Noise-Induced, Age-Related & Chemically-Induced Deafness* session. In addition, Dr. Dyhrfeld-Johnsen will be chairing the Summit and participating in roundtable and panel discussions.

On September 22, Dr. Dyhrfeld-Johnsen will be presenting the Phase 2 PROHEAR clinical study of ACOU085 to an international audience of clinical specialists at the 36th World Congress of Audiology in Paris, France during the *Clinical Trials in Audiology and Otoneurology* session.

“We are thrilled by the invitations to present our ongoing PROHEAR study testing the otoprotective efficacy of ACOU085 against cisplatin-induced hearing loss to the international clinical community and our industry peers. The great interest in our clinical development program is a reflection of the major unmet medical need and long-lasting health consequences facing patients suffering acute forms of hearing loss, such as the side effects induced by life-saving chemotherapy” said Dr. Jonas Dyhrfeld-Johnsen, CDO and Managing Director of Acousia Therapeutics.

ACOU085 (INN: Bimokalner) is a first-in-class, small-molecule, etiology-agnostic otoprotective drug candidate delivered using standard, transtympanic administration of a proprietary, slow-release gel formulation. Ototoxic hearing loss is a typical, severe, and permanent side effect of cisplatin treatment and is a consequence of irreversible damage to the sensory cells in the inner ear, the so-called outer hair cells (OHCs). ACOU085 modulates a biologically validated target, the KCNQ4-encoded Kv7.4 potassium channel of the OHCs and has demonstrated significant potential to reduce cisplatin-induced hearing loss and preserve outer hair cells from ototoxicity in preclinical models.

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