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Constellation Pharmaceuticals and The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Partner to Develop Novel BET Inhibitor for the Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies

Partnership to Provide up to \$7.5 Million Under Therapy Acceleration Program

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – September 20, 2012 – [Constellation Pharmaceuticals, Inc.](#), a leading biopharmaceutical company in the field of epigenetics, today announced that it has entered into a strategic partnership with [The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society](#)[®] (LLS) to advance the development of a novel [BET inhibitor](#) for the treatment of patients with hematologic malignancies. Under the terms of the agreement, LLS will provide up to \$7.5 million in funding to support Constellation's small molecule BET inhibitor program through the completion of a broad Phase 1 clinical plan.

"The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is a leader in funding lifesaving research in hematologic malignancies," said [Keith E. Dionne, Ph.D.](#), president and CEO of Constellation Pharmaceuticals. "It is an honor to partner with a philanthropic organization that is so deeply connected with the patients who may one day benefit from our BET inhibitor therapy. We look forward to bringing a novel BET inhibitor into the clinic and to working with LLS to expand our understanding of the potential activity of BET inhibition in these diseases."

Small molecule inhibition of the bromodomain and extra-terminal – or BET – family of chromatin adaptors produces selective effects on gene expression and leads to the death of tumor cells across a broad range of hematologic malignancies and in subsets of solid tumors, making it a promising new therapeutic approach in oncology. Constellation [published](#) preclinical data in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science last year demonstrating that the transcription of *MYC*, a master regulator of cellular function that plays a role in many cancers, can be suppressed using small molecule inhibitors of BET protein bromodomains. The regulation of *MYC* through BET inhibition was recognized by Nature Medicine as a 2011 Notable

Achievement in Cancer Biology and by Science Signaling as a 2011 Biology Breakthrough of the Year. Small molecule inhibition of BET has also been shown to selectively suppress other genes, such as *BCL-2* and NF- κ B-dependent genes, that have important roles in cancer and inflammation.

Taking an active role in accelerating development of novel therapies for patients, the LLS has committed funding to support this collaboration as part of its Therapy Acceleration Program (TAP). TAP is LLS's bold initiative designed to advance therapies with high prospects of providing benefit to patients suffering from blood cancers. By partnering directly with biotechnology companies, LLS is taking a results-oriented approach to more quickly identify potential breakthrough therapies and advance them along the FDA drug approval pathway.

“The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has led the way in supporting research to better understand the therapeutic potential of epigenetic drug targets for hematologic malignancies,” said Richard Winneker, Ph.D., senior vice president for research at LLS. “We are very pleased to be partnering with Constellation on the further development of its leading BET inhibitor program so that we can more quickly determine how this new class of drugs can have the greatest impact for patients with these diseases.”

About Constellation Pharmaceuticals

Constellation Pharmaceuticals leverages insights from the rapidly expanding field of epigenetics to discover and develop small molecule therapeutics for the treatment of cancer, inflammatory/immunologic disorders and other diseases. The company's innovative product discovery engine targets both enzymes that modify the dynamic structure of chromatin (writers and erasers) and other proteins that interact with chromatin (readers) to control gene expression. Restoration of normal gene expression through chromatin modulation by highly selective and specific inhibitors promises to be a powerful avenue for the development of important new medicines against a broad range of diseases. For more information, please visit the company's website at www.constellationpharma.com.

About The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society® (LLS) is the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancer. The LLS mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services.

Founded in 1949 and headquartered in White Plains, NY, LLS has chapters throughout the United States and Canada. To learn more, visit www.lls.org or contact the Information Resource Center at (800) 955-4572, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. www.lls.org.

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