



## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

### **ARC grant for Starpharma's targeted drug delivery**

- *\$548,000 Grant awarded for dendrimers in targeted drug delivery*

**Melbourne Australia; 11 July 2013** - Starpharma Holdings Ltd (ASX: SPL; OTCQX: SPHRY) today announced it had been successful in securing a *\$548,000* ARC Linkage grant in partnership with Monash University, to further advance the Company's dendrimer technology in targeted drug delivery including antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs).

The Australian Research Council (ARC) grant of \$548,000 is provided under the ARC's Linkage Projects scheme. The program will consist of a collaboration between senior scientific personnel at Starpharma and Professor Chris Porter and his group from the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Starpharma CEO Dr Jackie Fairley said: "We are delighted to be a recipient of the ARC Linkage grant, which will support further important research into the use of dendrimers for targeted drug delivery."

"Targeted drug delivery using nanoparticles including ADCs is an area of much excitement within the oncology community and significant focus in the pharmaceutical industry. Research to date indicates Starpharma's dendrimers can play an important role in this field and dendrimers have a number of important advantages in ADCs. This grant will support further investigation of this," Dr Fairley said.

The market for nanomedicine-based oncology drugs is projected to grow from \$5.5 Billion in 2011 to \$12.7 Billion in 2016, according to industry estimates.

"We look forward to advancing this program alongside our established docetaxel program and our multiple drug delivery partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies," Dr Fairley also said.

Advantages of using dendrimers in targeted delivery such as ADCs include the ability to add a higher ratio of drug to antibody molecule in a well-controlled process. This can provide improved efficacy, the opportunity to use a wider range of oncology drugs, simplify regulatory approval, and reduce cost of goods.

Clinical trials of Starpharma's dendrimer-docetaxel nanoparticle formulation, an improved version of the blockbuster cancer drug docetaxel are expected to commence later this year.

**More information can be found at [www.starpharma.com](http://www.starpharma.com)**

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## ABOUT STARPHARMA

Starpharma Holdings Limited (ASX:SPL, OTCQX:SPHRY), located in Melbourne Australia, is an ASX 300 company and is a world leader in the development of dendrimer products for pharmaceutical, life science and other applications.

Starpharma's underlying technology is built around dendrimers – a type of synthetic nanoscale polymer that is highly regular in size and structure and well suited to pharmaceutical uses. Starpharma has three core development programs: VivaGel® portfolio, drug delivery, and agrochemicals with the Company developing a number of products internally and others via commercial partnerships.

Starpharma's lead product is VivaGel® (SPL7013 Gel), a gel-based formulation of a proprietary dendrimer. VivaGel® is under clinical development for the treatment and prevention of bacterial vaginosis (BV) and also as a vaginal microbicide to prevent the transmission of sexually transmitted infections including HIV and genital herpes. Starpharma has also signed separate licence agreements with Ansell Limited (ASX:ANN) and Okamoto Industries Inc (Tokyo Stock Exchange) to market a value-added, VivaGel®-coated condom. Ansell manufactures and sells leading condom brands worldwide, including Lifestyles®, ZERO® and SKYN®. Okamoto is the market leader for condoms sold in Japan, the world's second largest condom market.

In the wider pharmaceutical and life science fields, Starpharma has both partnered and internal programs in Drug Delivery. Drug Delivery partners include GSK, Lilly and AstraZeneca. In its internal program Starpharma has announced significant tumour-targeting results in its docetaxel (Taxotere®) program, with animal studies showing its dendrimer-enhanced version of docetaxel to have significantly superior anti-cancer effects across a range of important cancer types including breast, prostate, lung and ovarian tumour, when compared to Taxotere® (docetaxel).

In agrochemicals Starpharma has a series of partnerships with leading industry players including Nufarm (ASX:NUF) and Makhteshim Agan as well as internal programs including an enhanced version of glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup®).

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

### Media:

#### **Buchan Consulting**

Rebecca Wilson

Mob: +61 417 382 391

[rwilson@buchanwe.com.au](mailto:rwilson@buchanwe.com.au)

Shevaun Cooper

Mob: +61 421 760 775

[scooper@buchanwe.com.au](mailto:scooper@buchanwe.com.au)

### Starpharma:

Dr Jackie Fairley, Chief Executive Officer

+61 3 8532 2704

Ben Rogers, Company Secretary

[ben.rogers@starpharma.com](mailto:ben.rogers@starpharma.com)

[www.starpharma.com](http://www.starpharma.com)

## Forward Looking Statements

This document contains certain forward-looking statements, relating to Starpharma's business, which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "promising", "plans", "anticipated", "will", "project", "believe", "forecast", "expected", "estimated", "targeting", "aiming", "set to", "potential", "seeking to", "goal", "could provide", "intends", "is being developed", "could be", "on track", or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential filings or marketing approvals, or potential future sales of product candidates. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no assurance that any existing or future regulatory filings will satisfy the FDA's and other health authorities' requirements regarding any one or more product candidates nor can there be any assurance that such product candidates will be approved by any health authorities for sale in any market or that they will reach any particular level of sales. In particular, management's expectations regarding the approval and commercialization of the product candidates could be affected by, among other things, unexpected clinical trial results, including additional analysis of existing clinical data, and new clinical data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays, or government regulation generally; our ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing pressures; and additional factors that involve significant risks and uncertainties about our products, product candidates, financial results and business prospects. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Starpharma is providing this information as of the date of this document and does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or developments or otherwise.