



News Release

Somnus Therapeutics, Inc. Introduces its Scientific Advisory Board International Panel of Experts on Sleep and Insomnia

Bedminster, NJ (November 6, 2008): Somnus Therapeutics, Inc., a private specialty pharmaceutical company developing SKP-1041, a controlled-release, sleep-maintenance therapeutic, to treat insomnia, today announced its scientific advisory board (SAB), a panel of international sleep researchers and clinicians.

“Research on normal sleep rhythms and circadian disorders has improved medical understanding of the effects of shift-work, jet-lag and night light exposure on sleep,” said Gary Cupit, chief executive officer of Somnus. “Such research highlights the continuing need for improved medicines to help those who suffer disrupted circadian sleep-wake cycles. Therefore, we have assembled an advisory board of distinguished scientists and clinicians with experience treating sleep-disordered patients and conducting insomnia drug clinical trials. They have already provided invaluable guidance for key decisions about dosing, timing and clinical study design, and we are grateful to have their expertise as we continue development of SKP-1041.”

“To advance the science of sleep architecture in normal and disordered sleep, at FORENAP we have developed a unique technology platform that includes electroencephalography and imaging techniques to monitor sleeping and awake subjects,” said Remy Luthringer, PhD, head of the FORENAP Institute for Research in Neurosciences and Neuropsychiatry in Rouffach, France, an international contract research organization (CRO) specialized in drug development and neurosciences research. “Applying these methodological tools to sleep research improves our medical understanding, making possible more meaningful clinical trial models and measurement.”

In addition to Dr Luthringer, the Somnus SAB includes:

Gary Cutter, PhD, professor of biostatistics and head of the section on research methods and clinical trials at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health Department of Biostatistics, where he teaches and heads a section on research methods and clinical trials. He has developed an outcome measure widely used in clinical trials for multiple sclerosis and serves on many data and safety monitoring boards for the National Institutes of Health.

Charles A. Czeisler, PhD, MD, FRCP, Baldino professor of sleep medicine; director, Harvard Medical School's division of sleep medicine; and chief, division of sleep medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Barbara A. Harris, Ph.D., CEO and Principal Investigator at PsyPharma Global, with headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona, is a Contract Research Organization specializing in conducting investigative research in sleep disorders, psychiatry, pulmonology, and Alzheimer's Disease in the U.S. and China. She has extensive experience in the design and conduct of CNS and psychiatric clinical trials. Among other appointments and honors, Dr. Harris is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Distinction.

Thomas Roth, PhD, director of the Sleep Disorders and Research Center, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. His research focuses on sleep processes and deviations, including sleep loss and fragmentation, pharmacological effects and sleep pathologies. He is past chairman of the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board at the National Institutes of Health and past president of the United States Sleep Research Society, the American Sleep Disorders Association, and the National Sleep Foundation.

James K. Walsh, PhD, executive director and senior scientist of the Sleep Medicine and Research Center at St Luke's Hospital, in Chesterfield, Missouri, and adjunct professor of psychology, Saint Louis University. His research focus includes sleep pharmacology, insomnia, shift work, and the function of slow-wave sleep. He is extensively published on sleep-related topics, particularly the treatment and economics of insomnia, countermeasures for shift-work sleep disorder, and relationship of slow-wave sleep to waking function.

Gary K. Zammit, PhD, president and CEO of Clinilabs, a contract research organization that provides clinical drug development services to industry. Recognized as an expert in the development of drug treatments for insomnia, he is a leader in the development of CNS and cardiovascular therapeutics who provides comprehensive Phase I and full-service data management services for multicenter trials.

About Somnus Therapeutics

Somnus was founded by Gary Cupit with Care Capital, a life sciences venture capital firm based in Princeton, New Jersey. In June 2007, Somnus entered into an exclusive agreement with SkyePharma for the worldwide development and commercialization of its sleep therapeutic, SKP-1041. Under the agreement, SkyePharma will formulate and manufacture SKP-1041, a novel controlled-release formulation of zaleplon, using SkyePharma's Geoclock™ technology.

For more information please visit the Somnus web site at www.somnusthera.com.

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