



Verastem to Present Data at the 2014 EORTC-NCI-AACR Symposium on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics

November 13, 2014

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Nov. 13, 2014-- Verastem, Inc. (NASDAQ:VSTM), focused on discovering and developing drugs to treat cancer by the targeted killing of cancer stem cells, today announced scheduled poster presentations at the 26th EORTC-NCI-AACR Symposium on Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics taking place November 18 - 21, 2014, in Barcelona, Spain.

Verastem is presenting these clinical and preclinical data in support of its programs targeting cancer stem cells through inhibition of the focal adhesion kinase (FAK; VS-6063) and PI3K/mTOR (VS-5584) signaling pathways. Research on the FAK and PI3K/mTOR signaling pathways has revealed critical roles for each in cancer stem cell (CSC) survival and disease progression. CSCs represent a subpopulation of cancer cells that have tumor-initiating capability, are particularly resistant to chemotherapy and can mediate tumor recurrence both locally and at metastatic sites.

The details for the poster presentations are as follows:

Title: A first-in-Asian phase I dose escalation study to evaluate the safety and pharmacokinetics of VS-6063 (defactinib), a focal adhesion kinase inhibitor in subjects with non-hematologic malignancies

Abstract #: 296

Poster Board #: 076

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014

Time: 9:00am GMT

Location: Exhibition Hall

Title: FAK inhibitor VS-6063 (defactinib) targets mesothelioma cancer stem cells which are enriched by standard of care chemotherapy

Abstract #: 302

Poster Board #: 082

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014

Time: 9:00am GMT

Location: Exhibition Hall

Title: PI3K/mTOR inhibitor VS-5584 targets cancer stem cells and prevents tumor regrowth after chemotherapy in preclinical models of small cell lung cancer

Abstract #: 439

Poster Board #: 011

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014

Time: 9:00am GMT

Location: Exhibition Hall

Title: The cancer stem cell inhibitors VS-6063 (defactinib) and VS-5584 exhibit synergistic anticancer activity in preclinical models of mesothelioma

Abstract #: 446

Poster Board #: 018

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014

Time: 9:00am GMT

Location: Exhibition Hall

About VS-6063

VS-6063 (defactinib) is an orally available compound designed to target cancer stem cells through the potent inhibition of focal adhesion kinase (FAK). Cancer stem cells are an underlying cause of tumor resistance to chemotherapy, recurrence and ultimate disease progression. Research by Robert Weinberg, Ph.D., scientific cofounder and chair of Verastem's Scientific Advisory Board, and Verastem has demonstrated that FAK activity is critical for the growth and survival of cancer stem cells. VS-6063 is currently being studied in the registration-directed COMMAND trial in mesothelioma (www.COMMANDmeso.com), a "Window of Opportunity" study in patients with mesothelioma prior to surgery, a Phase 1/1b study in combination with paclitaxel in patients with ovarian cancer, and a trial in patients with Kras-mutated non-small cell lung cancer. VS-6063 has been granted orphan drug designation in the U.S. and EU for use in mesothelioma.

About VS-5584

VS-5584 is an orally available compound that has demonstrated potent and highly selective activity against class 1 PI3K enzymes and dual inhibitory actions against mTORC1 and mTORC2. In preclinical studies, VS-5584 has been shown to reduce the percentage of cancer stem cells and induce tumor regression in chemotherapy-resistant models. Verastem is currently conducting a Phase 1 dose escalation trial of VS-5584 in patients with advanced solid tumors.

About Verastem, Inc.

Verastem, Inc. (NASDAQ:VSTM) is discovering and developing drugs to treat cancer by the targeted killing of cancer stem cells. Cancer stem cells are an underlying cause of tumor recurrence and metastasis. Verastem is developing small molecule inhibitors of signaling pathways that are critical to cancer stem cell survival and proliferation: FAK, PI3K/mTOR and Wnt. For more information, please visit www.verastem.com.

Forward-looking statements:

This press release includes forward-looking statements about the Company's strategy, future plans and prospects, including statements regarding the development and activity of the Company's product candidates. The words "anticipate," "appear," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "predict," "project," "target," "potential," "will," "would," "could," "should," "continue," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. Each forward-looking statement is subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statement. Applicable risks and uncertainties include the risks that the preclinical testing of the Company's product candidates and preliminary or interim data from clinical trials may not be predictive of the results or success of ongoing or later clinical trials, that data may not be available when we expect it to be, that the Company will be unable to successfully complete the clinical development of its product candidates, that the development of the Company's product candidates will take longer or cost more than planned, and that the Company's product candidates will not receive regulatory approval or become commercially successful products. Other risks and uncertainties include those identified under the heading "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 and in any subsequent SEC filings. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release reflect the Company's current views with respect to future events, and the Company does not undertake and specifically disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

Source: Verastem, Inc.

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