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# **Cantabio Pharmaceuticals and University of Antioquia Collaborate to Research Company's Therapeutic Candidates Targeting DJ-1 Protein to Treat Parkinson's Disease**

SAN FRANCISCO, June 16, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Cantabio Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (OTCQB:CTBO) today announced its collaboration with the Neuroscience Research Group at the University of Antioquia in Colombia, to further evaluate the company's DJ-1 protein-targeting small molecule pharmaceutical chaperone drug candidates in development for the treatment of Parkinson's disease (PD). The partnership brings together Cantabio's novel approach and the University of Antioquia's research excellence on the role of oxidative stress in PD and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Pharmaceutical chaperones are small molecules that are designed to enter cells and serve as molecular scaffolding to prevent or reverse the misfolding and the loss of function of proteins. Misfolded proteins are associated with numerous diseases particularly neurodegenerative diseases including PD and Alzheimer's disease.

Research from the ongoing collaboration is elucidating the precise cellular signaling mechanism through which Cantabio's novel pharmacological chaperone drug candidates produce protective effects in neuron-like cell models. DJ-1 is a key component in the cell's ability to prevent and reduce damage due to oxidative stress and protein misfolding and is heavily implicated in the onset and progression of PD. Initial results from the collaboration are expected to form part of Cantabio's presentation of cellular and in vivo results at the 4<sup>th</sup> World Parkinson Congress taking place in Portland, Oregon in September 20th-23rd 2016.

"These are incredibly exciting times for oxidative stress research," said professor Velez-Pardo, School of Medicine, Medical Research Institute, Neuroscience Research Group, and University of Antioquia. "Both myself and professor Marlene Jimenez-Del-Rio are pleased to collaborate with Cantabio Pharmaceuticals to better understand the underlying mechanisms of PD and help generate new approaches to treating this insidious and untreatable disorder."

Gergely Toth, Ph.D., MBA, CEO of Cantabio Therapeutics, Inc. said, "We are privileged to be working with professors Velez-Pardo and Jimenez-Del-Rio and their team. They are leading researchers of oxidative stress signaling mechanisms related to neurodegenerative diseases. Our collaborative research enables us to elucidate the cellular mechanism of action of our pharmaceutical chaperones targeting DJ-1 in more detail. Such insight will provide us a stronger opportunity to translate them into clinical candidates that we hope will improve the prognosis of PD patients. In addition, this relationship underscores our ongoing

commitment to working with partners that are at the forefront of science and medicine to continue to develop our exciting portfolio of innovative treatments."

#### **About Cantabio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

Cantabio is focused on bringing novel, first in class drug candidates into clinical trials and beyond through the discovery and development of innovative pharmacological chaperone and protein delivery based therapeutics, focusing on protein systems implicated in neurodegenerative disorders, including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, and oxidative stress. More information is available at [www.cantabio.com](http://www.cantabio.com).

#### **About The Neuroscience Research Group at the University of Antioquia**

The Group of Neurosciences of Antioquia was created in response to a growing need for teaching and research on various neurodegenerative diseases and neurodevelopmental problems affecting a large population of Antioquia and which the Group has provided care services since the early 80's. For the Group of Neurosciences scientific research is a collective task that requires the participation of different disciplines. For this reason the Group may belong to any person representing knowledge or a discipline related to neuroscience or may interact or talk respectfully and creatively with some of their areas. In addition to being a research group, Neurosciences Group is a place of learning and training of human resources. Therefore all research activities will be at the same time training for undergraduate and graduate students and their own investigators. Research activities and training of Neurosciences Group will be aimed at improving the education system and to improve the quality of life of individuals or populations for whom these actions have applicability. For this reason the Group will always seek to move the community as soon as possible the benefits of research through training of human resources or through outreach. For more information, please visit our website <http://neurociencias.udea.edu.co>.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements:**

This press release may contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such statements include, but are not limited to, any statements relating to our growth strategy and product development programs and any other statements that are not historical facts. Forward-looking statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could negatively affect our business, operating results, financial condition and stock price. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those currently anticipated are: risks related to our growth strategy; risks relating to the results of research and development activities; our ability to obtain, perform under and maintain financing and strategic agreements and relationships; uncertainties relating to preclinical and clinical testing; our dependence on third-party suppliers; our ability to attract, integrate, and retain key personnel; the early stage of products under development; our need for substantial additional funds; government regulation; patent and intellectual property matters; competition; as well as other risks described in our SEC filings. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations or any changes in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based, except as required by law.

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