

NOXXON PHARMA AG ANNOUNCES PUBLICATION OF POSITIVE ANIMAL DATA WITH ITS VASOPRESSIN INHIBITOR NOX-F37

Berlin, Germany and Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, March 15, 2006 -- NOXXON Pharma AG (NOXXON) announced today the publication of positive *in vivo* results with its anti-vasopressin inhibitor NOX-F37. The results of the study demonstrate that NOX-F37 has a powerful diuretic effect. Animals treated with NOX-F37 excreted more than ten times the urine volume of control animals. The peer-reviewed research article will be published in the March issue of the prestigious scientific journal "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA" (Purschke *et al.* (2006) An L-RNA-based aquaretic agent that inhibits vasopressin *in vivo*, *PNAS*, Vol. **103**(13), 5173-5178).

"The reduction of body fluid is crucial in indications where water-overload is a critical issue such as chronic heart failure. Targeting vasopressin to induce water release is a far superior mechanism than those employed by traditional diuretics," commented Dr. Sven Klusmann, NOXXON's Chief Scientific Officer and senior author on the study. "The organism releases water only, but retains all the important electrolytes. Thus, treatment with the anti-vasopressin Spiegelmer NOX-F37 is much less disturbing to the electrolyte balance of bodily fluids." The company pursues additional studies to further profile its drug for use in chronic heart failure and plans to out-license or partner the product.

About NOXXON Pharma AG, the next generation aptamer company:

Berlin-based NOXXON Pharma AG develops biostable aptamers, novel substances based on mirror image nucleic acids. These so-called Spiegelmers® (the German word "Spiegel" means mirror) are highly specific for the pharmacologically relevant target for which they were selected. Thanks to their structural characteristics, Spiegelmers® are extremely resistant to degradation and not immunogenic - a new generation of improved therapeutics.

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