



2 December 2009

## **Company Announcement**

### **FIRST SUBJECT DOSED IN PHASE 1B CLINICAL TRIAL OF PHOSPHAGENICS' PATENTED OXYCODONE PATCH**

Phosphagenics Limited ("Phosphagenics") (ASX: POH; OTCQX: PPGNY) today announced the initiation of a Phase 1B clinical trial for its patented oxycodone/TPM (Targeted Penetration Matrix) transdermal patch systems.

The clinical trial consists of a pharmacokinetic study in twenty healthy volunteers at the Royal Adelaide Hospital under the guidance of Principal Investigator, Professor Guy Ludbrook, Professor of Anaesthesia, University of Adelaide. The primary objective of the Company's Phase 1B clinical trial is to compare two transdermal patch candidates, a matrix and reservoir system, to deliver oxycodone. Each of the twenty subjects will be administered with an oxycodone patch on a once daily basis for up to ten days. Oxycodone levels will be monitored to assess which of the two patch systems can deliver oxycodone into the blood stream at therapeutic levels in a reproducible and sustained manner.

The results of the Phase 1B trial, scheduled to be completed by early 2010, will determine which of the two patch systems will be best suited for commercial development. The best candidate will be advanced into Phase II/III oxycodone clinical trials scheduled for 2010.

According to Phosphagenics' Chief Operating Officer, Dr Esra Ogru, the TPM/oxycodone patch system appears potentially suitable for chronic pain management. "The results of our first trial earlier this year were a world first and were suggestive of the potential for the TPM system to change the way in which chronic pain could be treated in the future," she said.

"Currently, patients treated with oral oxycodone obtain pain relief for only a short period of time. The earlier human trial conducted by Phosphagenics, indicates that our oxycodone patch may provide sustained drug delivery for a matter of days. This trial will help determine just how long we can provide patients with sustained pain relief."

Phosphagenics aims to become the first company to offer chronic pain sufferers an oxycodone patch that will provide sustained pain relief. In a clinical trial conducted earlier this year on 50 subjects, Phosphagenics was able to demonstrate that its formulation did not cause sensitisation or irritation, one of the major barriers preventing the use of most opioids in topical delivery systems. It is highly likely that the TPM patch may have application to the majority of opioids, giving clinicians many alternatives in the treatment of chronic pain.

US sales of oxycodone, one of the leading drugs for pain management, exceed US\$1.5 billion annually. Although oxycodone, an opioid derivative, is more potent than morphine, it nevertheless produces less adverse side effects. It has become the drug of choice for chronic pain management of patients suffering from debilitating diseases such as cancer. Currently the drug can be administered orally or intravenously.

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## **APPENDIX AND NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Phosphagenics Limited**

Phosphagenics is a Melbourne-based, globally driven biotechnology company focused on the discovery of new and cost effective ways to enhance the bioavailability, activity, safety and delivery of proven pharmaceutical and nutraceutical products. Phosphagenics' core technology is built around the science and application of phosphorylation, a process where the addition of a phosphate group has been found to enhance the bioavailability, activity and safety of existing pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals, as well as to assist in the production of drug delivery platforms. Phosphagenics' shares are listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (POH) and its ADR – Level 1 program was established in the U.S. with The Bank of New York Mellon (PPGNY) for U.S. investors to trade in Phosphagenics' stock on the 'over-the-counter' market. In July 2007, this was upgraded to the International OTCQX, a new premium market tier in the U.S. for international exchange-listed companies, operated by Pink Sheets, LLC. For more information, please visit Phosphagenics' web site at [www.phosphagenics.com](http://www.phosphagenics.com).

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