



August 30, 2017

## **Nektar Therapeutics to Present Clinical Data from Phase 3 SUMMIT-07 Study of NKTR-181, a First-in-Class Investigational Opioid to Treat Chronic Pain, at PAINWeek®**

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 30, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Nektar Therapeutics (Nasdaq: NKTR) will present clinical data from the SUMMIT-07 Phase 3 efficacy and safety study of NKTR-181, a first-in-class opioid analgesic to treat chronic pain, at the upcoming 2017 PAINWeek® Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada on September 5-9, 2017. NKTR-181 is a new chemical entity (NCE) and mu-opioid agonist molecule designed to provide potent pain relief without the high levels of euphoria that can lead to abuse and addiction with standard opioids.<sup>1</sup>

NKTR-181 is the first analgesic opioid molecule to exhibit reduction in specific CNS-mediated side effects, like euphoria, through the strategic alteration of brain-entry kinetics. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted the investigational medicine NKTR-181 Fast Track designation for the treatment of moderate to severe chronic pain.

Clinical data will be presented during a poster presentation beginning Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. Authors will be available at the Scientific Session reception on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. PDT. Abstracts may be accessed online at: <http://conference.painweek.org/scientificposters>:

- 1 Poster 41: *"Efficacy, safety, and tolerability of NKTR-181 in patients with moderate to severe chronic low-back pain: A Phase 3 study"*, Markman, J., et al.
- 1 Poster 38: *"Measuring withdrawal in a phase 3 study of a new analgesic, NKTR-181, in subjects with moderate to severe chronic low-back pain"*, Henningfield, J., et al.

Nektar is also hosting the following educational satellite presentation at PAINWeek 2017:

- 1 Title: *"Analgesic of the Future: A New Opioid Molecule With Slow Entry Into the CNS"*  
Speakers: Jeffrey Gudin, MD and Richard Rauck, MD  
Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. PDT  
Level 3/Castellana Ballroom

PAINWeek is the largest U.S. pain conference for frontline clinicians with an interest in pain management. The annual conference presents 120+ hours of continuing medical education courses and master classes, special interest sessions, and satellite events geared toward physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, hospitalists, psychologists, and other healthcare professionals involved in pain management.

### **About NKTR-181**

NKTR-181 is the first long-acting, selective mu-opioid agonist designed to provide potent pain relief without the inherent high levels of euphoria which lead to abuse and addiction with standard opioids. The novel molecular structure of NKTR-181 is designed to have low permeability across the blood-brain barrier in order to slow its rate of entry into the brain and attenuate the dopamine release that underlies euphoria. NKTR-181 is the first opioid molecule to exhibit reduction in specific CNS-mediated side effects, like euphoria, through the strategic alteration of brain-entry kinetics. In addition, NKTR-181 is designed with an inherent 12-hour elimination half-life to enable twice-daily dosing with continuous pain control. NKTR-181 is an investigational medicine and has not been approved by the FDA or any other regulatory agencies.

Current and past strategies of abuse deterrence to address the addictive qualities of standard opioids rely on formulations alone. However, all abuse-deterrent formulations are pre-cursors to highly euphorogenic rapid-acting opioids, which can be liberated through tampering. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) indicated that 16.0 million people in the U.S. reported using oxycodone products non-medically in their lifetime in 2012.

Preclinical and clinical data show that the inherent properties of NKTR-181 reduce its rate of entry into the brain compared to standard mu opioids, regardless of route of administration.<sup>2</sup>

### **About Nektar Therapeutics**

Nektar Therapeutics is a research-based biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover and develop innovative medicines to address the unmet medical needs of patients. Our R&D pipeline of new investigational medicines includes treatments for cancer, autoimmune disease and chronic pain. We leverage Nektar's proprietary and proven chemistry platform in the discovery and design of our new therapeutic candidates. Nektar is headquartered in San Francisco, California, with additional operations in Huntsville, Alabama and Hyderabad, India. Further information about the company and its drug development programs and capabilities may be found online at <http://www.nektar.com>.

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#### *Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements*

*This press release contains forward-looking statements which can be identified by words such as: "plan," "expect," "may," "will," "believe," "can," "should," "could" and similar references to future periods. Examples of forward-looking statements include, among others, statements we make regarding the potential therapeutic benefit of NKTR-181 for treating patients with pain, the potential importance of NKTR-181's development in the area of new pain medicines, the risks of opioid abuse resulting from use of NKTR-181, as well as from new and existing pain medicines, and certain other statements regarding the prospects and potential of NKTR-181 specifically, and Nektar's business and technology platform generally. Forward-looking statements are neither historical facts nor assurances of future performance. Instead, they are based only on our current beliefs, expectations and assumptions regarding the future of our business, future plans and strategies, anticipated events and trends, the economy and other future conditions. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they are subject to inherent uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict and many of which are outside of our control. Our actual results may differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Therefore, you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements include, among others: (i) challenges and uncertainties inherent in pharmaceutical research and development, including the uncertainty of future clinical and regulatory success, where the risk of failure remains high and failure can unexpectedly occur at any stage prior to regulatory approval due to lack of sufficient efficacy, safety considerations or other factors; (ii) the regulatory pathway to review and approve NKTR-181 for use in patients, even with a Fast Track designation by the FDA, is subject to substantial uncertainty; (iii) regulations concerning and controlling the access to opioid-based pharmaceuticals are strict and there is no guarantee which scheduling category will apply to NKTR-181 if regulatory approval is achieved; (iv) drug manufacturing challenges which can delay or render unavailable sufficient supplies of NKTR-181; (v) changing standards of care and new regulations (including, but not limited to, standards and regulations related to health care cost containment) can affect the use NKTR-181 and commercial success following a regulatory approval; (vi) Nektar's patent applications for NKTR-181 may not issue in one or more jurisdictions, patents that have issued may not be enforceable, or additional intellectual property licenses from third parties may be required in the future; (vii) the outcome of any existing or future intellectual property or other litigation related to Nektar's proprietary product candidates, including, without limitation, NKTR-181, is unpredictable and could have a material adverse effect on our business; and (viii) certain other important risks and uncertainties set forth in Nektar's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2017 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 9, 2017. Any forward-looking statement made by us in this press release is based only on information currently available to us and speaks only as of the date on which it is made. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.*

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1. Hyman, Steven E., Harvard Review of Psychiatry. 2(1):43-46, May/June 1994.
2. 2010 Society of Neuroscience Annual Meeting (Nov 13-17, #HHH11).

View original content:<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nektar-therapeutics-to-present-clinical-data-from-phase-3-summit-07-study-of-nktr-181-a-first-in-class-investigational-opioid-to-treat-chronic-pain-at-painweek-300511351.html>

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