Assembly Biosciences Announces Multiple Abstracts Highlighting HBV Core Inhibitor Portfolio Accepted for Oral and Poster Presentations at EASL 2019

March 27, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Assembly Biosciences, Inc. (NASDAQ: ASMB), a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing innovative therapeutics targeting hepatitis B virus (HBV) and diseases associated with the microbiome, today announced the acceptance of oral and poster presentations, including two late breakers, at The International Liver Congress™(ILC), the Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) in Vienna, Austria, April 10-14, 2019.

Assembly had four abstracts accepted highlighting its HBV core protein inhibitor pipeline, including late breaker presentations on the interim results from the Phase 2a studies of ABI-H0731 and final results of the recently completed ABI-H2158 Phase 1a study. In addition, Assembly has an oral presentation on the preclinical profile of its third core inhibitor and a poster on the turnover rate of cccDNA. The late breaker abstract for ABI-H0731 has been selected for press release coverage at ILC 2019 and will only be made available at the time of presentation. The abstract was also selected for inclusion in the 'Best of ILC' presentation.

"We are proud to have several abstracts accepted at EASL 2019 for each of our three core inhibitors and one highlighting our continuing research efforts on the turnover rate of cccDNA," said Derek Small, President and Chief Executive Officer. "We are excited to potentially be the first in the HBV field to show clinical data from studies combining a core inhibitor and nucleos(t)ide therapy. This data may serve to inform proof of concept which we believe is two-fold: Demonstrating rapid and greater levels of viral suppression for patients, while on the path to increasing cure rates in HBV over a finite period of time."

Oral Presentations

LB-06
Title: Interim safety and efficacy results of the ABI-H0731 phase 2a program exploring the combination of ABI-H0731 with Nuc therapy in treatment-naive and treatment-suppressed chronic hepatitis B patients
Session: Late breaker
Location: Main Plenary
Date: Saturday, April 13, 2019
Time:5:15pm CET
Presenter: Jacob Lalezari, MD, Internal Medicine, California Pacific Medical Center

PS-073
Title: Preclinical profile of HBV core protein inhibitor, ABI-H3733, a potent inhibitor of cccDNA generation in HBV infected cells
Session: Parallel session: Hepatitis B – drug development
Location: Hall C2
Date: Friday, April 12, 2019
Time:4:00pm CET
Presenter: Richard Colonno, PhD, Executive Vice President, Chief Scientific Officer Virology Operations, Assembly Biosciences, Inc.

Poster Sessions

LBP-12
Title: Phase 1a Study of the Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics of ABI-H2158, a Novel Second-Generation HBV Core Inhibitor, in Healthy Volunteers
Session: Late breaker poster
Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019 - Saturday, April 13, 2019
Time:9:00am – 5:00pm CET
Presenter: Ed Gane, MBChB, MD, FRACP, MNZM, New Zealand Liver Transplant Unit, Auckland City Hospital, New Zealand

THU-216
Title: Rapid turnover of HBV cccDNA in nucleoside-treated chronic hepatitis B patients during drug resistance emergence and breakthrough
Session: Poster tour: Viral hepatitis B/D: Clinical aspects except therapy
Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019
Time:9:00am – 7:00pm CET; Poster tour: 3:30pm-4:00pm CET
Presenter: Qi Huang, PhD, Vice President, Virology Discovery and Chief Scientific Officer – China, Assembly Biosciences, Inc.

The abstracts that are now available can be accessed from the online congress program: https://ilc-congress.eu/

About Assembly Biosciences
Assembly Biosciences, Inc. is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing innovative therapeutics targeting hepatitis B virus (HBV) and diseases associated with the microbiome. The HBV program is focused on advancing a new class of potent, oral core inhibitors that have the potential to increase cure rates for chronically infected patients. The microbiome program is developing novel oral live synthetic biotherapeutic candidates with Assembly's fully integrated platform, including a robust process for strain identification and selection, GMP banking and production, and targeted delivery to the lower gastrointestinal tract with the GEMICEL® technology. For more information, visit assemblybio.com.

Forward-Looking Statements
The information in this press release contains forward-looking statements regarding future events, including statements about the clinical and therapeutic potential of core inhibitors, including ABI-H0731, ABI-H2158 and ABI-H3733. Certain forward-looking statements may be identified by reference to a future period or by use of forward-looking terminology such as "may" and "potential." Assembly intends such forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions contained in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected or implied in these forward-looking statements. More information about the risks and uncertainties faced by Assembly are more fully detailed under the heading "Risk Factors" in Assembly's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Except as required by law, Assembly assumes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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