Significant Pre-Clinical Data in Acute Lung Injury

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LONDON, September 10, 2012 /PRNewswire/ --

Silence Therapeutics plc [1] (AIM: SLN) ("Silence" or "the Company"), a leading RNA [2] interference (RNAi) therapeutics company is pleased to announce that recent data in pre-clinical models demonstrated the efficacy of Atu111 in acute lung injury. Atu111 targets the endothelial expression of Angiopoietin-2 (Ang-2), an antagonistic ligand of Tie-2 signalling, which is implicated in progressing endothelial dysfunction in the context of disease pathogenesis for acute lung injury or sepsis.

The study, which evaluated the use of Atu111 in a preclinical Streptococcus pneumoniae model of acute lung injury, was conducted by Ricerca Biosciences, a US-based clinical research organisation. The trial demonstrated a 90% survival benefit with the use of Atu111 in the presence of antibiotics when compared to an untreated control cohort. By contrast, antibiotic therapy alone achieves only a 20% survival benefit over untreated.

To further evaluate the findings, Silence is pleased to announce the successful start of a research alliance with the laboratory of Prof. Dr. med. Hermann Haller, Director of Nephrology and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the Medizinische Hochschule Hannover MHH (Hannover Medical School, Germany) to evaluate the therapeutic potential of Atu111 in preclinical models for acute lung injury and sepsis. In collaboration with Dr. Sascha David, lead investigator in this project, Atu111, a novel RNAi therapeutic drug candidate based on Silence´s proprietary DACC formulation will be investigated in various pre-clinical models assessing the therapeutic value of Atu111 treatment on inhibiting progression of acute lung injury or sepsis.

A first proof-of-concept with Atu111 in a model for septic/systemic shock revealed superior survival in
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[1] http://silence-therapeutics.com/
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