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IATERION, INC. IS AWARDED A NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (NIH) GRANT FOR THE STUDY OF ITS NUCLEAR RECEPTOR COLIGAND PLATFORM

laterion, Inc. received an award from the National Institute of Aging (NIA) at the National Institute of Health (NIH) for the development of estrogen receptor reprogramming ligands for menopausal hormone therapy.

laterion, Inc. is developing novel therapeutics based on its discovery of nuclear receptor reprogramming drugs. laterion's drugs are designed to take advantage of the contemporary, expanded understanding of gene regulation, exerted by ligand-receptor biology, and our unique discovery of precision reprogramming of the mechanism of action of nuclear receptors. Our lead NRRP program is for the treatment of menopause related indications. Unlike estrogens and selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), the NRRPs do not bind to the estrogen binding site, but instead our data suggest that it binds to a secondary binding site on the estrogen receptor that leads to a different set of genes regulated. This distinct mode of action will lead to different clinical outcomes.

"We discovered a class of compounds, termed estrogen receptor alpha (ER α) reprogramming ligands, that change the effects of estrogen on gene expression and cell proliferation" said Dr. Dale Leitman, Chief Scientific Officer of laterion, Inc. "We found that the combination of the reprogramming drug and estrogen regulates over 800 genes, which are not altered by the reprogramming drug or estrogen alone. The reprogramming drug also blocked the proliferation of human breast cancer cells and mouse uterus in response to estrogens. Based on these findings, our objective is to combine a reprogramming drug with existing estrogens in menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) to overcome the adverse side effects of estrogen so the reprogramming drug/estrogen combination can be used safely for long-term MHT".

"Currently, there are approximately 50 million women of menopausal age in the United States" said Dr. Isaac Cohen, laterion's CEO. "Since 2002, when the risks of menopausal hormone therapy (MHT) were revealed in the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) trials, MHT use has dropped by 80%. The dramatic decline in the use of MHT in menopausal women is directly attributable to the risks associated with MHT, especially its increased cancer risk. The current MHT formulations are recommended for up to 5 years of treatment because longer treatment time increases the risk of breast cancer, dementia, and blood clots. However, 80% of perimenopausal and postmenopausal women will experience menopausal hot flashes lasting an average of 7.4 years, and 50% of women will experience vaginal dryness and atrophy during their lifetime. Short-term use of MHT does not significantly improve other comorbidities resulting from the menopausal transition, such as weight gain and abdominal fat redistribution/accumulation, metabolic syndrome, type 2 diabetes and osteoporosis. MHT has been used for nearly 80 years without any significant improvement, so long-term safety is still a major issue. The addition of NRRP to estrogen





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provides a novel strategy to improve the safety of MHT so it can be used for both short-term and long-term therapy to treat protracted menopausal symptoms and chronic conditions associated with menopause, such as obesity, diabetes, and metabolic syndrome, which has never been FDA approved indications, will greatly broaden the indications for MHT”.

Forward Looking Statements

This release contains certain forward-looking statements relating to the business of Iaterion, Inc. that can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," or similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, including uncertainties relating to product development, efficacy and safety, regulatory actions or delays, the ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection, market acceptance, physician acceptance, third party reimbursement, future capital requirements, competition in general and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Iaterion, Inc. is under no obligation (and expressly disclaims any such obligation) to update or alter its forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

