



## *ASX AND MEDIA RELEASE*

### **Peplin granted US patent**

**BRISBANE, Australia, 6 April 2005: Peplin Limited (ASX:PEP)** announced today that the US Patent and Trademark Office had granted Peplin a patent covering the use of its macrocyclic anti-cancer compounds to stimulate the immune system.

Peplin's Managing Director and CEO, Michael Aldridge said the patent provided Peplin valuable proprietary rights because these anti-cancer compounds have a combined immune system stimulation and direct cytotoxic effect. These mechanisms of action have been studied extensively in animal models.

"Our lead product, PEP005 Topical, directly kills most of the cancer cells and then recruits and activates the local immune system to clean-up the dead cancer cells and kill any remaining live cancer cells. We believe our drug has very powerful and unique mechanisms of action," he said.

"The way our drug stimulates the body's immune system and more particularly the local immune response following topical application is an important component of how we are able to induce permanent resolution of skin cancers," he said.

The grant of this patent extends Peplin's comprehensive patent protection either granted or under prosecution in the major markets of the world. These patents cover the use of its compounds against cancer and many other diseases and their immune system stimulating properties.

**ENDS**

## **ABOUT PEPLIN**

Peplin is focused on the development and commercialisation of prescription human therapeutic products for the treatment of cancer. Peplin's lead product is PEP005 Topical which is in phase IIa clinical trials for actinic keratosis (a pre-cancerous lesion or sun spot) and non-melanoma skin cancer. Peplin is developing PEP005 Topical as a rapidly acting and cosmetically attractive non-surgical treatment for skin cancer. Peplin's product development activities are supported by the Australian Federal Government under its R&D Start program and P<sup>3</sup>.

Peplin's earlier stage pipeline is targeted at bladder cancer using its lead compound PEP005 in an intra-cavitary or intravesical formulation (PEP005 IC) and leukaemia (a blood borne cancer) using an intravenous formulation (PEP005 IV). Peplin holds global proprietary rights for PEP005 Topical and all rights worldwide to other oncology applications of PEP005. Its research portfolio of EPUFA compounds opens additional potential opportunities in cancer and adds candidates for cardiovascular disease, pain, inflammation and diabetic complications.

### **Market opportunity**

Actinic keratosis is the most common pre-cancerous skin lesion and typically occurs on sun damaged skin of older Caucasians. Non-melanoma skin cancer is the most common form of cancer worldwide. Peplin is developing PEP005 Topical to address the highly attractive and significant global market opportunity for non-surgical approaches to the treatment of actinic keratosis and non-melanoma skin cancer.

### **Further information:**

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