

## ASX RELEASE

### **Anti-cancer data presented at international cancer conference**

**BRISBANE, Australia, 17 November 2005: Peplin Limited (ASX:PEP)** announced today that research results on the anti-cancer properties and mode of action of PEP005 are being presented at poster sessions at the AACR-NCI-EORTC International Conference: Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics being held at the Philadelphia Convention Center from November 14-18, 2005.

Managing Director & CEO Michael Aldridge said Peplin has a comprehensive research program evaluating the anti-cancer properties of PEP005 and the company showcases the findings at major international conferences.

“This research evaluated PEP005’s anti-cancer activity in solid tumour cell lines and particularly in combination with other anti-cancer agents. The results of using PEP005 in combination are promising, and the results of mode of action studies of PEP005 in solid tumours are consistent with those obtained in leukemic cell lines,” he said.

“Our primary near term goals remain to deliver the results of our four phase IIa skin cancer clinical trials from the end of November and to file an IND for leukemia in the first quarter of next year prior to initiating clinical trials,” Mr Aldridge said.

The AACR-NCI-EORTC is a joint conference of the American Association for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute and European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer.

“The presentation of these promising research results at this high profile international conference further validates Peplin’s ongoing anti-cancer research program,” Mr Aldridge added.

The data on PEP005’s anti-cancer activity was presented through a poster titled: ‘Antiproliferative activity of PEP005, a novel agent that activates PKC $\delta$  and inhibits PKC $\alpha$ , alone and in combination with cytotoxic agents in human solid tumor cancer cell lines.’

The abstract concludes: ‘PEP005 a novel agent that modulates PKCs, displays antiproliferative effects, apoptosis induction, and a unique spectrum of activity in human solid tumor cell lines. Combination with several classical cytotoxic agents

Pg 1/2

showed schedule-dependent additive and/or synergistic activity. Based on these data, single agent PEP005 and PEP005-based combinations should be further explored in clinical trials.'

In addition data on the mode of action of PEP005 was presented in a poster titled 'PEP005, a novel ingenol angelate mediates apoptosis in human cancer cell lines by activation of p38 and MAPK pathways, via a PKC-dependent mechanism.'

The abstract concludes: 'Our results suggest that PEP005 induced caspase 3-dependent but p53- and Bcl-2-independent apoptosis. Cytotoxic effects were related to the activation of PKC $\delta$  and down regulation of PKC $\alpha$  and also involve MAPK signaling pathways. Our results are consistent with those obtained in leukemic cell lines. This study supports ongoing efforts targeting PKC isoforms in cancer therapy with PEP005 alone and in combination with cytotoxic agents.'

The posters are presented in Poster Session A – Signal Transduction Modulators and the abstracts can be viewed either at the research publications section under products and technology on the company's website at [www.peplin.com](http://www.peplin.com) or at [www.aacr.org](http://www.aacr.org).

## **ENDS**

### **Further information:**

Michael Aldridge  
Managing Director & CEO  
Tel: 07-3250 1200  
[michael.aldridge@peplin.com](mailto:michael.aldridge@peplin.com)

### **ABOUT PEPLIN**

Peplin is focused on the development and commercialisation of prescription human therapeutic products for the treatment of cancer. Its lead compound is PEP005, the first in a new class of investigational agents. Peplin's lead product is PEP005 Topical, which is being studied in phase IIa clinical trials for the treatment of actinic keratosis (AK) (a pre-cancerous lesion) and non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC). PEP005 Topical works by a powerful mode of action, directly killing most cancer cells and then recruiting and activating the local immune system to clean-up these dead cancer cells and kill any remaining cancer cells. PEP005 Topical is potentially a rapidly acting and cosmetically attractive non-surgical treatment for AK and NMSC. Peplin's product development activities are supported by the Australian Federal Government under its Pharmaceuticals Partnerships Program.

Peplin's earlier stage pipeline is targeted at leukemia (a blood borne cancer) using its lead compound PEP005 in an intravenous formulation (PEP005 IV) and bladder cancer using an intracavitary or intravesical formulation (PEP005 IC). PEP005 has demonstrated selective and potent anti-leukemia activity in pre-clinical disease models. PEP005 induces apoptosis in leukemia cells via the activation of PKC delta. Peplin holds global proprietary rights for PEP005 Topical and other oncology applications of PEP005. Its research portfolio of EPUFA compounds opens additional potential opportunities in cancer and pain.