

## Ascenta Therapeutics Highlights Multiple Data Presentations at Upcoming AACR Annual Meeting

San Diego, CA., April 13, 2007

Ascenta Therapeutics, Inc. announced today that its small molecule portfolio of apoptosis-triggering compounds will be featured in three oral presentations and several poster presentations at next week's 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), to be held in Los Angeles, California April 14-18, 2007.

Ascenta's MDM2 program has been selected for presentation at the "High Impact Late-Breaking Research 1" session on Tuesday, April 17 (Hall A at 3:30pm) and will be presented by Dajun Yang, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President of Research at Ascenta Therapeutics and General Manager of Ascenta's R&D Subsidiary in Shanghai, China. The MDM2 program will also be featured in a talk on Saturday, April 14 (Petree D at 4:15pm) by University of Michigan's Professor Shaomeng Wang, PhD, a co-founder of Ascenta.

Preclinical studies of AT-101, Ascenta's clinical stage, oral pan-Bcl-2 inhibitor, will be featured in an oral presentation by Dr. Yang on Wednesday, April 18 and in several poster presentations authored by Ascenta personnel and collaborating investigators. In a collaboration with scientists at Human Genome Sciences, Inc., studies of HGSI's TRAIL receptor agonist monoclonal antibodies in combination with Ascenta's small molecule XIAP inhibitors, will be presented in a poster session on Tuesday, April 17 (1pm-5pm). The full schedule of presentations featuring Ascenta's technology is as follows:

Date	Time	Title	Presenter, Collaborator	Session	Type/Location Abstract #
Saturday April 14	4:15pm	Potent, specific, non-peptidic small molecule inhibitors of the Human MDM2-p53 interaction as a new class of anticancer therapy	Shaomeng Wang, PhD, U. Michigan	Alternative approaches to small molecule drug discovery protein-protein interaction	Oral Presentation in Petree D
Sunday April 15	8am-12pm	Synergistic inhibition of tumor growth by combined treatment with the pan Bcl-2 inhibitor AT-101 and docetaxel in human cancer xenograft models	Xiongwen Zhang MD, PhD Ascenta Therapeutics.	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 4	Poster in Exhibit Hall. Poster section 29.  Abstract # 725 <a href="#">view poster</a>
		A novel small molecular inhibitor targets the MDM2-p53 interaction significantly reducing cell viability in both embryonal and alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma cells with wild-type p53	Jason Canner DO, Columbus Children's Hospital	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 4	Poster in Exhibit Hall Board 4-Poster Section 21.  Abstract # 509
	1pm-5pm	AT-101-induced apoptosis in VCaP androgen-sensitive cells is inhibited by the presence of DHT	Robert Loberg PhD U. Michigan	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics	Poster in Exhibit Hall Poster Section 9  Abstract # 983
		Synergistic effect of AT-101, an orally active pan-Bcl-2 family protein inhibitor in combination with dual-Raf/MEK and VEGFR kinase inhibitor sorafenib	Xiongwen Zhang, MD, PhD Ascenta Therapeutics	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 9	Poster in Exhibit Hall Poster Section 28  Abstract # 1452 <a href="#">view poster</a>

Tuesday April 17	3:30pm	Preclinical characterization of MI-219, a novel potent oral small molecule inhibitor of the MDM2-p53 interaction	Dajun Yang, MD, PhD Ascenta Therapeutics	High Impact Late-Breaking Research 1	Oral Presentation in Hall A  Abstract # LB-365
	1pm-5pm	Synergistic anti-tumor effect with combination of a novel small molecule Smac mimetic compound (SM-164) and agonist TRAIL-R monoclonal Abs (mapatumumab & lexatumumab).	Nathalie Bruey-Sedano, PhD, Ascenta Therapeutics Human Genome Sciences	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 42	Poster in Exhibit Hall - Poster Section 31  Abstract # 4871 <a href="#">view poster</a>
Wednesday April 18	8:30am-12pm	<i>In vivo</i> efficacy of AT-101, an orally active pan-Bcl-2 family protein inhibitor in combination with the ErbB1 tyrosine kinase inhibitor erlotinib (Tarceva®)	Dajun Yang , MD , PhD, Ascenta Therapeutics	Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 51 Minisymposium Session	Oral Presentation  Abstract # 5737
		A novel pan inhibitor of Bcl-2 and Mcl-1, apogossypolone (ApoG2), with superior stability and improved activity against human leukemia and lymphoma cells.	Xiongwen Zhang , MD, PhD Ascenta Therapeutics	Cellular and Molecular Biology 64	Poster in Exhibit Hall - Poster Section 11  Abstract # 5182 <a href="#">view poster</a>

*Founded in 2003, Ascenta is a privately-held biopharmaceutical company that discovers and develops targeted new medicines for the treatment of cancer. The company has offices in San Diego, California and Malvern, Pennsylvania, and a preclinical research facility in Shanghai, China. Ascenta's technology is focused on discovering molecules that hit vulnerable targets in endogenous apoptosis pathways and shut down cell growth and proliferation in cancer cells. Ascenta's broad pipeline of compounds is licensed from both the National Institutes of Health and the laboratory of Dr. Shaomeng Wang at the University of*