



## Motif Bio to Evaluate Orphan Disease Opportunity for Iclaprim in Ophthalmology

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NEW YORK, May 22, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Motif Bio plc (AIM/Nasdaq: MTFB), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company specialising in developing novel antibiotics, today announced that the Company has signed an agreement with Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg to conduct a study evaluating iclaprim in an *in vitro* model of ocular toxoplasmosis. The research will focus on toxoplasma chorioretinitis, an orphan disease that is a type of ocular toxoplasmosis, a parasitic disease that may result in severe life-threatening infections and/or blindness. The work will be led by Prof. Dr. Ildiko Rita Dunay, Director, Institute of Inflammation and Neurodegeneration at the university.

**Dr. David Huang, Chief Medical Officer of Motif Bio, said:** *"We are very pleased to work with Dr. Dunay, who is an expert in the area of toxoplasmosis. In vitro data indicate that iclaprim has activity against toxoplasma. The data generated from Dr. Dunay's lab will be important in understanding whether iclaprim can play a role in this potentially devastating, progressive and recurring necrotizing retinitis, including vision-threatening complications."*

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**Note to Editors:**

**About Motif Bio**

Motif Bio plc (AIM/NASDAQ: MTFB) is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing novel antibiotics designed to be effective against serious and life-threatening infections caused by multi-drug resistant Gram-positive bacteria, including MRSA. The Company's lead product candidate is iclaprim. Motif Bio is seeking approval of iclaprim from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections (ABSSSI). More than 3.6 million patients with ABSSSI are hospitalised annually in the U.S. It is estimated that up to 26% of hospitalized ABSSSI patients have renal impairment.

The Company also has plans to develop iclaprim for hospital acquired bacterial pneumonia (HABP), including ventilator associated bacterial pneumonia (VABP), as there is a high unmet need for new therapies in this indication. A Phase 2 trial in patients with HABP has been successfully completed and a Phase 3 trial is being planned. Additionally, iclaprim has been granted orphan drug designation by the FDA for the treatment of *Staphylococcus aureus* lung infections in patients with cystic fibrosis and is in pre-clinical development for this indication.

Iclaprim received Qualified Infectious Disease Product (QIDP) designation from the FDA together with Fast Track status for the ABSSSI indication. If approved for the ABSSSI indication as a New Chemical Entity, iclaprim will be eligible for 10 years of market exclusivity in the U.S. from the date of first approval, under the Generating Antibiotic Incentives Now Act (the GAIN Act). In Europe, 10 years of market exclusivity is anticipated. Motif is also building a patent estate to provide additional protection for iclaprim and has two U.S. method of use patents issued that will expire in 2037.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

*This press release contains forward-looking statements. Words such as "expect," "believe," "intend," "plan," "continue," "may," "will," "anticipate," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that may cause Motif Bio's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Motif Bio believes that these factors include, but are not limited to, (i) the timing, progress and the results of clinical trials for Motif Bio's product candidates, (ii) the timing, scope or likelihood of regulatory filings and approvals for Motif Bio's product candidates, (iii) Motif Bio's ability to successfully commercialise its product candidates, (iv) Motif Bio's ability to effectively market any product candidates that receive regulatory approval, (v) Motif Bio's commercialisation, marketing and manufacturing capabilities and strategy, (vi) Motif Bio's expectation regarding the safety and efficacy of its product candidates, (vii) the potential clinical utility and benefits of Motif Bio's product candidates, (viii) Motif Bio's ability to advance its product candidates through various stages of development, especially through pivotal safety and efficacy trials, (ix) Motif Bio's estimates regarding the potential market opportunity for its product candidates, (x) Motif Bio's ability to raise additional capital to sustain its operations and pursue its strategy and (xi) the factors discussed in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in Motif Bio's*

Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the SEC on April 15, 2019, which is available on the SEC's web site, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Motif Bio undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.



Motif Bio plc