

ASX ANNOUNCEMENT 2 April 2012

## **BNC105 OVARIAN CANCER PROGRESS**

- BNC105 is a potent inhibitor of human ovarian cancer cell line growth
- BNC105 suppresses the growth of platinum resistant ovarian tumours in animal models and improves animal survival
- Data strongly supports Bionomics clinical trial in women with ovarian cancer

**2 April 2012:** Bionomics Limited (ASX: BNO) (ADR: BMICY) announced that it will present preclinical data showing the anti-cancer activity of BNC105 in platinum resistant ovarian cancer at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting 2012 in Chicago, Illinois.

This poster presentation, to be given by Bionomics' Vice President Research & Development, Dr Gabriel Kremmidiotis, and Dr Tina Lavranos, Bionomics' Director Cancer Research, details the effects of BNC105 in preclinical animal models of ovarian cancer.

The data firstly show that BNC105 is very effective in inhibiting the proliferation of the human ovarian cancer cell line, A2780, and its cisplatin-resistant derivative, A2780cis.

Next, the vascular disruption activity of BNC105 is clearly demonstrated by reduction of blood flow in platinum resistant solid tumours of mice treated with a single dose of BNC105. The result was an effective suppression of tumour growth.

Finally, a statistically significant survival benefit was measured in BNC105 treated mice bearing platinum resistant ovarian tumours.

Bionomics' CEO & Managing Director Dr Deborah Rathjen commented that "Platinum-based therapies are standard of care in the treatment of a range of solid tumour types, however resistance to this form of chemotherapy can develop quickly in women with ovarian cancer. With robust preclinical BNC105 data we have already advanced preparations to commence a clinical trial in women with ovarian cancer. This trial recently gained approval and Bionomics is working closely with its collaborators to initiate the trial as soon as possible".

Ovarian cancer is the second most common gynecological malignancy among women. Among the seven major pharmaceutical markets, it affected around 170,000 women in 2010.

It is the seventh leading cause of cancer–related death among Australian women. It is often diagnosed at an advanced stage after the cancer has spread beyond the ovary. In 2008 in Australia 1,272 ovarian cancer cases were diagnosed. The number of ovarian cancer cases in Australia increased by 47% between 1982 and 2006. It is anticipated that the number of new cases will continue to increase, with an estimated 1,488 women expected to be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2015.

As a Vascular Disruption Agent (VDA), BNC105 rapidly shuts down existing and new tumour blood vessels with no effect on normal blood vessels. Preclinical data has indicated that all solid tumour types, including breast, prostate and lung cancers, are susceptible to the VDA effect of BNC105 and that BNC105 also potently inhibits the growth of a broad range of cancer cells in culture.

The BNC105 clinical trials program is aligned with Bionomics' Phase II partnership strategy for BNC105. Data from the ongoing trial in patients with metastatic renal cancer, and the soon to be initiated clinical trial of BNC105 in women with ovarian cancer, may enable consideration by the FDA of fast track designation for BNC105 adding substantial value to the BNC105 licensing package. The combination therapies used in Bionomics' clinical trials of BNC105 are used to treat many solid tumour types including breast, prostate, liver, gastric and lung cancers as well as mesothelioma.

The theme of the AACR Annual Meeting 2012 is "Accelerating Science: Concept to Clinic," and highlights the best and latest findings that may lead to effective cancer therapies and prevention strategies. Last year the meeting had over 16,000 participants.

Key poster information:

Session Title: Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 19

Date: Monday April 2, 2012 Time: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: AACR Annual Meeting 2012, McCormick Place Chicago, Illinois - Hall F, Poster Section

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Abstract Number: 2774

Title: Anti-cancer activity of the tumour-selective, hypoxia-inducing, agent BNC105 in platinum

resistant ovarian cancer.

The poster can be accessed on the Bionomics website www.bionomics.com.au

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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## **About Bionomics Limited**

Bionomics (ASX: BNO) is a leading international biotechnology company which discovers and develops innovative therapeutics for cancer and diseases of the central nervous system. Bionomics has small molecule product development programs in the areas of cancer, anxiety, epilepsy and multiple sclerosis.

BNC105, which is undergoing clinical development for the treatment of cancer, is based upon the identification of a novel compound that potently and selectively restricts blood flow within tumours. BNC105 offers blockbuster potential if successfully developed. A clinical program is also underway for the treatment of anxiety disorders and depression based on BNC210, a novel compound which stimulates neurite outgrowth. BNC210 is partnered with Ironwood Pharmaceuticals. Bionomics has a partnered program with Merck Serono for new treatments for multiple sclerosis and other autoimmune disorders.

Bionomics' discovery and development activities are driven by its three technology platforms: Angene®, a drug discovery platform which incorporates a variety of genomics tools to identify and validate novel angiogenesis targets (involved in the formation of new blood vessels). MultiCore® is Bionomics' proprietary, diversity orientated chemistry platform for the discovery of small molecule drugs. ionX® is a set of novel technologies for the identification of drugs targeting ion channels for diseases of the central nervous system. These platforms underpin Bionomics' established business strategy and Bionomics is committed to securing partners for its key compounds.

For more information about Bionomics, visit www.bionomics.com.au

## Factors Affecting Future Performance

This announcement contains "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the United States' Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements contained in this presentation that relate to prospective events or developments, including, without limitation, statements made regarding Bionomics' development candidates BNC105, BNC210, its Merck Serono alliance, its licensing deal with Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, drug discovery programs and pending patent applications are deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "projects," "forecasts," "will" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

There are a number of important factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including risks related to our available funds or existing funding arrangements, a downturn in our customers' markets, our failure to introduce new products or technologies in a timely manner, regulatory changes, risks related to our international operations, our inability to integrate acquired businesses and technologies into our existing business and to our competitive advantages, as well as other factors. Results of studies performed on competitors products may vary from those reported when tested in different settings.

Subject to the requirements of any applicable legislation or the listing rules of any stock exchange on which our securities are quoted, we disclaim any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of developments occurring after the date of this presentation.