



ASX Announcement

1 September 2021

Hexima strengthens its board of directors with the appointment of Jake Nunn as Non-Executive Director

Previously Partner at NEA: large global VC firm

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA (1 September 2021): Hexima Limited (ASX:HXL), a clinical stage biotechnology company developing pezadeftide (formerly HXP124), as a potential new prescription topical treatment for onychomycosis, is pleased to announce that Mr. Jake Nunn will join its board as a Non-Executive Director, effective today.

Mr. Nunn has more than 25 years' experience in the life science industry as an investor, independent director, research analyst and investment banker. Jake is currently an independent advisor to several life science companies and a venture advisor at New Enterprise Associates (NEA), where he was an investing partner from 2006 to 2018 focused on the biopharmaceutical and medical technology sectors.

Based in Menlo Park, California, Jake founded NEA's public market healthcare investing practice in 2006 and led NEA to become one of the most active anchor investors in small-cap public biopharma special situations/PIPE investing over the last decade, investing over US\$600 million. Prior to NEA, Jake was Partner at MPM Capital, South San Francisco, California. Mr. Nunn is a director of public companies Regulus Therapeutics Inc, Oventus Medical Ltd, Trevena Inc, and Addex Therapeutics Ltd. He was previously a director of several companies in the pharmaceutical sector including Dermira Inc. (acquired by Eli Lilly) and Hyperion Therapeutics (acquired by Horizon Pharma plc).

Commenting on his appointment, Mr. Nunn said "I'm excited to be joining the Hexima Board at this important stage in the Company's development, as it moves towards completing its phase IIb clinical trial for pezadeftide. I look forward to bringing my experience to the Board and helping the Company achieve on both an operational and strategic level."

Hexima's Chairman, Professor Jonathan West added, "We are extremely pleased to have Jake join our Board. His extensive experience in financing high growth US and international biotechnology companies will be an important ingredient for our strategic growth plans at Hexima. With a career spanning over 25 years as an investor and advisor to life science companies, Jake's appointment brings a highly complementary skillset and leadership experience to the Hexima Board."

As previously announced, Hexima will hold an investor webinar tomorrow, 2 September 2021 (AEST). Further details are set out below.

Investor Webinar: 2 September 2021, 9 AM AEST

Registration link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AcPrniY2Qlqlh90-0HdpFA

This announcement is authorised for release to ASX by Michael Aldridge, Chief Executive Officer.

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About Hexima

Hexima (ASX:HXL) is a clinical stage, anti-infectives focused biotechnology company engaged in the research and development of defensin peptides for applications as human therapeutics. Our lead product candidate, pezadeftide (HXP124) applied in a topical formulation, is a potential new prescription treatment for toenail fungal infections (or onychomycosis). Hexima is currently conducting an Australian phase IIb clinical trial testing pezadeftide for the treatment of onychomycosis. Hexima holds granted, long-life patents protecting pezadeftide in major markets globally. For additional information please visit www.hexima.com.au. You can also find us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

About Onychomycosis

Onychomycosis is a common fungal nail infection in the nail plate and nail bed. Prevalence of onychomycosis has been estimated at between 10% (Japan) and 13.8% (USA).¹ Onychomycosis is an infectious disease and is difficult to treat with a significant healthcare burden. It causes pain in approximately 50% of patients and in the US results in close to four doctor's visits annually for treatment.² Onychomycosis impacts a patient's quality of life with 51% unable to wear the shoes they would prefer and 66% distressed by the appearance of their nail.³ It is important to treat onychomycosis as the fungi in the nail can be a source of secondary infection in other areas of the body or infect family members and spread to the environment.

Onychomycosis is the most common nail disorder accounting for 50% of all nail diseases. It is particularly prevalent in older, diabetic and immune compromised populations.² The global market for treatments for onychomycosis was approximately US\$3.7 billion in 2018.⁴

Treatment of Onychomycosis

Approved prescription therapies for onychomycosis comprise either oral or topical medications. Oral medications are associated with adverse effects such as nausea, taste disturbance, and flatulence. They can also severely impact liver function and so often require liver function monitoring. The clinical and commercial success of topical medications has been constrained by an inability of anti-fungal agents to effectively penetrate the human nail and the lack of sufficient anti-fungal activity when in contact with the target pathogen.⁵

Hexima's Approach

Hexima embraces the significant challenge of new product development for onychomycosis. Hexima has taken a very different approach, building on its many years of ground-breaking research into the evolutionary tools that plants use naturally to fight fungal infections. The result is pezadeftide, a new topical treatment for onychomycosis, with a novel and powerful fungicidal mode of action.



Historically, therapies for onychomycosis have generally focused on new forms of the azole class of antifungal agents or improving the topical delivery of systemic antifungal agents. Hexima's technology is a completely novel approach with fundamental differences that address the well-documented limitations of these traditional technologies.

Pezadeftide penetrates the nail more effectively than existing topical treatments and so can more readily target the fungal cells which proliferate in the nail bed. It is also more effective at rapidly killing fungal cells on contact. Together, these properties mean that pezadeftide has the potential to resolve the fungal infection more quickly, leading to faster and more complete clearing of the infected nail area. Consequently, pezadeftide offers the promise to capture significant value in a large and poorly served market.

¹ Tatchibana et al., Journal of Fungi, 2017

² Joseph et al, Supplement to Podiatry Today, 2013

³ Milobratovic et al., Mycoses, 2013

⁴ Persistence Market Research 2018

⁵ Wang et al., Onychomycosis: Diagnosis and Effective Management, 2018