

# HEXIMA LIMITED

## ASX ANNOUNCEMENT



24 February 2022

### NOTICE UNDER SECTION 708A(5)(e) OF THE *CORPORATIONS ACT 2001* (CTH)

This notice is given by Hexima Limited ACN 079 319 314 (ASX: HXL) (**Company**) under section 708A(5)(e) of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) (**Corporations Act**).

#### Background

The Company advises that it has today issued 412,500 shares to employees as a result of the exercise of options.

Of these shares, 375,000 of them will remain restricted until 01 December 2022.

#### Statements by the Company

The Company advises that:

1. the New Shares were issued without disclosure under part 6D.2 of the Corporations Act;
2. as at the date of this notice, the Company has complied with:
  - a. the provisions of Chapter 2M of the Corporations Act as they apply to the Company; and
  - b. section 674 and 674A of the Corporations Act; and
3. as at the date of this notice, there is no “excluded information” of the type referred to in sections 708A(7) and 708A(8) of the Corporations Act which is required to be disclosed by the Company under section 708A(6)(e) of the Corporations Act.

**This announcement is authorised for release to ASX by the Board of Directors of Hexima Limited.**

#### Enquiries:

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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](http://www.hexima.com.au). You can also find us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) or email us at [info@hexima.com.au](mailto:info@hexima.com.au).



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## 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).<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> The global market for treatments for onychomycosis was approximately US\$3.7 billion in 2018.<sup>4</sup>

## 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.<sup>5</sup>

## 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.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This announcement contains or may contain forward-looking statements that are based on Hexima's management's beliefs, assumptions and expectations and on information currently available to management. All statements that address operating performance, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will occur in the future are forward-looking statements. These include, without



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limitation, commercial market acceptance and sales of our product as well as our expectations with respect to our ability to develop and commercialise new products. Management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable when made. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because they speak only as of the date when made. Hexima does not assume any obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Hexima may not actually achieve the plans, projections or expectations disclosed in forward-looking statements. Actual results, developments or events could differ materially from those disclosed in the forward-looking statements.

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<sup>1</sup> Tatchibana et al., Journal of Fungi, 2017

<sup>2</sup> Joseph et al, Supplement to Podiatry Today, 2013

<sup>3</sup> Milobratovic et al., Mycoses, 2013

<sup>4</sup> Persistence Market Research 2018

<sup>5</sup> Wang et al., Onychomycosis: Diagnosis and Effective Management, 2018