October 17, 2018
SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited
Fuminori Yoshida
Representative Director
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Securities Code: 4582)

Onconova Announces Issuance of a New U.S. Patent for Rigosertib

TOKYO, Japan, October 17, 2018 -- SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited (Headquarters: Tokyo, "SymBio,") announced today that its U.S. partner, Onconova Therapeutics, Inc. (Headquarters: Newtown, PA, “Onconova”) announced on October 17, 2018 that a new patent protecting rigosertib has been issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), extending U.S. patent protection for rigosertib through 2037. Onconova plans to promptly apply for equivalent patents in both Japan and Korea, where SymBio holds the exclusive license rights for the development and commercialization of rigosertib.

For Onconova's full press release , please visit Onconova's website.
https://investor.onconova.com/press-releases

SymBio has been actively developing rigosertib (IV:injectable and oral formulations) for myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), for which there is high medical need. For rigosertib IV, SymBio leads clinical development in Japan as part of an international phase III clinical trial conducted by Onconova for patients with high-risk myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) who have failed to respond to hypomethylating agents, relapsed after treatment, or were intolerant of hypomethylating agents. The trial in Japan began in December 2015, and 37 patients have been enrolled as of the end of September 2018. For rigosertib oral, Onconova is conducting a phase I/II clinical trial targeting high-risk myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) for initial treatment (in combination with azacytidine) and a phase II clinical trial targeting low-risk myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), which is transfusion-dependent in the United States. In June 2017, SymBio commenced a phase I clinical trial in Japan to confirm tolerability and safety, and the trial has steadily progressed since the first patient enrollment in October 2017.

About Onconova Therapeutics, Inc.

Onconova Therapeutics, Inc. is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel products to treat cancer. Onconova's clinical and pre-clinical stage drug development candidates are derived from its extensive chemical library and are designed to work against specific cellular pathways that are important in cancer cells, while causing minimal damage to normal cells. In addition to rigosertib, Onconova's most advanced drug candidate under development, two other drug candidates are in clinical trials and several other compounds are in the pre-clinical stage of development. For more information, please visit http://www.onconova.com.

About rigosertib

Rigosertib is a small molecule inhibitor that has a new mechanism of action: it inhibits the activation of Ras as an oncogene-related product, thereby blocking the action of multikinases, including PI3K, and inhibits cellular signaling in cancer cells necessary for their survival and proliferation, thus killing cancer cells.

SymBio obtained the rights to develop and commercialize rigosertib in Japan and Korea from Onconova in July 2011.

About myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS)

MDS patients often require frequent blood transfusions due to the development of severe anemia (decrease in the number of red blood cells), with a high rate of progression to acute myelogenous leukemia (AML). The number of MDS cases are expected to increase as the population ages. MDS and AML are widely recognized as two blood disorders that are difficult to manage given the limited therapeutic options available for patients, particularly for patients who have a drug-resistant form of the disease. A high unmet medical need clearly exists for the establishment of new effective therapies to treat both lower-risk and higher-risk MDS. The number of drug-treated MDS patients is estimated to be about 7,700 in Japan (CancerMPact 2016).