



ASX RELEASE

Peplin Receives Notice of Allowance

BRISBANE, Australia, March 16, 2004: Peplin Biotech Ltd (ASX: PEP) today announced that another of its US patent applications has been allowed by the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The allowance of this application extends the scope of protection afforded by Peplin's earlier patent, US Patent No. 6,432,452, to include the use of angeloyl-substituted ingenanes to stimulate the immune system.

Receipt of a notice of allowance occurs after the patent application has been reviewed by a patent examiner and the examiner is satisfied that the application and claims meet the requirements for issuance of a patent.

Michael Aldridge Peplin's Managing Director and CEO commented "Our lead compound PEP005 and its related compounds are angeloyl-substituted ingenanes. We believe that these compounds' immune stimulating characteristics are an important component of their anti-cancer activity. Accordingly, the granted patent will provide important protection for our core technology."

ABOUT PEPLIN BIOTECH

Peplin Biotech Ltd is focused on the discovery, development and commercialisation of prescription human therapeutic products for the treatment of cancer and other diseases which have limited therapeutic options. Peplin's strategy is to leverage its pipeline of novel proprietary products through collaborative development arrangements with international pharmaceutical companies. Peplin's lead product is a potential topical therapy for actinic keratosis and non-melanoma skin cancer. It is the subject of a joint development agreement with Allergan, Inc. of Irvine, California for commercialisation in North and South America.

Peplin's earlier stage product pipeline is targeted at other forms of cancer using intralesional and systemic routes of administration. Its new portfolio of EPUFA compounds opens additional potential opportunities in cancer and adds candidates for cardiovascular disease, pain, inflammation and diabetic complications.

Further information on Peplin:

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