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XORTX Announces Grant of European Patent

Patent Supporting Diabetic Nephropathy – XRx-225

CALGARY, Alberta, Sept. 01, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- XORTX Therapeutics Inc. ("XORTX" or the "Company") (CSE: XRX) (OTCQB: XRTXF), a biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics for the treatment of progressive kidney disease, is pleased to advise that further to its press release of April 6, 2021 that announced the intention of grant, the Company has now received receipt of the patent grant "EPO National Stage of PCT International Application for Compositions and Methods for Treatment and Prevention of Hyperuricemia Related Health Consequences" by the European Patent Office. The patent covers compositions and methods for the prevention and treatment of diabetic nephropathy (DN) using uric acid lowering agent and specifically xanthine oxidase inhibitors. Aberrant purine metabolism and specifically, chronically increased serum uric acid concentrations have been associated with kidney disease progression.

Dr. Allen Davidoff, XORTX's CEO commented, "This newly granted patent provides XORTX with protection to key markets within the European region. Granted claims within the patent broadly cover the use of uric acid lowering agents and specifically xanthine oxidase inhibition to treat diabetic nephropathy (DN). This patent is a fundamental cornerstone to XORTX's platform technology. This issuance strengthens our intellectual property portfolio, in the EU and globally. Grant of this patent provides the protection to expand our clinical trials, commercialization and partnering opportunities worldwide. With this newly allowed patent, XORTX now has multiple granted patents in the US and/or EU covering compositions and uses of uric acid lowering agents and/or xanthine oxidase inhibitors to treat and prevent chronic progressing kidney disease, hypertension, insulin resistance, diabetic nephropathy (DN)."

About XRx-225

XORTX Therapeutics XRx-225 for diabetic nephropathy, is a small molecule drug development program focused on bringing therapies to patients to treat or prevent progression of chronic kidney disease due to diabetes. This program aims to introduce xanthine oxidase inhibition as a therapy to manage aberrant purine metabolism and chronically increased serum uric acid as a method of slowing progression of diabetic nephropathy and onset of end stage renal disease.

About Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetic Nephropathy

Chronic kidney disease, also called chronic kidney failure, describes the gradual loss of kidney function. Your kidneys filter wastes and excess fluids from your blood, which are then excreted in your urine. When chronic kidney disease reaches an advanced stage, dangerous

levels of fluid, electrolytes and wastes can build up in your body.

In the early stages of chronic kidney disease, you may have few signs or symptoms. Chronic kidney disease may not become apparent until your kidney function is significantly impaired. Treatment for chronic kidney disease focuses on slowing the progression of the kidney damage, usually by controlling the underlying cause. Chronic kidney disease can progress to end-stage kidney failure, which is fatal without artificial filtering (dialysis) or a kidney transplant.

More than 1 in 7, that is 15% of US adults or 37 million people, are estimated to have CKD, and of those, it is estimated that diabetic nephropathy (DN) contributes half of all individuals.

Sadly, there are few approved drugs to treat or slow progression of CKD or DN.

Reference:

1. *Chronic Kidney Disease in the United States, 2021* – www.cdc.gov/kidneydisease/publications-resources/ckd-national-facts.html#

About XORTX Therapeutics Inc.

XORTX Therapeutics Inc. is a biotechnology company focused on developing therapeutics for the treatment of chronic progressing kidney disease, hypertension, insulin resistance and diabetic nephropathy. XORTX currently has three product candidates in various stages of clinical development targeting xanthine oxidase enzyme inhibition and uric acid lowering as a method of treating progressing kidney disease. At XORTX, we are dedicated to developing therapeutics designed to improve the quality of life and future of patients with kidney disease.

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Source: XORTX Therapeutics Inc.