



## **VGX-150 Animal Efficacy Study Featured in Molecular Therapy**

**Blue Bell, PA – November 7, 2006 –**

VGX Pharmaceuticals announced today the preclinical animal efficacy studies for VGX-150, the company's lead product candidate for the treatment of Melanoma, has been featured in the November issue of *Molecular Therapy* (vol 14, no 5, Nov. 2006; pages 647-655). Moreover, the study was featured the In This Month section of the journals [\(Download PDF\)](#).

### ***“HIV Vpr Zaps Tumors***

*The HIV-1 accessory protein Vpr (viral protein R) has previously been demonstrated to G2 cell cycle arrest and kill tumors in vitro. In vivo electroporation has been utilized to deliver pharmacologic agents and DNA plasmids that express “therapeutic” proteins to malignant tumors. In this issue, McCray et. al. evaluated the effects of intratumoral delivery of a Vpr expression plasmid through in vivo electroporation to established melanoma tumors in mice. Treatment with the Vpr-expressing plasmid resulted in complete tumor regression and led to long-term survival in a fraction of the mice. Electroporative delivery of the Vpr-expressing plasmid was shown to induce apoptosis in tumors. The results suggest that Vpr is a promising anti-cancer therapeutic.”*

Soon to be a part of the prestigious Nature Publishing Group in January of 2007, *Molecular Therapy* is a leading journal of the American Society of Gene Therapy (ASGT). *Molecular Therapy* presents important, peer-reviewed studies on key issues in gene transfer, gene and cell therapies, experimental models for correction of genetic and acquired disease and clinical trials. *MT* has become recognized as one of the most prestigious journals in the field. *MT* is ranked in three ISI categories with a high impact factor.

Skin cancer (both non-melanoma and melanoma skin cancer) is the most common of all cancers, accounting for more than 50% of all malignancies. Melanoma is responsible for about 80% of all mortality due to skin. The number of new melanoma cases diagnosed in the United States is increasing; approximately 8,000 people in the US died of melanomas during 2004.

IND-enabling toxicity studies for VGX-150 are currently in progress at the University of South Florida. An Investigational New Drug Application (IND) for VGX-150 is expected to be filed and Phase I clinical trials are expected to be initiated in the first quarter of 2007.

**Cautionary Factors That May Affect Future Results** - Materials in this Press Release contain information that includes or is based upon forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements relate to expectations or forecasts of future events. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as "anticipate," "estimate," "expect," "project," "intend," "plan," "believe," and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with a discussion of potential future events, circumstances or future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, prospective products or product approvals, future performance or results of current and anticipated products, sales efforts, expenses, the outcome of contingencies such as legal proceedings, and financial results. Any or all of our forward-looking statements here or in other publications may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many such factors will be important in determining our actual future results. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed, and forward-looking statements may be adversely affected by factors, including general market conditions, competitive product development, product availability, current and future branded and generic competition, federal and state regulations and legislation, manufacturing issues, timing of the elimination of trade buying, patent positions, litigations and investigations. Our actual results may vary materially, and there are no guarantees about the performance or valuation of VGX stock. It is also important to read the disclosure notice contained in many of the individual VGX documents available on [www.vgxp.com](http://www.vgxp.com) as many contain important information on such cautionary factors as of the date of the individual document. We undertake no obligation to correct or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. You are advised, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in our reports.

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### **About VGX Pharmaceuticals**

VGX Pharmaceuticals is a leading biopharmaceutical company with strong product candidates for the treatment of infectious diseases including HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) as well as cancer and inflammatory diseases. The Company's clinical development programs include PICTOVIR™ for HIV infection and VGX-410C for chronic HCV infection, which are currently in Phase II clinical trials. In addition, a Phase I clinical trial will be initiated in 2007 for the Company's lead cancer drug compound, VGX-150 for the treatment of Melanoma. Moreover, VGX Pharmaceuticals' therapeutic platform is designed to advance a strong and continual pipeline of additional drug candidates into the clinic with VGX-100 for cancer therapy and VGX-1027 and VGX-750 for inflammatory diseases currently in development. The product candidates and technology programs are protected by the Company's extensive global intellectual property portfolio. More information about VGX can be found at [www.vgxp.com](http://www.vgxp.com).

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