



XTL BIOPHARMACEUTICALS RECEIVES EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY'S SME STATUS

SME status supports XTL's European clinical program for hCDR1 in the treatment of lupus and its upcoming Phase 2 trial

RAANANA, ISRAEL - (February 22, 2016) – [XTL Biopharmaceuticals Ltd.](#) (NASDAQ: XTLB, TASE: XTLB.TA) (“XTL” or the “Company”), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing its lead product for the treatment of lupus, today announced that the European Medicines Agency (EMA) has granted the Company Small or Medium Sized Business Enterprise ([SME](#)) status in Europe. This comes in advance of XTL's global Phase 2 trial of its lead compound hCDR1 for the treatment of lupus, which is expected to commence in 2016 in markets including the U.S. and Europe.

SME status offers biopharmaceutical companies numerous benefits for medicinal products going through clinical testing and marketing approval processes in Europe. Incentives include: fee reductions and exemptions in pre- and post-marketing authorization phases; administrative, procedural and scientific advice, and eligibility for funding and grants.

“We believe SME status will benefit our hCDR1 clinical program in Europe during our Phase 2 trial and leading up to marketing registration. We look forward to a continued productive relationship with the EMA,” stated Josh Levine, Chief Executive Officer of XTL.

About hCDR1

hCDR1 is a novel compound with a unique mechanism of action and with clinical data on over 400 patients in three clinical studies. The drug has a favorable safety profile, is well tolerated by patients and has demonstrated efficacy in at least one and possibly more clinically meaningful endpoints. For more information please see a peer reviewed article in Lupus Science and Medicine journal ([full article](#)).

About Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)

Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease involving many systems in the human body, including joints, kidneys, central nervous system, heart, hematological system and others. The biologic basis of the disease is a defect in the immune (defense) system, leading to production of self (auto) antibodies, attacking the normal organs and causing irreversible damage. According to the Lupus Foundation of America, at least 1.5 million Americans have the disease (more than 5 million worldwide) with more than 16,000 new cases diagnosed each year. The majority of patients are women of childbearing years. There has been only one drug approved by the FDA in the last 50 years and recently two of the few drugs in advanced development did not meet their primary endpoints in Phase 3 trials.



About XTL Biopharmaceuticals Ltd. (XTL)

XTL Biopharmaceuticals Ltd., is a clinical-stage biotech company focused on the development of pharmaceutical products for the treatment of autoimmune diseases including lupus. The Company's lead drug candidate, hCDR1, is a world-class clinical asset for the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). There currently is no effective treatment on the market for SLE. hCDR1 has robust clinical data in three clinical trials with 400 patients and over 200 preclinical studies with data published in more than 40 peer reviewed scientific journals. Based on safety and efficacy data shown in a completed Phase 2 study, the Company expects to initiate a Phase 2 trial in 2016.

XTL is traded on the Nasdaq Capital Market (XTLB) and the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (XTLB.TA). XTL shares are included in the following indices: Tel-Aviv Biomed, Tel-Aviv MidCap, and Tel-Aviv Tech Index

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Cautionary Statement

This press release may contain forward-looking statements, about XTL's expectations, beliefs or intentions regarding, among other things, its product development efforts, business, financial condition, results of operations, strategies or prospects. In addition, from time to time, XTL or its representatives have made or may make forward-looking statements, orally or in writing. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as "believe," "expect," "intend," "plan," "may," "should" or "anticipate" or their negatives or other variations of these words or other comparable words or by the fact that these statements do not relate strictly to historical or current matters. These forward-looking statements may be included in, but are not limited to, various filings made by XTL with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, press releases or oral statements made by or with the approval of one of XTL's authorized executive officers. Forward-looking statements relate to anticipated or expected events, activities, trends or results as of the date they are made. Because forward-looking statements relate to matters that have not yet occurred, these statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause XTL's actual results to differ materially from any future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Many factors could cause XTL's actual activities or results to differ materially from the activities and results anticipated in such forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, the factors summarized in XTL's filings with the SEC and in its periodic filings with the TASE. In addition, XTL operates in an industry sector where securities values are highly volatile and may be influenced by economic and other factors



beyond its control. XTL does not undertake any obligation to publicly update these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Please see the risk factors associated with an investment in our ADSs or ordinary shares which are included in our Registration Statement on Form F-1 as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on December 31, 2015.