



## **Avila Therapeutics to Present at the 2011 American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting**

### *Clinical and Preclinical Data for Btk inhibitor, AVL-292 in the Treatment of Hematologic Cancers*

BEDFORD, MA - December 5, 2011 - Avila Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company developing targeted covalent drugs that treat diseases through protein silencing, announced today that two poster presentations on AVL-292, a highly selective Bruton's tyrosine kinase (Btk) inhibitor being evaluated for the treatment of several hematologic cancers, will be presented at the 2011 American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual meeting taking place on December 10-13, 2011 in San Diego, CA.

#### **Clinical:**

- (Abstract #3485): Monday, December 12, 2011, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, "Clinical Development of AVL-292; A Potent, Selective Covalent Btk Inhibitor for the Treatment of B Cell Malignancies," Erica Evans, PhD, Avila Therapeutics, Poster Session 604, Molecular Pharmacology, Drug Resistance, Hall GH

#### **Preclinical:**

- (Abstract #2882): Sunday, December 11, 2011, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, "Targeting Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase as a Novel Approach to Inhibit Osteoclast Function in Multiple Myeloma," Homare Eda, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Harvard Medical School, Poster Session 651, Myeloma – Biology and Pathophysiology, excluding Therapy, Hall GH

#### **About AVL-292 and Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase (Btk)**

AVL-292 is a novel, orally available, covalent drug that inhibits Bruton's tyrosine kinase (Btk). Inhibition of Btk is a promising new approach to treatment of diseases that are driven by B cells, including certain hematologic cancers such as non-Hodgkin lymphoma and B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia and autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis.

AVL-292 selectively and covalently bonds to Btk to inactivate and silence its activity. This mechanism of action confers greater target selectivity and a longer duration of action than is typical of conventional small molecule drugs. In preclinical studies, AVL-292 was efficacious in a variety of animal disease models. AVL-292 is in clinical development and has successfully completed two Phase 1a clinical studies to date.

Development of AVL-292 is supported in part by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

**About Avila Therapeutics™, Inc.**

Avila Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on the design and development of targeted covalent drugs to achieve best-in class outcomes. The company's product pipeline has been built using its proprietary Avilomics™ platform and is currently focused on cancer, viral infection and autoimmune disease. Avila's most advanced product candidate, AVL-292, a potential treatment for cancer and autoimmune diseases, is currently in Phase 1 clinical testing. Avila is funded by leading venture capital firms: Abingworth, Advent Venture Partners, Atlas Venture, Novartis Option Fund, and Polaris Venture Partners. For additional information, please visit <http://www.avilatx.com>.

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