

## Media Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Contact Synosia Therapeutics

Julie Walters at Tudor Reilly

Tel: +44 (0) 1494 753 990

Mobile +44 (0) 775 3626967

[julie.walters@tudor-reilly.com](mailto:julie.walters@tudor-reilly.com)

In the US

Michele Parisi at Tudor Reilly

Tel: +1 925 864 5028

[michele.parisi@tudor-reilly.com](mailto:michele.parisi@tudor-reilly.com)

In Switzerland:

Martin Meier-Pfister or Jan Gregor

at IRF Communications

Tel: +41 43 244 81 54

Mobile: +41 79 652 36 20

[synosia@irfcom.ch](mailto:synosia@irfcom.ch)

## Synosia Announces Second Agreement with Roche

**Basel, Switzerland, 10 March 2009** - Synosia Therapeutics today announced it has entered into a second agreement with Roche, adding a further promising molecule to Synosia's clinical pipeline.

Under the new agreement, Synosia gains access to a new-generation 5-HT<sub>6</sub> antagonist in phase I to be investigated for the treatment of cognitive disorders. The deal expands and builds on the original agreement with Roche, announced in 2007, to develop multiple compounds targeting disorders of the central nervous system (CNS).

Dr Ian Massey, Chief Executive Officer and President of Synosia Therapeutics said: "Our strategy of undertaking innovative, proof-of-mechanism clinical trials to explore the full potential of these molecules is working well and we expect to see data later this year.

"We are particularly pleased to gain access to an additional 5-HT<sub>6</sub> antagonist, which has the potential to be a best-in-class molecule for a target with substantial preclinical and clinical validation," he continued."

Dr Luca Santarelli, Roche's Global Head of Clinical Research & Exploratory Development for CNS said: "Our partnership with Synosia explores novel approaches in translational medicine and is an innovative part of our development strategy that allows us to maximise value creation for both sides."

The most common cognitive disorders include Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia. Industry analysts groupH predict that by 2017 the global market for Alzheimer's will grow to \$6.2bn and the global market for schizophrenia will grow to \$5.8bn.

5-HT<sub>6</sub> receptors are expressed exclusively in the brain and in regions associated with memory function. Synosia now has two 5-HT<sub>6</sub> antagonists in its portfolio. Both are potent, highly selective small molecules.

In addition to the Roche partnership, Synosia also has strategic agreements in place with Novartis and Syngenta, with compounds in late-stage phase I and phase II development.

### **About the Terms of the Agreement**

Under the terms of the original agreement with Roche, Synosia assumed responsibility for the clinical development of five drug candidates in CNS: nepicastat (a dopamine β-hydroxylase inhibitor), an A2a antagonist, a 5-HT<sub>6</sub> antagonist, an IP inhibitor and an mGluR1 enhancer.

This second agreement extends the partnership to include a second 5-HT<sub>6</sub> antagonist and also revises the terms of the original agreement to give Synosia full development and commercialisation rights to all programmes. Roche retains opt-in rights to the 5-HT<sub>6</sub> programme only.

### **About Synosia Therapeutics**

Synosia Therapeutics develops and intends to commercialize innovative and clinically differentiated products for unmet medical needs in psychiatry and neurology. The privately-owned company has seven clinical-stage compounds in its pipeline, acquired through key partnerships with Novartis, Roche and Syngenta. Synosia's pipeline includes two marketed drugs that are being tested in new indications, extending their reach into neurological and psychiatric diseases with high unmet medical need, including anxiety and Parkinson's disease. Synosia's headquarters is in Basel, Switzerland. For more information visit [www.synosia.com](http://www.synosia.com)

### **Disclaimer**

This communication, and oral statements made with respect to information contained in this communication, expressly or implicitly contains certain forward-looking statements concerning Synosia Therapeutics and its business. Such forward-looking statements include those which express plan, anticipation, intent, contingency, goals, targets or future development and/or otherwise are not statements of historical fact including, but not limited to our plans for our regulatory filings, enrolment and future plans for our clinical trials, progress of and reports of results from clinical studies, clinical development plans and product development activities. The words "potential", "could" and similar expressions also identify forward-looking statements. These statements are based upon management's current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties, known and unknown, which could

cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Factors that could affect actual results include risks associated with the possibility that the respective regulatory agencies refuse approval of our applications, the outcome of any discussions with such regulatory agencies and unexpected delays in preparation of materials for submission to such respective regulatory agencies as a part of our filings.

Synosia Therapeutics is providing this communication as of this date and does not undertake to update any forward-looking statements contained herein as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Actual events could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements.

ENDS