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Xention Spins Out Overactive Bladder Business

Demerged OAB company to be called Provesica

Xention to focus product development on atrial fibrillation

CAMBRIDGE, UK – XENTION LTD, the Cambridge-based biopharmaceutical company specialising in the discovery and development of ion channel-modulating drugs, announced today that following its recent £8m financing, it has undergone a re-organisation to enable the Company to concentrate product development on cardiology medicines. Accordingly, Xention has demerged its overactive bladder (OAB) programme into a newly established company, Provesica Ltd, separately owned by Xention's shareholders. Provesica will control all rights to Xention's TRPV1 antagonist, XEN-D0501, which recently successfully completed Phase 1 development. Simultaneously, Provesica has announced that it has raised £4 million of new equity finance to fund a Phase 2 study of XEN-D0501 in patients with OAB.

As part of the transaction, Xention has a new holding company, Xention Pharma Ltd, although research and development will continue to be managed by Xention Ltd, its wholly owned operating subsidiary. Xention will focus its product development on new drugs for cardiac arrhythmia while continuing its ion channel discovery research programmes across multiple therapeutic fields. Xention will also provide certain services to Provesica, including the support of Provesica's overactive bladder programme.

"Cardiac arrhythmia and overactive bladder represent two very different pharmaceutical business fields. Spinning out our OAB drug development programme into a separate business vehicle will allow Xention to focus its product development on our two potential breakthrough programmes in atrial fibrillation" commented Tim Brears, Xention's Chief Executive. "Our innovative new drug candidates are aimed at treating this common heart condition more effectively and safely by modulating single ion channels expressed only in the atria. The drugs we are developing are highly selective for two such channels, Kv1.5 and IKACH, each of which is recognised as a potentially important new target.

“Including the financing of our OAB programme through Provesica, Xention has now successfully raised £12m of fresh equity finance to fund clinical development of drugs in important, but diverse, areas of unmet medical need. Xention’s commitment to excellence in ion channel medicines research continues and we look forward to further successful innovation, both in collaboration with our partners and on our own account”.

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About Atrial Fibrillation:

Atrial Fibrillation (AF) is the most common sustained cardiac rhythm disturbance, occurring in between 1 and 2% of the general population. It is estimated that over six million Europeans suffer from this arrhythmia and its prevalence is calculated to increase by at least 2.5 fold in the next 50 years as the population ages. AF confers a five-fold risk of stroke and one in five of all strokes are attributable to AF. The ischemic strokes seen in association with the arrhythmia are often fatal, and those that survive are often left crippled by their stroke and likely to suffer recurrent strokes. Around one percent of the healthcare budget of Western European and North American countries is spent on the management of AF. Thus this disease presents a rapidly growing social, medical and public health problem in need of urgent solution

Notes to Editors:

Xention Ltd is a leader in the discovery and development of ion channel-modulating drugs. The Company focuses on the development of selective ion channel modulators for the treatment of atrial fibrillation. Its programmes target ion channels that are widely recognised as key atrial fibrillation targets. In addition, Xention has a collaboration with Ono Pharmaceutical Co Ltd. The Company uses proprietary ion channel expertise and

technologies to accelerate the discovery of potent and selective ion channel drugs. In particular, Xention is a leader in the use of true electrophysiological data, ion channel chemoinformatics and medicinal chemistry to identify potent new small molecule drugs in this rapidly evolving field of medicine. For further information, please see <http://www.xention.com>.

Provesica Ltd is a clinical-stage company developing a novel therapeutic approach to overactive bladder, an area of significant unmet medical need. Provesica's development compound, XEN-D0501, targets TRPV1, a well-established but not yet exploited mechanism for overactive bladder. XEN-D0501 is about to enter Phase 2 clinical development. Provesica collaborates with Xention in the area of clinical development. For further information, please see <http://www.provesica.com>.