



Summit Therapeutics plc
(‘Summit’ or the ‘Company’)

Summit’s SMT-571 Potent Against Over 200 Clinical Isolates of *Neisseria Gonorrhoeae*, Including Numerous Multi- and Extensively-Drug Resistant Strains, in Published Preclinical Data

- **Data Highlight SMT-571’s Potential to Address Global Gonorrhoea Threat**

Oxford, UK, and Cambridge, MA, US, 25 February 2019 – Summit Therapeutics plc (NASDAQ: SMMT, AIM: SUMM), a leader in new mechanism antibiotic innovation, published preclinical data on SMT-571, a new mechanism antibiotic in development for the treatment of gonorrhoea, in collaboration with the Örebro University in Sweden. In the published data, SMT-571 was found to be potent against diverse, global *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* strains from actual patient cases, including numerous multi- and extensively-drug resistant strains.

“Neisseria gonorrhoeae continues to evolve and acquire resistance to every marketed antibiotic with which it has been challenged. The concern of practitioners is once 5% resistance to the current standard of care is reached, there will be no new treatments available for gonorrhoea,” said **Professor Magnus Unemo, of Örebro University, a WHO Collaborating Centre for Gonorrhoea and Other Sexually Transmitted Infections, and senior author of the paper.** *“Antibiotics with a new mechanism of action will be important in addressing the global health threat of gonorrhoea. In the published data, we demonstrated that SMT-571, a new mechanism antibiotic, had consistently high potency across hundreds of relevant clinical strains of N. gonorrhoeae, including those that are multi- and extensively-drug resistant. I look forward to the continued development of SMT-571.”*

The paper, [“*In vitro* activity of the novel oral antimicrobial SMT-571, with a new mechanism of action, against MDR and XDR *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: future treatment option for gonorrhoea?”](#) was published in the *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* and authored by C. Mason, N. Khan and P. Meo of Summit and S. Jacobsson and M. Unemo of Örebro University. In the study, researchers tested SMT-571 against 228 clinical isolates and 34 international gonococcal reference strains. SMT-571 achieved potent activity with minimum inhibitory concentrations of 0.064 to 0.125 mg/L against all tested strains. Importantly, SMT-571 did not show cross-resistance with any antimicrobials currently or previously used for the treatment of gonorrhoea. These data further expand the range of *N. gonorrhoeae* strains against which SMT-571 has shown activity, indicating SMT-571 is a promising new mechanism antibiotic in development for the treatment of gonorrhoea.

About SMT-571

SMT-571 is a small molecule, novel mechanism antibiotic in preclinical development for the treatment of gonorrhoea. SMT-571 is designed to be an oral treatment with potential activity across the three sites of gonorrhoea infection: urogenital, rectal and pharyngeal. Preclinical studies have shown SMT-571 to have potent activity across a wide range of *N. gonorrhoeae* strains, including multi- and extensively-drug resistant ones. SMT-571 was identified using Summit’s Discuva Platform, which can identify novel targets, elucidate mechanisms of action and optimise against bacterial resistance.

The development of SMT-571 is supported by the Cooperative Agreement Number IDSEP160030 from ASPR/BARDA and by an award from Wellcome Trust, as administered by CARB-X. The content of this announcement is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, other funders, or CARB-X.

About Gonorrhoea



It is estimated by the World Health Organization ('WHO') that there are approximately 78 million new cases of gonorrhoea globally per year. *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* has consistently developed resistance to each class of antibiotics recommended for treatment and there is now only one treatment recommended by the CDC and European evidence-based guidelines, a combination of two antibiotics. There are currently no other recommended antibiotics that can be effectively deployed to target the disease. The WHO ranks as "High" the priority of R&D investment into the search for antibiotics which are effective against *N. gonorrhoeae* and in August 2018, the CDC stated that in light of increased problems with resistance, additional treatment options were urgently required.

About Summit Therapeutics

Summit Therapeutics is a leader in antibiotic innovation. Our new mechanism antibiotics are designed to become the new standards of care for the benefit of patients and create value for payors and healthcare providers. We are currently developing new mechanism antibiotics for infections caused by *C. difficile*, *N. gonorrhoeae* and ESKAPE pathogens and are using our proprietary Discuva Platform to expand our pipeline. For more information, visit www.summitplc.com and follow us on Twitter @summitplc.

Contacts

Summit

Glyn Edwards / Richard Pye (UK office)
Michelle Avery (US office)

Tel: 44 (0)1235 443 951
+1 617 225 4455

Cairn Financial Advisers LLP (Nominated Adviser)

Liam Murray / Tony Rawlinson

Tel: +44 (0)20 7213 0880

N+1 Singer (Joint Broker)

Aubrey Powell / Jen Boorer, Corporate Finance
Tom Salvesen, Corporate Broking

Tel: +44 (0)20 7496 3000

Bryan Garnier & Co Limited (Joint Broker)

Phil Walker / Dominic Wilson

Tel: +44 (0)20 7332 2500

MSL Group (US)

Jon Siegal

Tel: +1 781 684 6557
summit@mslgroup.com

Consilium Strategic Communications (UK)

Mary-Jane Elliott / Sue Stuart / Jessica Hodgson /
Lindsey Neville

Tel: +44 (0)20 3709 5700
summit@consilium-comms.com

Summit Forward-looking Statements

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whether preliminary results from a clinical trial will be predictive of the final results of that trial or whether results of early clinical trials or preclinical studies will be indicative of the results of later clinical trials, expectations for regulatory approvals, laws and regulations affecting government contracts and funding awards, availability of funding sufficient for the Company's foreseeable and unforeseeable operating expenses and capital expenditure requirements and other factors discussed in the "Risk Factors" section of filings that the Company makes with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended 31 January 2018. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements or information. In addition, any forward-looking statements included in this press release represent the Company's views only as of the date of this release and should not be relied upon as representing the Company's views as of any subsequent date. The Company specifically disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements included in this press release.

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