Global Blood Therapeutics Announces Multiple Data Presentations Supporting GBT440 Program for Hypoxemic Pulmonary Disorders, Including Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

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SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Nov. 10, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc. (GBT) (NASDAQ:GBT), a biopharmaceutical company developing novel therapeutics for the treatment of grievous blood-based disorders with significant unmet needs, today announced that new preclinical data supporting the development of GBT440 for the treatment of hypoxemic pulmonary disorders, including idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), were presented at the American Heart Association (AHA) Scientific Sessions and will be presented at the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (PFF) Summit 2015.

Emerging data suggest that hemoglobin modifiers, such as GBT1118, have the potential to increase oxygen uptake in the lungs, resulting in improved oxygen delivery to tissues. To date, the Company has established preclinical proof of concept for GBT1118, a hemoglobin modifier and analog of GBT440, in three different animal models of hypoxia.

“Collectively our preclinical data suggest that due to their ability to increase the oxygen affinity of hemoglobin, GBT’s hemoglobin modifiers, including GBT440, our oral, once daily therapy, are a promising therapeutic option in development for the treatment of hypoxemia associated with chronic and acute lung disorders, such as IPF and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). This is important because hypoxemia can lead to tissue hypoxia, which is believed to play a key role in disease pathogenesis and adverse patient outcomes,” said Ted W. Love, M.D., chief executive officer of GBT. “As such, the data highlighted in the AHA and PFF presentations further support our plan to initiate a Phase 2 study in IPF in the first half of 2016.”

Details of the AHA Scientific Sessions Presentation: “GBT1118, a Potent Allosteric Modifier of Hemoglobin Oxygen Affinity Increases Tolerance to Hypoxia in Mice” (Presentation #T 4245)
Presented today from 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. Eastern Time (ET).

- Mice were dosed with two doses of GBT1118 or a vehicle control, and exposed to hypoxia by decreasing the amount of inspired oxygen.
- Under severe hypoxia, GBT1118 increased hemoglobin oxygen affinity, improved arterial oxygen saturation, preserved microvascular blood flow, and tissue oxygenation as compared to the control group.
- GBT1118 improved overall survival as compared to the control group.

In addition to the AHA presentation, an abstract titled “Effects of GBT1118, A Potent Allosteric Modifier of Hemoglobin Oxygen Affinity, on Bleomycin-Induced Murine Model of Hypoxemia and Lung Fibrosis” will be presented at the PFF Summit on Thursday, November 12 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

About Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis
Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) is a fatal disease characterized by irreversible, progressive scarring of the lungs. As a patient’s lung tissue thickens, the lungs cannot properly move oxygen into the bloodstream and, as a result, vital organs do not get the oxygen they need. The cause of IPF is unknown and there is no cure. IPF inevitably causes shortness of breath and destruction of healthy lung tissue, resulting in hypoxemia, tissue hypoxia, and ultimately organ dysfunction. Patients with IPF typically experience progressive worsening of lung function over time, requiring the use of supplemental oxygen and frequent hospitalizations in the late stages of the disease. IPF typically affects individuals over the age of 45, and the median survival is approximately three years after diagnosis. While supplemental oxygen therapy is a well-established lifesaving treatment in acute and chronic hypoxic conditions, it is associated with a number of risks, including injury or infection as a result of intubation. This highlights a significant unmet medical need which may be addressed with a drug that improves oxygen uptake and delivery without the risks associated with supplemental oxygen delivery.

About Global Blood Therapeutics
Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc. (GBT) is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company dedicated to discovering, developing, and commercializing novel therapeutics to treat grievous blood-based disorders with significant unmet need. GBT is developing its initial product candidate, GBT440, as an oral, once-daily therapy for sickle cell disease (SCD) and is currently evaluating GBT440 in both healthy subjects and SCD patients in a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind Phase 1/2 clinical trial. In addition to GBT440 for the treatment of SCD, GBT is engaged in research and development activities targeted toward hypoxemic pulmonary disorders, including idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) and hereditary angioedema (HAE). To learn more, please visit: www.globalbloodtx.com.

Forward-Looking Statements
Statements we make in this press release may include statements which are not historical facts and are considered forward-looking within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act. We intend these forward-looking statements, including
statements regarding the therapeutic potential of GBT440 and any other product candidates that we may identify and develop, to be covered by the
safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act
and are making this statement for purposes of complying with those safe harbor provisions. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views
about our plans, intentions, expectations, strategies and prospects, which are based on the information currently available to us and on assumptions
we have made. We can give no assurance that the plans, intentions, expectations or strategies will be attained or achieved, and furthermore, actual
results may differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements and will be affected by a variety of risks and factors that are
beyond our control including, without limitation, those set forth in the prospectus for our initial public offering of common stock that was filed with the
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) on August 12, 2015, as well as discussions of potential risks, uncertainties and other important
factors in our subsequent filings with the SEC. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements,
whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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