Onconova Development Programs Highlighted in Seven Presentations at AACR Annual Meeting

NEWTOWN, Pa., April 7, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Onconova Therapeutics, Inc. (Nasdaq:ONTX), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel products to treat cancer, today announced the presentation of seven abstracts at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, being held April 5-9, 2014. The presentations focus on the mechanism of action of rigosertib, and two IND-track preclinical programs that target important cancer metabolism and cell division proteins.

"The presentations at the AACR Annual Meeting underscore our deep pipeline and the breadth of our research and development efforts," commented Ramesh Kumar, Ph.D., President and CEO of Onconova. "Notably, the novel findings reported on rigosertib’s mechanism of action represent a long-sought advance in the field of cancer biology where past efforts at targeting the important Ras pathway have not been successful and the approach of targeting the Ras Binding Domain may suggest potential applications across many tumor types. Further, the preclinical data for our IND-track programs highlight our early pipeline as well as our ongoing collaboration with GVK Biosciences. This collaboration (GBO) was established to advance preclinical programs towards clinical development."

The schedule and meeting location for the sessions, together with the abstract information, are listed below by program:

**Rigosertib**

**Title:** Targeting the Ras-Binding domain of RAS effector proteins by a small molecule inhibitor, Rigosertib  
**Abstract #: LB-108**  
**Date:** Monday, April 7, 2014  
**Time:** 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
**Session Title:** Late-Breaking Research: Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics 1  
**Location:** Hall A-E, Poster Section 42  
**Presenter:** Saikrishna A. Divakar, Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY

**Title:** Downstream effects of rigosertib (ON 01910.Na) in cancer cells involves impairment of protein translation via eIF2 and eIF4  
**Abstract #: 4554**  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 8, 2014  
**Time:** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
**Session Title:** Cell Cycle Mechanisms of Anticancer Drug Action  
**Location:** Hall A-E, Poster Section 31  
**Presenter:** Salim Merali, Ph.D., Temple University School of Pharmacy, Philadelphia, PA

**Title:** RPL18A as putative target of rigosertib  
**Abstract #: 4595**  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 8, 2014  
**Time:** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
**Session Title:** Novel Therapeutic Targets  
**Location:** Hall A-E, Poster Section 34  
**Presenter:** Irina Oussenko, Ph.D., Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY

**Title:** The molecular basis of activity of rigosertib (ON 01910.Na) in head and neck cancer cell lines  
**Abstract #: 5465**  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 9, 2014  
**Time:** 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
About Onconova Therapeutics, Inc.

Onconova Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel products to treat cancer. Onconova’s clinical and pre-clinical stage drug development candidates are derived from its extensive chemical library and are designed to work against specific cellular pathways that are important in cancer cells, while causing minimal damage to normal cells. In addition to rigosertib, the Company’s most advanced product candidate, two other candidates are in clinical trials, and several candidates are in pre-clinical stages. For more information, please visit [http://www.onconova.com](http://www.onconova.com).

Forward Looking Statements

Some of the statements in this release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which involve risks and uncertainties. These statements relate to future events or Onconova Therapeutics, Inc.’s future operations, clinical development of Onconova’s product candidates and presentation of data with respect thereto, and Onconova’s future expectations and plans and prospects. Although Onconova believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date made, expectations may prove to have been materially different from the results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Onconova has attempted to identify forward-looking statements by terminology including "believes," "estimates," "anticipates," "expects," "plans," "intends," "may," "could," "might," "will," "should," "approximately" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes. These statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, including those discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, filed by Onconova with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
Any forward-looking statements contained in this release speak only as of its date. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this release to reflect events or circumstances occurring after its date or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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