



## PRESS RELEASE

### **PsychoGenics Achieves Another Milestone in its Drug Discovery Collaboration with Sunovion**

TARRYTOWN, N.Y., May 12, 2014 – PGI Drug Discovery LLC (PsychoGenics), today announced the achievement of a milestone in its drug discovery and development collaboration with Sunovion.

In August 2007, PsychoGenics and Sunovion entered into a drug discovery and development agreement to combine their complementary strengths and expertise to identify a new generation of treatments for neuropsychiatric disorders. PsychoGenics evaluated a library of Sunovion compounds, using its proprietary *in vivo* drug discovery technologies, including SmartCube<sup>®</sup>, leading to the discovery of new drug candidates with novel modes of action. Sunovion has decided to exercise its option to develop a second drug candidate, thereby triggering an additional milestone payment to PsychoGenics.

This program emerged from a library hit that was identified using SmartCube<sup>®</sup> and subsequently went through chemistry lead optimization also using SmartCube<sup>®</sup>. This program has excellent pharmacological properties and novel mechanism of action that differentiate it from existing therapies. This is the second drug candidate to be nominated from the partnership; the first candidate is advancing in clinical development.

“At Sunovion, we are pursuing a systems biology approach to discovering and developing new drug candidates so that we can deliver truly new treatment options to patients,” said Tom Large, Senior Vice President of Discovery Research at Sunovion. “PsychoGenics has been a key strategic partner in this approach for 6 years and we look forward to continuing our successful collaboration in order to identify and optimize new clinical candidates in our pipeline.”

“We are pleased to have achieved this milestone which is further validation of PsychoGenics’ phenotypic approach to CNS drug discovery. We have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with the talented Sunovion discovery team and look forward to supporting the development of this exciting new program as well as the clinical development of the first compound in Phase I, and the advancement of other research programs.” remarked Emer Leahy, Ph.D., PsychoGenics’ President & CEO.

PsychoGenics’ technologies, which include its SmartCube<sup>®</sup> system, combine broad *in vivo* behavioral expertise with recent developments in robotics, computer vision, and bioinformatics to evaluate drug candidates for potential utility across the spectrum of CNS disease indications. Working in partnership with pharmaceutical and biotech companies, PsychoGenics has been instrumental in identifying therapeutic potential for discontinued compounds; as well as, early stage compounds with novel mechanisms of action.



## **About PsychoGenics**

PsychoGenics is a leader in *in vivo* phenotypic drug discovery. The Company applies its proprietary technology platforms in partnership with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to discover the next generation of drugs for neuropsychiatric disorders. PsychoGenics' capabilities also include standard behavioral testing, electrophysiology, molecular biology, and state-of-the-art microdialysis. In addition, the company offers a variety of in-licensed transgenic mouse models that support research in areas such as Huntington's disease, Autism spectrum disorders, psychosis/schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), muscular dystrophy and other muscle disorders.

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