



Synta Announces Appointment of Steven Bernitz as Senior Vice President, Corporate Development

December 20, 2013

LEXINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 20, 2013-- Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. (NASDAQ: SNTA) today announced the appointment of Steven Bernitz as Senior Vice President, Corporate Development. Mr. Bernitz brings over 20 years' experience in corporate strategy, business leadership and transactional experience in life sciences.

Prior to Synta, Mr. Bernitz was a General Partner and Head of the BioPharma Practice at Extera Partners, a business development advisory firm. At Extera, he led numerous business development and strategy initiatives for development stage companies and their investors, principally in oncology, autoimmune and orphan diseases.

Prior to joining Extera in 2010, Mr. Bernitz was Chief Business Officer at Concert Pharmaceuticals where he led Concert's \$1 billion deal with GlaxoSmithKline, and prior to Concert he was Senior Vice President, Business and Product Development at Coley Pharmaceutical Group, where he led numerous transactions including Coley's \$600 million oncology deal with Pfizer. Mr. Bernitz has also been CEO of Histogenics and Organogenesis, both cell therapy companies, and earlier in his career was with Merck Vaccines and McKinsey & Co.

"Steve has tremendous deal experience, as is clear from his track record, which will be valuable in realizing the potential of both our ganetespib and HDC programs," said Safi Bahcall, President and CEO, Synta. "His wealth of diverse business experiences and insights make him an excellent addition to our executive team, as we manage a growing pipeline and an increasing number of important strategic and operational choices."

"Synta has the potential to make a tremendous difference in the lives of cancer patients," said Mr. Bernitz. "Both ganetespib and the HDC platform represent innovative new treatment approaches that can transform standard of care. I am excited to join the team and help achieve these ambitious goals."

Mr. Bernitz earned his MBA from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University where he was an Austin Scholar, and his B.S. *summa cum laude* from Tufts University where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

About Synta Pharmaceuticals

Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, developing, and commercializing small molecule drugs to extend and enhance the lives of patients with severe medical conditions, including cancer and chronic inflammatory diseases. Synta has a unique chemical compound library, an integrated discovery engine, and a diverse pipeline of clinical- and preclinical-stage drug candidates with distinct mechanisms of action and novel chemical structures.

All Synta drug candidates were invented by Synta scientists using our compound library and discovery capabilities. For more information, please visit www.syntapharma.com

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