

March 28, 2017

## **ONO Enters into a Research and Option Agreement with Numab**

Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Osaka, Japan; President, Representative Director and CEO, Gyo Sagara; “ONO”) announced today that it entered into a research and option agreement with Numab Therapeutics AG (Pfäffikon, Switzerland; co-CEO, David Urech and Oliver Middendorp; Numab) to discover and develop a multi-specific antibody candidate in the immuno-oncology treatment.

Under the agreement, ONO will obtain an option to acquire intellectual property rights to, and exclusive rights to develop and commercialize, the selected lead compound to be generated through this collaboration, which will exploit one of ONO’s novel therapeutic approaches in immuno-oncology.

In exchange, ONO will pay to Numab research funding and up to CHF 258 million in upfront and milestone payments plus tiered single to double digit royalties on sales.

Hiromu Habashita, Corporate Officer, and Executive Director of Discovery & Research of ONO, said: “We highly value the capabilities of Numab’s multi-specific antibody platform. It is robust, and optimized to reproducibly yield product candidates with outstanding binding properties. We believe it is ideally suited to fuel our immuno-oncology drug discovery and consequently a multi-specific antibody to be generated through this collaboration will provide hope to sufferers of cancer.”

Oliver Middendorp, co-CEO of Numab, said: “We are extremely pleased to start our collaboration with ONO, a company with a track record of scientific excellence and innovation, and that most recently made its mark by launching a new era in cancer treatment with the development of the first anti-PD-1 antibody, Opdivo (Nivolumab).”

### **About Numab**

Founded in 2011, Numab develops a proprietary pipeline of multi-specific biotherapeutics in immuno-oncology and immunology, and has a number of discovery partnerships with pharmaceutical companies. For further information, visit [www.numab.com](http://www.numab.com).

### **About Numab’s multi-specific antibody platform**

Numab’s fragment-based multispecific antibody therapeutics are designed to address the many escape mechanisms of disease by simultaneously engaging multiple targets. Numab’s plug-and-play multi-specifics platform allows for a highly rational and reproducible process that rapidly yields promising clinical candidates with new mechanisms of action, superior efficacy and a favorable safety profile. Numab is steadily expanding its collection of building blocks to identify promising combinations of specificities for use in immuno-oncology as well

as in other therapeutic areas. At the heart of its plug-and-play platform are on the one hand a completely novel, modular scaffolding technology with unprecedented stability, and on the other the ability to generate highly stable multispecific antibody formats. Together these cornerstones fuel Numab's ability to generate a broad variety of first in class multispecific antibody-based therapeutics.

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