



## **ADVISORY/Abgenix Provides Background Information on Fully Human Antibodies**

Abgenix (Nasdaq:ABGX):

What:

Antibodies are naturally occurring proteins used by the body's immune system to combat many diseases. As therapeutic products, antibodies have several potential advantages over other therapies. In particular, the long half life of antibodies following systemic administration may allow for infrequent dosing, making them ideal candidates for treatment of chronic diseases. The highly specific interaction between an antibody and its target may also reduce unwanted side effects that could occur with other therapies.

Fully human antibodies - such as those generated by Abgenix's (Nasdaq:ABGX) technology -- are desirable because they may also avoid the risk of rejection that can occur with mouse or partial mouse antibodies.

Why:

Given their highly specific nature, antibodies are ideal therapeutic candidates for many diseases. Antibodies have several important clinical and commercial advantages over traditional therapies. These benefits may include a faster development cycle, fewer unwanted side effects as a result of high specificity for the disease target, improved pharmacokinetics, and the ability to deliver various payloads (eg, drugs, radiation or toxins) to specific disease sites.

Currently, there are 17 antibodies approved for marketing in the U.S. today addressing such diseases as cancer, arthritis and asthma.

Who:

Abgenix is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and manufacturing of human therapeutic antibodies. The company's antibody development platform includes a leading technology and state-of-the-art manufacturing capabilities that enable the rapid generation, selection and production of high affinity, fully human antibody product candidates to a variety of disease targets. Abgenix leverages its leadership position in human antibody technology to build a diversified product portfolio through the establishment of collaborations with multiple pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Abgenix has collaborations with over 30 partners, including AstraZeneca, Amgen, Curagen and Pfizer, who can access Abgenix's technology for their development efforts.

Seven fully human antibody product candidates derived from Abgenix's technology have advanced into clinical trials. These include three of Abgenix's proprietary antibodies and four antibodies that are in development by technology licensees, including antibodies in clinical trials being conducted by Amgen and Pfizer.

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