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Tularik Begins GPCR Drug Discovery Collaboration with Sankyo

South San Francisco, Calif. – June 11, 2002 – Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced that it has entered into a collaboration with Sankyo Company, Ltd. to jointly discover and develop human therapeutics that act on orphan G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs).

Under the agreement, Tularik will receive a cash payment in recognition of its contribution of five GPCR targets. Sankyo has the option to select one or more of these five targets for further development at the end of the first year of the collaboration. Once target(s) have been selected, Sankyo will support Tularik research and pre-clinical development activities relating to compounds with activity against these target(s) for up to four years. The parties will share equally all clinical development costs and profits in the U.S. and Europe. Tularik is entitled to milestone and royalty payments as these compounds progress through clinical trials to registration outside of the U.S. and Europe. Other financial terms were not disclosed.

“Our research organization has identified many exciting targets, including a number of novel GPCRs. The value of these targets is evidenced by this collaboration with Sankyo, one of the premier pharmaceutical companies in the world,” said David V. Goeddel, Tularik’s Chief Executive Officer. “We are excited to be working with Sankyo, as they provide significant expertise in the areas of this collaboration, including metabolic diseases and immunology.”

Dr. Yukio Sugimura, a member of the Board of Directors and General Manager of the Research Institute of Sankyo, said, “This is a beneficial partnership for all of us. We are very pleased to be able to work with Tularik on this GPCR program, because we have been impressed by the accomplishments and capabilities of Tularik. We wish the scientists continued success and look forward to exciting results from this important collaboration.”

About Sankyo

Sankyo Co., Ltd. is Japan’s second largest pharmaceutical company with annual worldwide sales of \$4.5 billion and over 11,000 employees. Sankyo has a long history of

discovering new classes of drugs, including the statin class of lipid-lowering drugs with its discovery of the first statin, mevastatin, and pravastatin, the second statin therapy to be marketed globally. In addition, Sankyo developed and launched the first glitazone, which revolutionized long-term control of type 2 diabetes. Sankyo is continuously working toward new discoveries especially in the field of Cardiovascular, Diabetes, Obesity, Bones and Joints, Immune system related disorders and allergies. For more information, please visit www.sankyo.co.jp.

About GPCRs

G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) are proteins that traverse the cell membrane seven times (also referred to as heptahelical receptors). These proteins regulate diverse biological functions including sight, taste and smell. Furthermore, GPCRs are involved in the regulation of inflammation, blood pressure, reproduction, digestion and appetite. Approximately one third of the top 100 drugs currently on the market act on GPCRs, including Claritin[®], Cozaar[®] and Singulair[®], which are the top three sellers targeting GPCRs. Drugs that target GPCRs generate more than \$60 billion annually.

(Source: MedAd News, May 2002)

About Tularik

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available medicines that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik's scientific platform spans seven disease-based programs focused on three areas: cancer, immunology and metabolic disease. For more information, visit Tularik's Internet website at www.tularik.com.

This press release contains "forward-looking" statements. For this purpose, any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "will," "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause the results of Tularik to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, risks detailed from time to time in Tularik's SEC reports, including the report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2002.