Aura Biosciences to Present Preclinical Data Highlighting AU-011's Potential to Target a Broad Number of Tumor Types at the 2022 AACR Annual Meeting

March 8, 2022

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Mar. 8, 2022-- Aura Biosciences Inc. (NASDAQ: AURA), a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing a novel class of virus-like drug conjugate (VDC) therapies for multiple oncology indications, today announced the presentation of preclinical data for its first VDC product candidate, AU-011 which is being developed for the treatment of life-threatening cancers with high unmet need, including primary choroidal melanoma and non-muscle invasive bladder cancer. The results demonstrate the potential wide applicability of AU-011 in targeting a number of solid tumor types and will be presented as part of the 2022 American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting, being held April 8-13, 2022 in New Orleans, LA.

"The data that will be presented at AACR provide evidence for AU-011's activity in tumors that express specifically modified heparan-sulfate proteoglycans on the tumor cell surface. Activity was observed in every tumor type tested, indicating that there are numerous solid tumors we can consider to expand the clinical development of AU-011, including those derived from neural or epithelial lineages," said Dr. Cadmus Rich, Chief Medical Officer and Head of R&D of Aura Biosciences. "The correlative gene expression analysis has deepened our understanding of the genes and biological pathways involved in the expression of HSPGs by different types of tumor cells."

Details for the poster presentation are as follows:

Title: Biological Assessment of the Virus-Like Drug Conjugate AU-011 to Specifically Target a Breadth of Human Cancer Types
Presenter: Rhonda Kines, Aura Biosciences
Poster Session: ETO1 Drug Discovery
Date and time: April 8, 2022, 1:00 PM ET
Location: E-poster
Session Category: Experimental and Molecular Therapeutics
Session Title: Drug Discovery
Abstract Number: 5331

About Aura Biosciences

Aura Biosciences, Inc. (NASDAQ: AURA) is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing virus-like drug conjugates (VDCs), a novel class of therapies, for the treatment of multiple oncology indications. Aura's lead VDC candidate, AU-011 (belzupacap sarotalacan), consists of a virus-like particle conjugated with an anti-cancer agent. AU-011 selectively targets and destroys cancer cells and activates the immune system with the potential to create long-lasting anti-tumor immunity. AU-011 is currently in development for ocular cancers, with an ongoing Phase 2 clinical trial evaluating first-line treatment of choroidal melanoma, a vision- and life-threatening form of eye cancer where standard of care with radiotherapy leaves patients with severe comorbidities, including major vision loss. Aura plans to develop AU-011 across its ocular oncology franchise including for the treatment of patients with choroidal metastases. In addition, leveraging Aura's technology platform, Aura is developing AU-011 more broadly across multiple cancers, starting with a planned Phase 1a clinical trial in patients with non-muscle invasive bladder cancer. Aura is headquartered in Cambridge, MA.

For more information, visit aurabiosciences.com, or follow Aura on Twitter and LinkedIn.

Forward Looking Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended, and other federal securities laws. Any statements that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward looking statements. Words such as "may," "will," "could", "should," "expects," "intends," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "projects," "seeks," "endeavor," "potential," "continue" or the negative of such words or other similar expressions that can be used to identify forward-looking statements. These forward looking statements include express or implied statements regarding Aura's future expectations, plans and prospects, including, without limitation, statements regarding the therapeutic potential of AU-011 for the treatment of a number of solid tumor types and expectations with respect to any future clinical trials and clinical development plans for AU-011.

The forward-looking statements in this press release are neither promises nor guarantees, and you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, many of which are beyond Aura's control and which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, uncertainties inherent in clinical trials and in the availability and timing of data from ongoing clinical trials; the expected timing for submissions for regulatory approval or review by governmental authorities; the risk that the results of Aura's clinical trials may not be predictive of future results in connection with future clinical trials; whether Aura will receive regulatory approvals to conduct trials or to market products; whether Aura's cash resources will be sufficient to fund its foreseeable and unforeseeable operating expenses and capital expenditure requirements; risks, assumptions and uncertainties regarding the impact of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic on Aura's business, operations, strategy, goals and anticipated timelines; Aura's ongoing and planned pre-clinical activities; and Aura's ability to initiate, enroll, conduct or complete ongoing and planned clinical trials. These risks, uncertainties, and other factors include those risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Risk Factors" in Aura's most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and in subsequent filings made by Aura with the SEC, which are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Except as required by law, Aura disclaims any intention or responsibility for updating or revising any forward-looking statements contained in this press release in the event of new information, future developments or otherwise. These forward-looking statements are based on Aura's current expectations and speak only as of the date hereof and no representations or warranties (express or implied) are made about the accuracy of any such forward-looking statements.

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