Reata Pharmaceuticals Announces the Expansion of an RTA 408 Oncology Phase 1 Trial to Include Patients with Advanced Melanoma

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IRVING, Texas, January 24, 2014 – Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc., announces it will expand an ongoing Phase 1 trial of RTA 408 in patients with non-small cell lung cancer to include patients with metastatic or unresectable melanoma (https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02029729).

Malignant melanoma is a leading cause of death from cutaneous malignancies, accounting for about three-fourths of all skin cancer deaths. Surgical excision is the standard treatment for localized melanomas, which are highly curable. For metastatic or unresectable melanomas, systemic treatment with adjuvant therapy is standard of care. However, approved therapies, including immuno-oncology agents that stimulate T-cell anti-tumor activity are not effective in most patients and significant unmet clinical needs remain.

In preclinical studies, RTA 408 inhibited the activity of myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs). MDSCs are the primary cells responsible for the induction of antigen-specific T-cell tolerance in cancer, and their activity is dependent on the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species (RNS). By reducing tumor ROS and RNS levels and inhibiting the activity of MDSCs, RTA 408 may augment T-cell anticancer activity and restore immune recognition of tumor-specific antigens *in vivo*. The addition of melanoma patients to the Phase 1 trial provides an opportunity to evaluate tumor biomarker data in accessible tumors in a subset of melanoma patients to better characterize the effects of RTA 408 in restoring anti-tumor immune effects.

About Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Reata Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a privately held company aiming to translate innovative research into breakthrough medicines for difficult diseases that have significant unmet needs. Reata is the leader in developing a novel class of drugs with potent transcription-regulating activity called antioxidant inflammation modulators (AIMs). AIMs activate Nrf2, promoting the production of numerous antioxidant, detoxification, and anti-inflammatory genes, and inhibit NF-κB, a transcription factor that regulates many pro-inflammatory proteins. The pharmacology of the AIMs mimics that of endogenous prostaglandin metabolites that are responsible for the orchestrated resolution of inflammation. The anti-inflammatory, cytoprotective and energy metabolism effects of AIM pharmacology have been documented in more than 250 scientific papers and are potentially relevant to a wide range of diseases.

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