



ZIOPHARM Oncology to Present at Maxim Group Growth Investor Conference

NEW YORK, Sep 30, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. (NASDAQ: ZIOP) announced today that Dr. Jonathan Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, will present at the Maxim Group Growth Investor Conference on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 3:30 pm ET in the Morosco room at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York, NY. Dr. Lewis will provide an overview of the Company and its clinical development programs.

The presentation will be webcast live and can be accessed by visiting the Investor Relations section at www.ziopharm.com. The webcast will be archived for ninety days.

About ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.

ZIOPHARM Oncology is a biopharmaceutical company engaged in the development and commercialization of a diverse portfolio of cancer drugs. The Company is currently focused on the development of three clinical programs for multiple indications. Palifosfamide (ZIO-201) is a novel molecule that is the functional active metabolite of ifosfamide, a standard of care for treating sarcoma, testicular cancer, lymphoma and other cancers. Palifosfamide delivers only the cancer fighting component of ifosfamide. It overcomes the resistance of ifosfamide and cyclophosphamide in certain cancers. It does not have the toxic metabolites that cause the debilitating side effects of "fuzzy brain" (encephalopathy) and severe bladder inflammation. Indibulin (ZIO-301) is a novel, oral tubulin binding agent that targets both mitosis and cancer cell migration. Indibulin has several potential benefits, including oral dosing, application in multi-drug resistant tumors, no neuropathy and minimal overall toxicity. Indibulin has shown early activity in many types of solid tumors. Darinaparsin (ZIO-101) is a novel organic arsenic being developed for the treatment of various hematologic and solid cancers. Studies demonstrate that darinaparsin is less toxic and more active in treating cancer than FDA-approved inorganic arsenic. The study that is farthest along is in lymphoma. ZIOPHARM's operations are located in Boston, MA with an executive office in New York. Further information about ZIOPHARM may be found at www.ziopharm.com.

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Forward-Looking Safe Harbor Statement:

This press release contains forward-looking statements for ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results and expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially from these statements. Among other things, there can be no assurance that any of the Company's development efforts relating to its product candidates will be successful, or such product candidates will be successfully commercialized. Other risks that affect forward-looking information contained in this press release include the possibility of being unable to obtain regulatory approval of the Company's product candidates, the risk that the results of clinical trials may not support the Company's claims, and risks related to the Company's ability to protect its intellectual property and its reliance on third parties to develop its product candidates. The Company assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, except as required by law.

SOURCE: ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.

ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.
Suzanne McKenna, 646-214-0703
smckenna@ziopharm.com

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