



Conatus Pharmaceuticals to Highlight Anticipated Clinical Data Readouts and Strategic Initiatives at Upcoming Investor Events

February 5, 2018

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 05, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- In a presentation and in scheduled meetings with members of the investment community in New York next week, Conatus Pharmaceuticals Inc. (NASDAQ:CNAT) President, Chief Executive Officer and co-founder, Steven J. Mento, Ph.D., and Conatus Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Keith W. Marshall, Ph.D., M.B.A., will focus on the company's expected announcements of clinical trial results and strategic development activities.

"This is an exciting time for Conatus. We are now rapidly approaching four scheduled Phase 2b clinical trial readouts from our lead development program in 2018 and 2019, along with multiple parallel pathways to expanding our development pipeline," said Dr. Mento, "and we believe Conatus is advancing well toward the next chapter in the company's evolution."

"With the funds provided by our collaboration with Novartis, including anticipated reimbursements for 50% of the costs for the four ongoing clinical trials," said Dr. Marshall, "the remaining emricasan development is fully funded. In addition, we believe these financial resources, without including any potential milestone payments under the Novartis collaboration, are sufficient to maintain operations through completion of all four Phase 2b clinical trials by the end of 2019, as well as to fund initial pipeline expansion activities. We will provide additional financial guidance for 2018 with our year-end financial results in early March."

- At the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) CEO & Investor Conference BIO CEO & Investor Conference in New York on Monday, February 12, Dr. Mento and Dr. Marshall will meet with investment professionals and will provide an overview and update presentation beginning at 10:30 a.m. ET. An audio webcast and copy of the BIO CEO & Investor Conference presentation will be available in the Investors section of the company's website at www.conatuspharma.com.
- At the SunTrust Robinson Humphrey Orphan Drug Day in New York on Tuesday, February 13, Dr. Mento and Dr. Marshall will conduct a series of meetings with invited institutional investors.

About Conatus Pharmaceuticals

Conatus is a biotechnology company focused on the development and commercialization of novel medicines to treat liver disease. In collaboration with Novartis, Conatus is developing its lead compound, emricasan, for the treatment of patients with chronic liver disease. Emricasan is a first-in-class, orally active pan-caspase inhibitor designed to reduce the activity of enzymes that mediate inflammation and apoptosis. Conatus believes that by reducing the activity of these enzymes, caspase inhibitors have the potential to interrupt the progression of a variety of diseases. For additional information, please visit www.conatuspharma.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this press release are forward looking statements, including statements regarding: the timelines to announce results from the four ongoing clinical trials; potential expansion of the company's development pipeline; the sufficiency of current financial resources to maintain operations through 2019, as well as to fund initial pipeline expansion activities; and caspase inhibitors' potential to interrupt the progression of a variety of diseases. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "could," "intend," "target," "project," "contemplates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those risks described in the company's prior press releases and in the periodic reports it files with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The events and circumstances reflected in the company's forward-looking statements may not be achieved or occur and actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Except as required by applicable law, the company does not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

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