

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From Thera Neuropharma, Inc.

MEDIA CONTACT: Guy Maestre, 610-761-7311

# THERA NEUROPHARMA RECEIVES FUNDING FROM FLEMISH AGENCY FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPENEURSHIP - VLAAMSE AGENTSCHAP INNOVEREN EN ONDERNEMEN (VLAIO)

**Berwyn, PA, May 9, 2016** – Thera Neuropharma, Inc., a privately held biopharmaceutical company focused on developing Tangible and Decisive therapeutic interventions for neurodegenerative disorders announced today that it has been awarded a \$1,275,000 grant from the Flemish Agency For Innovation And Entrepeneurship - Vlaamse Agentschap Innoveren En Ondernemen (VLAIO).

"We are delighted to have been selected for this funding," said Antonella Favit-VanPelt, MD, PhD, President and CEO of Thera Neuropharma, "The funding process at VLAIO is highly competitive and this selection underscores the unique opportunity provided by our small molecule regenerative technology to deliver tangible and decisive treatment options for patients with neurodegenerative disorders".

Thera will be using the funds to further research on its small molecule therapeutics and optimize the lead compounds to enter clinical stage in the next future. Part of the research will be conducted in collaboration with Prof. Rudi Beyaert, a world expert in NF-κB, from the Vlaams Instituut voor Biotechnologie, (VIB) Belgium.

"We are looking forward to working with Prof. Beyaert and VIB", added Dr. Antonella Favit-VanPelt, "and we believe that his expertize will be instrumental in enhancing our understanding of the mechanism of action and bring our therapeutic compounds closer to market".

## About Thera Neuropharma, Inc.

Thera Neuropharma, Inc. based in Berwyn, PA, is a privately held biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery, development and commercialization of Tangible and Decisive therapeutic interventions for neurodegenerative disorders. Thera is focusing its development activities initially on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and traumatic brain injury (TBI), eventually expanding to Alzheimer's disease (AD) and other neurologic diseases. Thera is pursuing two complementary approaches to address these diseases. Our small molecule regenerative therapy (SMRT) and RNA interference (sd-RNAi) technology platforms are uniquely positioned to modulate cell functioning, regenerative processes, and RNA activity in the central nervous system.

Our SMRT technology leverages the therapeutic potential of a dual-target approach. It directly activates the nuclear factor-κB p65 subunit (NF-κB p65) and increases manganese superoxide



dismutase (MnSOD) expression. Thera lead candidates prromote transcriptional activity with strong neurotrophic and regenerative effects. They also improve mitochondrial-induced cell viability and protein functionality through increased MnSOD expression and their effect on copper/zinc superoxide dismutase (SOD1).

The sd-rxRNAi technology targets SOD1, a key pathogenic target in sporadic and familial ALS. It interferes with the production of defective (misfolded) SOD1 blocking the expression of this protein and inducing a potential therapeutic effect.

Thera's SMRT and sd-rxRNAi ALS candidates are uniquely positioned to deliver a tangible and decisive therapeutic approach with a potentially curative effect. Thera is implementing a strong research and development program and fostering important collaborations with Southern Research, Alabama, The University of Massachusetts, and the Vlaams Instituut voor Biotechnologie, Belgium, to advance our SMRT and RNA-based technology platforms and compounds' portfolio.

For more information regarding Thera Neuropharma, Inc. visit <a href="www.theraneuro.com">www.theraneuro.com</a> or e-mail the company at <a href="mailto:theraneuro.com">thera@theraneuro.com</a>

## About Vlaamse Agentschap Innoveren En Ondernemen (VLAIO)

Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship (in Dutch: Agentschap Innoveren & Ondernemen) is a government agency, charged with implementing the economic, innovation and enterprise policy in Flanders, the Dutch speaking northern part of Belgium. In close collaboration with our sisterorganisation, <u>Flanders Investment & Trade</u> (FIT), we help foreign entrepreneurs and investors to establish or expand a business in Flanders.

We help companies with the startup of their activities, the grow and continuity of their business, but also with the search for the right location, information on permits, financing, investments in innovation and ecological technologies, and other topics. In short, we confidentially guide entrepreneurs throughout the government landscape.

We also encourage innovation in Flanders through financial support, networking and by facilitating international cooperation. To this end we support both small and large businesses, organizations, research centers and researchers via different support programmes.

### Contact:

Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship, phone: +32 2 227 60 42; email: <u>invest@vlaio.be</u>. For more information got to: <u>http://www.vlaio.be</u>

The statements in this document, which are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements based on current expectations of future events that involve risks and uncertainties including, without limitation,



risks associated with the inherent uncertainty of pharmaceutical research, product development, manufacturing, commercialization, economic conditions, the impact of competitive or generic products, product liability, the impact of legislative and regulatory compliance and obtaining approvals, and patent, and other risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements often contain such words as "estimate", "anticipate", "intend", "plan", "expect" or "might", "could" or "should". Research findings are not always supportable by evidence obtained from subsequent development trials and the Company can make no assurances that the development trials will yield positive results. Final review decisions made by the FDA and other regulatory agencies concerning development trial results are unpredictable and outside the influence and/or control of the Company.