PRESS RELEASE
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Modus Therapeutics presented new data on sevuparin demonstrating its potential to treat anemia related to chronic diseases at the annual European Hematology Association Congress

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN – 12 June 2023: Modus Therapeutics AB ("Modus"), a company developing innovative treatments for patients with major unmet medical needs, announces that new data showing that its proprietary clinical candidate drug sevuparin was able to potently suppress the iron regulating hormone hepcidin were presented at the annual meeting of the European Hematology Association (EHA), on June 10 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Hepcidin plays a key role in controlling the body's access to iron for vital physiological processes such as the formation of hemoglobin and red blood cells.

The data presented at EHA shows that sevuparin could represent a major advance in the treatment of anemia, a condition in which the number of red blood cells in the body or the hemoglobin concentration within them is lower than normal. In particular, high levels of hepcidin have been implicated in causing and aggravating the anemias that often complicate chronic kidney disease and chronic inflammation disorders. High hepcidin is also responsible for conferring resistance to the current standard of care therapies to anemia in non-responding patients.

The presentation, titled "*Sevuparin potently reduces hepcidin expression in cells, mice and human volunteers*" was presented by Dr Michaela Asperti, co-author and a senior member of Professor Maura Poli's research group at the University of Brescia. Professor Poli and her team at the University of Brescia are renowned for their world-leading research on hepcidin and its role in anemia.

The abstract summarizing the clinical effects of sevuparin can be found here: **https://library.ehaweb.org/eha/2023/eha2023-congress/387983**

Professor Maura Poli, commenting on the data in the EHA presentation said, "Since long, our laboratory has been focusing on heparinoids and hepcidin, the key hormone in the regulation of systemic iron availability. Being a low-anticoagulant heparinoid, sevuparin allows us to overcome the bleeding risk with normal heparins, while still proving to be very effective in suppressing hepcidin. We are happy for the longstanding collaboration with Modus and that our work together could show sevuparin's potential as a treatment option in high hepicidin orders, such as anemia of chronic diseases, where the unmet medical need remains high to date. I look forward to continuing our work together on sevuparin and disorders linked to hepcidin."

The presentation by Dr Asperti included:

• **Mechanistic data** generated in cells showing that sevuparin was able to inhibit hepcidin production stimulated both from BMP (bone morphogenic protein) and inflammatory pathways.
• **Data from studies in mice** which demonstrated that sevuparin was able to significantly reduce the levels of hepatic hepcidin 6 hours after dosing.
• **Data from human volunteers**, who were enrolled in a previous Phase I SAD clinical study with sevuparin, which showed that plasma hepcidin decreased to 30-50% of baseline values in the presence of sevuparin at three different dose levels with maximal suppression between 6 - 24h. All sevuparin doses were found to be safe and well tolerated.

Dr John Öhd, Chief Executive Officer of Modus Therapeutics commented: "We are thrilled that our productive collaboration with Professor Poli and her team at the University of Brescia has allowed us to generate a very compelling and broad data set. These results clearly demonstrate sevuparin's ability to potently suppress hepcidin at clinically safe dose levels and supports our commitment to offer a new treatment modality for hepcidin related disorders. These data reinforces the potential for a new Phase IIa ready clinical program in patients with chronic disease anemia such as chronic kidney disease. As we move into the second half of 2023, we look forward to providing further updates on this project alongside our planned clinical study in sepsis."

For more information on Modus Therapeutics, please contact:
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About Modus Therapeutics and sevuparin
Modus Therapeutics is a Swedish biotechnology company headquartered in Stockholm that develops sevuparin with a focus on diseases with a high unmet medical need. The company's focus in the near future is to develop sevuparin for patients with sepsis / septic shock, which is a serious and often fatal condition. Modus Therapeutics is listed on the Nasdaq First North Growth market ("MODTX"). More information is available at **www.modustx.com**.

Sevuparin is a clinical stage, innovative proprietary polysaccharide drug with a multimodal mechanism of action, including anti-inflammatory, anti-adhesive and anti-aggregate effects. Sevuparin is a heparinoid with markedly attenuated anti-coagulation features that allows severalfold higher doses to be given, compared to regular heparinoids, without the associated risk for bleeding side-effects. Two routes of administration of sevuparin are currently being tested – an IV formulation for in-patient administration and a subcutaneous formulation that allows ambulatory and home care administration.

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Attachments

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