WEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC.
Suite 1150-1100 Melville Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada, V6E 4A6
Tel: 604-683-8880 Fax: 604-683-8868
World Wide Web: http://www.wexpharma.com
E-mail: wex@wexpharma.com

July 13, 2018

NEWS BRIEF

WEX SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES CARDIAC SAFETY CLINICAL TRIAL OF HALNEURON™

Vancouver, BC (March 30, 2018) - WEX Pharmaceuticals Inc. ("WEX" or the "Company"), a biotechnology company developing Halneuron™ (Tetrodotoxin or TTX) for pain, today announced the successful completion of the thorough electrocardiogram ("ECG") study of Halneuron conducted in healthy volunteers. This thorough ECG study demonstrated that Halneuron did not prolong the cardiac QT and corrected QT ("QTc") intervals in healthy subjects across a range of plasma concentrations.

WEX, in collaboration with Celerion, Inc., an experienced early phase clinical research organization, designed the study in accordance with published Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") and International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use ("ICH") guidance on the clinical evaluation of QT/QTc interval prolongation and the proarrhythmic potential of non-cardiac drugs. The QT interval primarily represents the amount of time the heart's electrical system takes to repolarize or recharge, after each beat. As required by the FDA, WEX has demonstrated overall cardiac safety with the use of Halneuron without prolongation of the QT interval which has been associated with an increased risk for cardiac arrhythmias.

Dr. Christopher Gallen, MD, PhD, and CEO, stated, "Prior to the conduct of the study we were confident based on previous animal and human clinical studies that Halneuron would not demonstrate a prolongation of the QT interval." We continue to build evidence for the safety and efficacy of Halneuron as an effective non-opioid analgesic". The data from this cardiac safety study will provide clinically meaningful safety information for physicians treating patients with moderate to severe neuropathic pain.

The Phase 1, Single Ascending Dose, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo and Positive Controlled Study to Evaluate the Cardiovascular Effect of Tetrodotoxin in Healthy Adult Subjects investigated the effects of a low, a standard therapeutic dose as well as higher dose levels of Halneuron on the QT/QTc interval in 25 healthy female and male volunteers. Moxifloxacin, an antibiotic known to prolong the QT/QTc interval, was included as the positive control.

The thorough QT/QTc study was conducted for inclusion in the New Drug Application (NDA) for Halneuron and to fulfill a request by the FDA to conduct the study in advance of the planned pivotal Phase 3 study in chemotherapy-induced neuropathic pain patients, as stated in the FDA's guidance, "adequate premarketing investigation of the safety of a new pharmaceutical agent should include rigorous characterization of its effects on the QT/QTc interval."

About Chemotherapy-Induced Neuropathic Pain

Chemotherapy-induced neuropathic (CINP) is a major dose-limiting side effect of many chemotherapeutic agents, including vincristine, paclitaxel, cisplatin, oxaliplatin, bortezomib, and ixabepilone. Chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy commonly occurs in 30 to 100% of patients depending on the type of chemotherapy, duration, intensity, and combination of chemotherapeutic agents used. To improve the peripheral neuropathy and the associated pain, the chemotherapy dosing is often either decreased or discontinued, potentially affecting tumor responsiveness, prognosis, and survival. At present, no agents have been shown to effectively prevent or treat CINP.

About Halneuron™

Halneuron™ (tetrodotoxin or TTX) is a selective blocker of Nav 1.7 sodium channel and produces analgesia either by decreasing the propagation of action potentials by Na+ channels and/or by blocking ectopic discharges associated with chronic pain.
Halneuron is an injectable formulation of tetrodotoxin, a novel small molecule with action on the peripheral nervous system. Halneuron does not cross the blood brain barrier and is therefore without the common side effects of euphoria, addiction, and tolerance experienced by opioids and other analgesics. Pharmacology studies revealed that TTX is a more potent analgesic than standard analgesic agents such as aspirin, morphine, or meperidine with potential applications in many moderate to severe neuropathic pain conditions.

About WEX Pharmaceuticals Inc.

WEX Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a late stage drug development company dedicated to the development, manufacture, and commercialization of innovative drug products to treat pain. The Company's principal business strategy is to derive drugs from naturally occurring sources and develop proprietary products for the global market. WEX is a leader in research in the field of sodium channel blockers and has programs in various stages of development based on the Halneuron™ platform. WEX has conducted late stage multinational clinical trials in cancer pain and chemotherapy-induced neuropathic pain.

About Celerion, Inc.

Celerion, a global leader in early clinical research services, offers a unique combination of medical expertise, clinical operations experience, and scientific excellence that gives our clients the confidence to make fast, accurate decisions about their drug development path. Our services include comprehensive clinical development services from Phase 1-2b, including patient dose response studies, cardiovascular safety and product labeling studies. In addition, Celerion offers statistics, data management and biostatistics, and bioanalytical services. Our founding mission is to help our clients get their drugs to market quickly, so that they touch the lives of our family, friends and people in need around the world. For more information please visit www.celerion.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and applicable Canadian securities laws, including statements regarding the data from the cardiac safety study providing meaningful safety information and the planned launch of a Phase 3 Chemotherapy Induced Neuropathic pain trial. Statements in this document regarding future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans or prospects constitute forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made. For this purpose, any statements that are contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, the words "believes", "anticipates", "plans", "intends", "will", "should", "expects", "projects", and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. You are cautioned that such statements are subject to a multitude of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, future circumstances, or events to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These risks include, but are not limited to: those associated with the success of research and development programs, the Company's ability to raise additional funding and the potential dilutive effects thereof, the regulatory approval process, competition, securing and maintaining corporate alliances, market acceptance of the Company's products, the availability of government and insurance reimbursements for the Company's products, the strength of intellectual property, reliance on subcontractors and key personnel and other risks detailed from time-to-time in the Company's public disclosure documents and other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

Forward-looking statements are developed based on assumptions about such risks, uncertainties and other factors, including, but not limited to: ***[obtaining positive results of clinical trials, obtaining regulatory approvals, safety of product, general business and economic conditions, the Company's ability to successfully develop and commercialize new products, the assumption that the Company's current good relationships with third parties will be maintained, the availability of financing on reasonable terms, the Company's ability to attract and retain skilled staff, market competition, the products and technology offered by the Company's competitors and the Company's ability to protect patents and proprietary rights.]***

Forward-looking statements are made as of the date hereof, and the Company disclaims any intention and has no obligation or responsibility, except as required by law, to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

For further information contact:
WEX Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Mr. Walter Korz
Chief Operating Officer
Phone: (604) 683-8880
Fax: (604) 683-8868
E-mail: wex@wexpharma.com
Internet: www.wexpharma.com