

## Xanthus Initiates a Phase 1 Study of Clomet for Treatment of Solid Tumors

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--March 22, 2007--Xanthus Pharmaceuticals today announced the commencement of a Phase 1 dose escalation study of Clomet(TM) (DMPEN, 4-demethylpenclomedine) for the treatment of patients with solid tumors.

"The initiation of the Clomet clinical study is a significant step for Xanthus, demonstrating our commitment to building a pipeline of oncology products," said Richard T. Dean, Ph.D., CEO of Xanthus. "This is now our fifth clinical stage program and we look forward to the continued development of each of our valuable assets."

### About the Phase 1 study

The Phase 1 dose escalation study will be conducted in up to three centers in the United States and is expected to enroll as many as 25 patients with various types of solid tumors. Patients will receive a daily dose of Clomet for three consecutive days as a short infusion for four cycles. The objectives of the study are to determine the safety profile of Clomet, identify the dose-limiting toxicity (DLT), the maximum tolerated dose (MTD), and pharmacokinetics. The secondary objective is to assess the preliminary evidence of anti-tumor activity of Clomet in patients with solid tumors.

### About Clomet(TM)

Clomet (DMPEN, 4-demethylpenclomedine) is a small-molecule investigational oncology product being developed for the treatment of solid tumors. Clomet is the active metabolite of penclomedine, a compound, developed by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), which showed clinical activity in Phase 1 trials sponsored by the NCI. The development of penclomedine was discontinued by the NCI due to the compound's neurotoxic side effects; however, based on preclinical toxicology data we believe that Clomet, the active metabolite, may retain the parent compound activity without the neurotoxic side effects.

### About Xanthus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Xanthus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is developing a portfolio of novel, clinical-stage, small-molecule oncology candidates through a management team whose accomplished track record encompasses all aspects of drug development, from discovery through regulatory approval and commercialization. The Company is applying its expertise both to advance its current pipeline and expand it into indications of unmet medical need beyond oncology.

Xanthus is headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts with an additional facility in Montreal, Quebec. More information is available at [www.xanthus.com](http://www.xanthus.com).

This press release contains forward-looking statements concerning Xanthus that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. For this purpose, any statements 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," "expects," "estimates," "intends," "should," "could," "will,"

"may," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

There are a number of important factors that could cause Xanthus' actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, including risks as to whether results obtained in early clinical studies, such as the study referred to above or in preclinical studies will be indicative of results obtained in future clinical trials or warrant additional trials; whether products based on Xanthus' technology will advance through the clinical trial process on a timely basis or at all; whether such products will receive approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration or equivalent foreign regulatory agencies; whether the company will have the cash resources to develop and commercialize its products; and whether the patent and patent applications owned or licensed by Xanthus will protect the Company's technology and prevent others from infringing it. Xanthus disclaims any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

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