Media Release

21 January 2026

Amsulostat in pancreatic cancer Phase 1/2 clinical trial in collaboration with the Garvan, funded by MRFF

- **The Garvan Institute of Medical Research secures $3 million MRFF grant funding for two multicentre studies in advanced pancreatic cancer, including one testing Syntara's amsulostat (SNT-5505) with standard-of-care chemotherapy**
- **Syntara to contribute drug supply plus scientific and clinical expertise, with no cash funding required from the company**
- **The program builds on Garvan's preclinical research, published in Nature Cancer, showing that targeting tumour fibrosis can improve chemotherapy penetration and effectiveness in pancreatic tumours**
- **Recruitment expected to begin mid-2026 across major NSW cancer centres**

Syntara Limited (ASX: SNT), a clinical-stage drug development company, is pleased to announce that the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney ("Garvan Institute") has been awarded a $3 million grant under the Australian Government's Medical Research Future Fund ("MRFF") to conduct two multicentre Australian clinical studies in advanced pancreatic cancer, one of which will evaluate Syntara's investigational anti-fibrotic LOX inhibitor amsulostat (SNT-5505) in combination with standard-of-care chemotherapy.

Under the collaboration, Syntara will supply the drug in addition to scientific and clinical expertise to support the program. Syntara will not be required to provide cash funding as part of the clinical study.

The inclusion of amsulostat in this MRFF-funded clinical program builds on ground-breaking preclinical research led by the Garvan Institute and published in *Nature Cancer* (see ASX announcement 29 August 2023). The research demonstrated that targeting tumour fibrosis weakens the dense barrier that surrounds pancreatic tumours, enabling chemotherapy drugs to penetrate more effectively and destroy more cancer cells, as well as reducing cancer cell invasion and metastasis.

Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC), the most common form of pancreatic cancer, remains one of the most lethal cancers, with poor long-term survival outcomes. A key driver of treatment resistance is the fibrous "stromal" barrier that forms a fortress around tumours, limiting drug delivery and supporting tumour progression.

Professor Thomas Cox, Laboratory Head at the Garvan Institute and Conjoint Professor at St Vincent's Clinical School, Faculty of Medicine and Health, UNSW Sydney said: "Pancreatic cancer creates a dense, scar-like barrier that diminishes patient response to therapy. Through our long-standing collaboration with Syntara, we've identified a promising strategy to target lysyl oxidases, the key enzymes that build and strengthen this scar tissue. The proposed phase I/II trial with amsulostat in combination with chemotherapy represents a critical step in validating and translating our laboratory findings into new treatment options for patients with advanced pancreatic cancer."

The MRFF-funded studies are expected to commence recruitment in mid-2026, enrolling patients with advanced pancreatic cancer across leading cancer centres in New South Wales, including Westmead Hospital, St Vincent's Hospital Sydney and Wollongong Hospital. Further details regarding study design, participating sites and timelines will be announced closer to study commencement.

In addition to assessing safety and clinical activity, the studies will incorporate a precision medicine strategy, including deep molecular and genetic profiling of tumour and blood samples collected before and during treatment. This analysis aims to identify biomarkers and patient subgroups most likely to benefit, with the potential to guide more targeted therapy in future clinical development.

The approach of targeting tumour fibrosis may have broader implications for other solid cancers characterised by fibrous barriers that impede treatment delivery, including certain breast, liver and lung cancers and is supported by peer-reviewed publications from academic collaborators using amsulostat.

Syntara Chief Executive Officer Gary Phillips said: "Whilst our focus remains on the treatment of haematological malignancies like MF and MDS, the pre-clinical work conducted by Professor Cox and others regarding chemotherapy resistant tumours is compelling. We are delighted that the MRFF have seen the value of translating this work into the clinic and look forward to supporting the Garvan and the clinical trial team to deliver results for pancreatic cancer patients.

"This MRFF supported pancreatic cancer study is now one of four Syntara clinical studies funded with non-dilutive capital, totalling more than $10m. This level of success in competitive grant processes is a very positive reflection on the quality of the pre-clinical science undertaken by Syntara and its research collaborators worldwide over a sustained period of time."

The initiation of the pancreatic cancer study later this year adds to an already rich clinical development program in 2026, which will see the SNT-4728 study in iRBD deliver top line results in Q2 2026, followed by two amsulostat studies in MDS and two skin scarring studies all due to report data later this year.

#ENDS#

About Syntara

Syntara Limited (ABN: 75 082 811 630) is a clinical stage drug development company targeting extracellular matrix dysfunction with its world-leading expertise in amine oxidase chemistry and other technologies to develop novel medicines for blood cancers and conditions linked to inflammation and fibrosis.

Lead candidate amsulostat (also known as SNT-5505 and previously as PXS-5505) is for the bone marrow cancer myelofibrosis which causes a build-up of scar tissue that leads to loss of red and white blood cells and platelets. Amsulostat has been granted Fast Track Designation, having already achieved FDA Orphan Drug Designation and clearance under an Investigational New Drug Application for development in myelofibrosis. Amsulostat has now completed a Phase 2a trial in myelofibrosis in which it was dosed as monotherapy and in combination with a JAK inhibitor. Two Phase 1c/2 studies with amsulostat in patients with a blood cancer called myelodysplastic syndrome has been initiated.

Syntara is also advancing topical pan-LOX inhibitors with SNT-9465 in a Phase 1a/b study of hypertrophic scars and continuing the ongoing collaboration with Professor Fiona Wood and the University of Western Australia studying SNT-6302 in keloid scars. SNT-4728 is being studied in collaboration with Parkinson's UK as a best-in-class SSAO/MAO-B inhibitor to treat sleep disorders and slow progression of neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's by reducing neuroinflammation.

Other Syntara drug candidates target fibrotic and inflammatory diseases such as kidney fibrosis, MASH, pulmonary fibrosis and cardiac fibrosis.

Syntara developed two respiratory products available in world markets (Bronchitol® for cystic fibrosis and Aridol®- a lung function test), which it sold in October 2023.

Syntara is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, code SNT. The company's management and scientific discovery team are based in Sydney, Australia. www.syntaraTX.com.au.

Forward-Looking Statements

Forward-looking statements in this media release include statements regarding our expectations, beliefs, hopes, goals, intentions, initiatives or strategies, including statements regarding the potential of products and drug candidates. All forward-looking statements included in this media release are based upon information available to us as of the date hereof. Actual results, performance or achievements could be significantly different from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees or predictions of future results, levels of performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond our control, and which may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the statements contained in this document. For example, despite our efforts there is no certainty that we will be successful in partnering any of the products in our pipeline on commercially acceptable terms, in a timely fashion or at all. Except as required by law we undertake no obligation to update these forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

SOURCE:
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