

## Amgen Pioneer to Join Actinogen Board

- Former Amgen Executive, Dr George Morstyn joins Actinogen Medical as non-executive director on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Dr Morstyn brings extensive drug development experience to the role, with many new products receiving marketing approval and having been launched during his tenure at Amgen
- Working with the legendary Professor Don Metcalf in the 1980s, Dr Morstyn helped pioneer the clinical development of the haemopoietic colony stimulating factors, the current gold standard treatment for cancer patients following chemotherapy
- Dr Morstyn will work with Actinogen's high calibre team to guide and optimise the development of Xanamem™ for Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative conditions.

**Sydney, 2 November 2017: Actinogen Medical (ASX: ACW)** today announces that pioneering drug developer and former Amgen Inc. Executive, Dr George Morstyn, will join Actinogen Medical as non-executive director on the Board, on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

Dr Morstyn (MBBS, PhD, FRACP) brings extensive drug development experience to the role. He was Senior Vice-President of Development and Chief Medical Officer at US biotech giant, Amgen (NASDAQ: AMGM, market capitalisation: US\$128 billion), having joined Amgen in its early years in 1991, when the company was a small biotech. At Amgen he was responsible for drug development across all therapeutic areas, including neuroscience. Under his leadership, he oversaw the marketing approval of many new products and subsequent successful commercial launches.

In his earlier clinical research career in the 1980's, Dr Morstyn worked with Professor Don Metcalf (Order of Australia and Companion of the Order), regarded as the 'father of modern haematology', at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. Dr Morstyn was the principle investigator on the earliest clinical studies of the haemopoietic colony stimulating factors which have helped more than 20 million people worldwide.

Returning to Australia over 10 years ago, Dr Morstyn remained heavily involved in medical research, serving on boards of many high profile Australian listed biotechs and research organisations. He was appointed to the board of directors of Bionomics (ASX: BNO) and the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne, and has been a director of Chemgenex Pharmaceuticals (delisted from the ASX when acquired by Cephalon Inc) and Deputy Chairman of the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre. In 2013 he was elected a fellow of The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

Dr Morstyn is currently a Director of Tokyo-listed Symbio Pharmaceuticals (TYO:4582), the Cancer Therapeutics CRC (the Co-operative Research Centre for Cancer Therapeutics) and BioMedVic (Victoria's leading network of universities, academic hospitals, medical research institutes, CSIRO and other research organisations).

Dr Morstyn will work with Actinogen's high calibre research and development team to guide and optimise the development of Xanamem, its drug for Alzheimer's disease and cognitive impairment associated with other neurodegenerative diseases.

On joining Actinogen Medical as non-executive director, Dr Morstyn commented, “I join Actinogen with a sense of tremendous excitement. Its drug, Xanamem, has shown enormous promise for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and its approach to treating this disease, by lowering cortisol levels in the brain, is refreshingly different. I look forward to working with the team and progressing Xanamem through its clinical development.”

“We are delighted to welcome Dr Morstyn to the Actinogen Board. It is a testament to the potential of our drug, Xanamem and the magnitude of the unmet medical need in Alzheimer’s disease, that we have been able to attract a global drug development pioneer of George’s calibre to our Company,” said Dr Bill Ketelbey, CEO of Actinogen Medical.

As part of his appointment and subject to shareholder approval (if required), Dr Morstyn will be granted 1.5 million options. The exercise price of the options will be the greater of \$0.10 and 170% of the volume weighted average market price of the Company’s shares (as defined in the ASX Listing Rules) on the ASX for up to 5 trading days during the 7-day period up to and including the date on which the options are granted. The options will expire 5 years from the date of commencement of the directorship and the options will vest in three tranches, subject to continuous service up to the applicable vesting date, as follows:

- 700,000 - one year from grant;
- 400,000 - two years from grant; and
- 400,000 - three years from grant.

**ENDS**

### **Actinogen Medical**

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### **About Actinogen Medical**

Actinogen Medical (ASX: ACW) is an ASX-listed biotech company focused on innovative approaches to treating cognitive decline that occurs in chronic neurodegenerative and metabolic diseases. Actinogen Medical is developing Xanamem a promising new therapy for Alzheimer’s disease, a condition with a multibillion dollar market potential. In the US alone, the cost of managing Alzheimer’s disease is estimated to be US\$250bn, and is set to increase to US\$2tn by 2050, outstripping the treatment costs of all other diseases. Alzheimer’s disease is now the leading cause of death in the UK and second only to ischaemic heart disease in Australia

### **About Xanamem™**

Xanamem’s novel mechanism of action sets it apart from other Alzheimer’s treatments. It works by blocking the excess production of cortisol - the stress hormone – through the inhibition of the 11β-HSD1 enzyme in the brain. This enzyme is highly concentrated in the hippocampus and frontal cortex, the areas of the brain most affected by Alzheimer’s disease. There is a strong association between chronic stress and excess cortisol that

leads to changes in the brain affecting memory, and to the development of amyloid plaques and neural death – all hallmarks of Alzheimer’s disease.

### **About XanADu**

XanADu is a Phase II double-blind, 12-week, randomised, placebo-controlled study to assess the safety, tolerability and efficacy of Xanamem in subjects with mild dementia due to Alzheimer’s disease. XanADu, will enrol 174 patients at 20 research sites across Australia, the UK and the USA. The trial is registered on [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) with the identifier: NCT02727699, where more details on the trial can be found, including the study design, patient eligibility criteria and the locations of the study sites.

**Actinogen Medical encourages all current investors to go paperless by registering their details with the designated registry service provider, Link Market Services.**