



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Sequella and NIH Sign World-Wide Licensing Agreement

### *New Tuberculosis Antibiotic to Enter Clinical Trials*

Rockville, Md -- Sequella, Inc., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on commercializing next generation infectious disease products, announced today it has obtained an exclusive worldwide license from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop SQ109, an IND-stage new chemical entity targeted for the treatment of tuberculosis (TB).

"To date, preclinical results document excellent antibacterial activity, long half-life, and high potency against TB infection *in vivo*," said Dr. Carol Nacy, CEO of Sequella, Inc. "The NIH agreement demonstrates our commitment to advancing new medicines for infectious disease and validates SQ109 as a viable anti-TB drug candidate. We are pleased to continue our long-term partnership with NIH and potentially deliver a new targeted drug therapy to the marketplace."

SQ109 is a new diamine antibiotic that – if commercialized -- could replace one or more of the current first-line anti-tuberculosis drugs, simplify therapy, and shorten treatment regimens. With a mechanism of action distinct from other antibiotics used in TB therapy (including Isoniazid, Ethambutol and Ethionomide), SQ109 inhibits cell wall synthesis in a select group of microorganisms with excellent *in vitro* activity against both drug susceptible and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis. SQ109 also enhances, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, the activity of the anti-tubercular drugs Isoniazid and Rifampin, thereby shortening the time required to cure mice of experimental tuberculosis by 25%.

Since 2000, Sequella has applied its scientific expertise in tuberculosis research and product development to identify, characterize, and complete the preclinical evaluation of SQ109. Sequella is currently preparing to submit an Investigational New Drug (IND) filing with the FDA and initiate SQ109 clinical trials in the U.S.

### **About Tuberculosis (TB)**

TB is a contagious infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. TB germs can be inhaled into lungs and are able to avoid destruction by certain white blood cells. Without containment by immune cells, the bacteria can spread throughout the body, multiply, survive and remain dormant for years. TB is the leading cause of global deaths that result from a single-agent infectious disease. More than 8 million new cases of active TB disease are reported every year.

### **About Sequella, Inc.**

Sequella is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company that develops and commercializes next generation infectious disease products. Sequella conducts discovery and pre-clinical research at its Rockville, Md headquarters, which houses chemistry, cell biology, and microbiology laboratories. Our lead product candidate, the Transdermal Patch for diagnosis of TB disease, is completing an international phase III clinical trial. The company expects to file for worldwide registration by 2007. For more information, please visit [www.sequella.com](http://www.sequella.com)

### **Forward-Looking Statement**

This press release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties, and includes statements that are not historical facts. Actual results could differ significantly from results discussed. Sequella disclaims any intent or obligation to update forward-looking statements, except as required by law.