**Fanapt® Prevents Relapse in Patients With Schizophrenia**

Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Inc., presented positive results from the long-term maintenance Reprieve clinical study. The Reprieve study demonstrated the ability of Fanapt® (iloperidone) to prevent relapse or impending relapse in adult patients with schizophrenia as compared to placebo.

Study participants were adults with schizophrenia titrated up to 12 mg/day with open-label Fanapt and then stabilized for 14 to 24 weeks with a flexible-dose Fanapt regimen (range = 8 to 24 mg/day daily dose given twice per day). Participants who remained clinically stable for at least 12 weeks entered the Relapse Prevention phase and were randomized 1:1 to continue with Fanapt or withdraw from Fanapt to matched placebo in a double-blinded fashion. Participants were observed for up to 26 weeks and were withdrawn upon showing signs of relapse or impending relapse.

Of 587 patients, 195 (33%) met criteria for the Relapse Prevention phase, with 99 randomized to continue with Fanapt and 96 switched to placebo. The study was stopped early after 68 events were observed and confirmed the hypothesis that Fanapt was more effective than placebo in relapse preventions. The percentage of patients taking Fanapt remaining relapse-free at the end of the Relapse Prevention phase was of 79.6% compared to 36.6% of placebo-treated patients.


**New Class of Drugs for Sustained Treatment of Depression and Suicidality**

NeuroRx, Inc., reported first-in-man efficacy data for a newly purposed class of drugs targeted toward rapidly reducing symptoms of depression and suicidality in patients with bipolar disorder and maintaining that effect over time. The peer-reviewed open label study of eight patients demonstrated a 50% and 75% reduction in symptoms of depression and suicidality, respectively, in patients with treatment-resistant bipolar depression. Although the use of ketamine for rapid reversal of depression is known, its effect is short-lived. This is the first clinical report showing that the ketamine effect can potentially be sustained for 2 months with additional agents.

NeuroRx, Inc., is pioneering a staged treatment approach in which ketamine administration is followed by a combination of D-cycloserine and a U.S. Food and Drug Administration–approved mood stabilizer to maintain the ketamine effect.