

ASTERAND PLC
(‘Asterand’ or ‘the Company’)

Asterand Announces Extension of Agreement with Bristol-Myers Squibb

Asterand plc (LSE: ATD), a leading provider of human tissue and human tissue-based services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies engaged in drug discovery research, today announced that it has extended its collaboration with Bristol-Myers Squibb Company (NYSE: BMY) for access to Asterand's products and services for up to three years. The agreement will focus on access to Asterand's PhaseZERO® drug discovery services and Asterand's XpressBANK™ of human tissue and clinical samples for the continued validation of early drug targets and support for compound optimisation.

Asterand CEO Martyn Coombs commented:

“This decision by Bristol-Myers Squibb is an important validation of Asterand's products and services. Asterand provides human based solutions that improve decision making during the development of medicines. Our customers incorporate human tissue-based models at all stages of development from target identification to pre-clinical research. We are delighted that Bristol-Myers Squibb has renewed our collaboration and our team looks forward to continuing to support their target validation and compound optimisation programmes.”

Under the extended collaboration, Asterand will continue to undertake a range of PhaseZERO® studies for Bristol-Myers Squibb in the areas of compound profiling and target validation. PhaseZERO® studies include gene and protein expression profiling and cell-based pharmacology assays. Likewise, Bristol-Myers Squibb will be granted access to Asterand's XpressBANK™ of human tissue, bio-fluid, and cell lines and may also utilize Asterand's ProCURE™ custom clinical sample collection service.

Contacts:

Asterand plc

Martyn Coombs, Chief Executive Officer

Tel: + 44 (0) 1763 211 600 /
+ 1 (313) 263-0960

John Stchur, Chief Financial Officer

As above

Buchanan Communications

Lisa Baderoon / Jennie Spivey

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7466 5000

Cenkos Securities plc

Stephen Keys / Alex Aylen

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7397 8924

Daniel Stewart & Company plc

Martin Lampshire

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7776 6550

About ASTERAND

Asterand plc is a leading supplier of high quality human tissue and tissue-based services. Our comprehensive approach to human tissue and research services offers pharmaceutical, biotech and diagnostic companies the unique opportunity to have one Company meet all of their human biomaterial needs along the continuum of drug discovery and development. Our mission is to accelerate target discovery and compound validation and enable pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take safer and more effective drugs into the clinic.

For more information, go to www.Asterand.com.