

## **Serina Therapeutics Announces Dr. William K. Schmidt will Join the Clinical Advisory Board to Aid Serina’s Efforts on the Development of SER-227 – A Pain Drug that will Simultaneously Target Opioid Misuse and Addiction**

Huntsville, AL, October 29th, 2019

Serina Therapeutics, Inc., a pharmaceutical research and development company that has developed a proprietary drug delivery technology platform, announced today that Dr. William K. Schmidt, a noted authority in development of pain drugs, will join the Serina Clinical Advisory Board to aid Serina in development of its product candidate SER-227 for post-operative pain. The SER-227 program was recently funded by the NIH HEAL Initiative to advance promising pain drugs that will address the opioid crisis in America.

“I’m really pleased to be able to work with a company that is developing highly innovative treatments for postoperative pain and opioid use disorder”, said Dr. Schmidt. “Based on my experience with the NIH’s Opioid Crisis task force, developing safer and more effective drugs for treating pain and opioid addiction is a national priority.” SER-227 is a polymer conjugate of buprenorphine that can be administered in the recovery room by a surgeon or anesthesiologist to provide immediate and prolonged analgesia over a period of 3-5 days. The prolonged nature of release of buprenorphine is designed to prevent the need to use potentially addictive opioids such as morphine in the immediate post-op period.

“We are thrilled to have Bill join our Clinical Advisory Board”, said Dr. Randall Moreadith, Serina’s Chief Executive Officer. “I have known Bill for over fifteen years and have had the privilege of working with him on other product candidates in the area of pain. Bill is a true authority in the area of analgesic pharmaceuticals and his insight will be invaluable as we advance SER-227 toward the clinic.”

### **About Serina**

Serina Therapeutics is a privately held pharmaceutical company located at the Hudson-Alpha Institute for Biotechnology in Huntsville, AL that is developing novel polymer therapeutics based on its proprietary polyoxazoline (POZ<sup>TM</sup>) technology. The founders and managers of Serina were formerly the principals of Shearwater Polymers which enabled fourteen approved polyethylene glycol (PEG) products for various pharmaceutical partners. POZ<sup>TM</sup> technology provides strong differential characteristics that may demonstrate improved safety, tolerability and clinical benefits versus PEG and other polymer-based technologies.

In addition to a growing pipeline of proprietary programs focused on pain, Parkinson’s disease and epilepsy Serina seeks partnership opportunities with pharmaceutical companies to further unlock the promise of the POZ<sup>TM</sup> platform.

For more information on Serina Therapeutics, please visit <http://www.serinatherapeutics.com>.

### **About the NIH HEAL Initiative and NINDS**

The National Institutes of Health launched the NIH HEAL Initiative in April 2018 to improve prevention and treatment strategies for opioid misuse and addiction and enhance pain management. The NIH HEAL Initiative aims to improve treatments for chronic pain, curb the rates of opioid use disorder and overdose and achieve long-term recovery from opioid addiction. The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is a division of the National Institutes of Health that invests in and conducts research across the spectrum of neuroscience and neurology research, from basic studies on fundamental biological mechanisms, to clinical trials to test new treatments in patients.

“It’s clear that a multi-pronged scientific approach is needed to reduce the risks of opioids, accelerate development of effective non-opioid therapies for pain and provide more flexible and effective options for treating addiction to opioids,” said NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., who launched the initiative in early 2018. “This unprecedented investment in the NIH HEAL Initiative demonstrates the commitment to reversing this devastating crisis.”

Serina Therapeutic’s award is one of 375 grant awards across 41 states made by the National Institutes of Health in fiscal year 2019 to apply scientific solutions to reverse the national opioid crisis.