

## PRESS RELEASE



### **Siva Therapeutics Initiates Research Collaboration with Plexxikon Inc.**

BOULDER, COLORADO, January 23, 2014 – Siva Therapeutics Inc ('Siva') has initiated a research collaboration with Plexxikon Inc., of Berkeley, California. The focus of the collaboration is to evaluate the potential for synergistic effects between Zelboraf®, a cancer treatment approved for BRAF V600E mutation-positive metastatic melanoma discovered and co-developed by Plexxikon, and SivaRods™ photothermal therapy.

Growing evidence indicates that synergistic effects can occur between chemical therapeutics for cancer, such as Zelboraf, and hyperthermia, such as that provided by SivaRods photothermal therapy. Additionally, combination therapies may provide the best hope for truly durable cancer treatments.

The initial phase of the collaboration will be a study aimed at comparing drug and photothermal monotherapies with combination therapy in a mouse melanoma model that has reduced responsiveness to drug therapy alone.

“Photothermal therapy has already demonstrated encouraging results in preclinical studies, but durable cancer treatments remain a challenge. The potential for combination therapies involving both a proven drug and hyperthermia is huge,” said Len Pagliaro, PhD, CEO of Siva. “This collaboration with Plexxikon has enabled Siva to move ahead rapidly with a study that could open up a new class of combination cancer therapies.”



### **About Siva Therapeutics Inc**

Siva Therapeutics Inc is a biotechnology company developing a device photothermal cancer therapy which uses heat to irreversibly damage solid tumor tissue. The heat is delivered to tumors by infrared light that is absorbed by gold nanorods ('SivaRods™') and re-emitted as heat. The size, shape, and surface chemistry of the nanorods target the leaky vasculature of solid tumors, and the selective thermal sensitivity of tumor tissue enables the therapy to deliver clean margins. Siva therapy promises to be extremely safe, effective, and competitive in cost, and may provide a synergistic adjunct to targeted drug therapy and other cancer treatments. For more information please visit: [www.sivatherapeutics.com](http://www.sivatherapeutics.com).

Media Contact: [info@sivatherapeutics.com](mailto:info@sivatherapeutics.com).



### **About Plexxikon Inc.**

Plexxikon is a leader in the discovery and development of novel, small molecule pharmaceuticals. The company has utilized its proprietary discovery platform to successfully develop a portfolio of competitively differentiated clinical and preclinical stage programs in a number of therapeutic areas and disease indications. Plexxikon's platform enables the design of highly selective and targeted medicines, supporting the company's broader strategy to develop personalized medicines.

In April 2011, Plexxikon became a member of the Daiichi Sankyo Group.

For more information about Plexxikon, please visit: [www.plexxikon.com](http://www.plexxikon.com).