



ASX and Media Release

22 June 2020

Opthea Added to the S&P/ASX 300 Index

Melbourne, Australia; 22 June 2020 – Opthea Limited (ASX:OPT) a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing novel biologic therapies to treat eye diseases, is pleased to announce that the Company will be added to the S&P/ASX 300 Index, effective upon market open on Monday, June 22, 2020.

The S&P/ASX family of indices measures the performance of ASX-listed companies across various sizes, industries, themes and strategies. Each index is designed to represent a certain segment of the Australian equities market. The ASX 300 index which is rebalanced semiannually in March and September, measures the performance of 300 of the largest, highly liquid securities listed on the ASX by float-adjusted market capitalization. The index includes the LargeCap, MidCap, and SmallCap components of the S&P/ASX index family.

“Opthea’s addition to the ASX 300 reflects the company’s strong performance as we have continued to advance our lead product candidate, OPT-302, through the completion of Phase 2 clinical trials in wet age-related macular degeneration and diabetic macular edema. Our inclusion in the ASX 300 may further diversify the Company’s shareholder base as we progress OPT-302 into Phase 3 clinical development,” commented Dr Megan Baldwin, CEO & Managing Director of Opthea.

For more information about the S&P/ASX 300 Index visit:

<https://au.spindices.com/indices/equity/sp-asx-300#overview>

About Opthea Limited

Opthea (ASX:OPT) is a biologics drug developer developing a novel therapy to address the unmet need in the treatment of highly prevalent and progressive retinal diseases. It retains worldwide rights to a significant intellectual property portfolio around OPT-302. Opthea’s intellectual property is held within its wholly-owned subsidiary Vegenix Pty Ltd. Opthea’s product development programs are focused on developing OPT-302 for wet age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD) and diabetic macular edema (DME). OPT-302 is a soluble form of vascular endothelial growth factor receptor 3 (VEGFR-3) or ‘Trap’ molecule that blocks the activity of two proteins (VEGF-C and VEGF-D) that cause blood vessels to grow and leak, processes which contribute to the pathophysiology of retinal diseases. Opthea is developing OPT-302 for use in combination with inhibitors of VEGF-A.

Opthea has also reported outcomes from an international, multi-centre, prospective, sham-controlled, double-masked, superiority study that enrolled 366 treatment-naïve patients with wet AMD. Participants in the study were randomized in a 1:1:1 ratio to receive one of the following treatment regimens administered every 4 weeks for 24 weeks: OPT-302 (0.5 mg) in combination with ranibizumab (Lucentis®) (0.5 mg); OPT-302 (2.0 mg) in combination with ranibizumab (0.5 mg); or sham in combination with ranibizumab (0.5 mg). The study met the primary endpoint demonstrating superior vision gains in participants who received OPT-302 (2.0 mg) in combination with ranibizumab on a monthly basis over 6 months. Opthea has also reported outcomes from a Phase 1b/2a clinical trial in patients with persistent, centre-involved DME. Further details on the Company’s clinical trials can be found at: www.clinicaltrials.gov, Clinical trial identifiers: NCT02543229, NCT03345082 and NCT03397264.

Inherent risks of Investment in Biotechnology Companies

There are a number of inherent risks associated with the development of pharmaceutical products to a marketable stage. The lengthy clinical trial process is designed to assess the safety and efficacy of a drug prior to commercialisation and a significant proportion of drugs fail one or both of these criteria. Other risks include uncertainty of patent protection and proprietary rights, whether patent applications and issued patents will offer adequate protection to enable product development, the obtaining of necessary drug regulatory authority approvals and difficulties caused by the rapid advancements in technology. Companies such as Opthea are dependent on the success of their research and development projects and on the ability to attract funding to support these activities. Investment in research and development projects cannot be assessed on the same fundamentals as trading and manufacturing enterprises. Therefore investment in companies specialising in drug development must be regarded as highly speculative. Opthea strongly recommends that professional investment advice be sought prior to such investments.

Forward-looking statements

Certain statements in this ASX announcement may contain forward-looking statements regarding Company business and the therapeutic and commercial potential of its technologies and products in development. Any statement describing Company goals, expectations, intentions or beliefs is a forward-looking statement and should be considered an at-risk statement. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, particularly those risks or uncertainties inherent in the process of developing technology and in the process of discovering, developing and commercialising drugs that can be proven to be safe and effective for use as human therapeutics, and in the endeavour of building a business around such products and services. Opthea undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Actual results could differ materially from those discussed in this ASX announcement.

Authorised for release to ASX by Megan Baldwin, CEO & Managing Director

Company & Media Enquiries:

Megan Baldwin, PhD
CEO & Managing Director
Opthea Limited
Tel: +61 (0) 447 788 674
megan.baldwin@opthea.com

Australia:

Rudi Michelson
Monsoon Communications
Tel: +61 (0) 3 9620 3333

Join our email database to receive program updates:

Tel: +61 (0) 3 9826 0399
info@opthea.com
www.opthea.com

U.S.A. & International:

Jason Wong
Blueprint Life Science Group
Tel: +1 415 375 3340, Ext 4
Jwong@bplifescience.com