



Vantia Therapeutics appoints Andrew Crockett as Chief Executive Officer

Southampton, UK, 9 June 2010 – Vantia Therapeutics today announced that it has appointed Andrew Crockett to the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Since joining Vantia in 2009 as Vice President of Business Development, Mr Crockett has made a significant contribution to Vantia's corporate development. Mr Crockett was previously with US specialty pharma company ZARS Pharma. During his career he has identified, negotiated and executed strategic corporate transactions on a global basis.

Mr Crockett holds an MBA from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, with a major in Finance. He has served as an advisor to various investment groups for the medical device and pharmaceutical industries and is an advisory board member for several US-based start-ups.

Martin Murphy of MVM Life Science Partners and Non-executive Chairman of Vantia, said: "We are very pleased that Andrew Crockett has accepted the position as CEO. Vantia has made considerable progress over the past two years in advancing its pipeline of novel small molecule drug candidates into Phase II clinical trials. We wish Jim Phillips, the former CEO, well and appreciate his contribution to the team. The management team has created a solid platform for Vantia and we are therefore very pleased that Andrew will continue the great work that has been started."

Andrew Crockett, CEO, said: "I am delighted to take on the position of Chief Executive at Vantia and look forward to working alongside the Vantia team to build on the strong foundation established during the past two years, and to moving our lead clinical programme into Phase III clinical trials next year. Vantia has a world-class research team that has an excellent track record in discovering first-in-class, innovative new medicines. Our strong product pipeline is a credit to this group and the development team that works alongside them. We are looking forward to an exciting second half of the year when we expect important clinical data from our Phase IIa efficacy study in dysmenorrhoea and from our Phase IIb study in nocturia."

-ENDS-



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Notes to Editors:

About Vantia Therapeutics

Vantia Therapeutics is an emerging pharmaceutical company developing novel, small molecule drugs targeting large, underserved medical markets. Formed in 2008 as a spin-out of Ferring Research Ltd's small molecule R&D, it has two clinical phase products, VA106483 for the treatment of nocturia and VA111913 for the treatment of dysmenorrhoea, as well as preclinical and discovery programmes based on protease inhibition with potential in the areas of oncology and inflammation. The company's investors include MVM Life Science Partners, SV Life Sciences and Novo A/S. Vantia Therapeutics is situated on Southampton Science Park, UK, where it occupies 10,000 sq ft of chemistry and biology facilities. For further information, please go to www.vantia.com.