



Edimer Announces Donation to National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias at Mass. State House Celebration of Rare Disease Day

-- Donation given in honor of Ectodermal Dysplasias Awareness Month with funds to be used to defray costs of the Foundation's 30th Anniversary Family Conference --

BOSTON – February 28, 2011 – Edimer Pharmaceuticals, a biotechnology company focused on developing an innovative therapy for the rare genetic disorder, X-linked Hypohidrotic Ectodermal Dysplasia (XLHED), announced today that it will provide a grant to the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias (NFED) to help defray costs associated with the Foundation's annual Family Conference. The NFED is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower and connect people touched by ectodermal dysplasias through education, support, and research. Ectodermal dysplasias are a diverse group of more than 150 different inherited disorders that involve defects in the hair, nails, sweat glands and teeth. Neil Kirby, Ph.D., President and CEO of Edimer, referenced the grant in his remarks at the MassBIO Rare Disease Day Celebration at the Massachusetts' State House.

Rare Disease Day is an annual, awareness-raising event to draw attention to rare diseases and the millions of people who are affected by them. The day is championed by the slogan "Rare but Equal".

The Edimer Pharmaceuticals' grant includes matching donations from several of the company's corporate partners and vendors, such as Accounting Management Solutions, Faber Daeufer & Rosenberg PC, Goodwin Procter LLP and Nixon Peabody, LLP. The amount of the grant was not disclosed.

"With a disorder as rare as XLHED, it is important for patients, families, clinicians and researchers to connect and share their experiences. This common need for information exchange makes the NFED annual Family Conference one of the most important things that we do," said Anil Vora, NFED Board President. "We are very grateful to Edimer and our other corporate donors who have helped make the 2011 30th Anniversary Family Conference possible."

"Edimer applauds the efforts of the NFED and supports programs that encourage ongoing communication among the ectodermal dysplasias community as we work to develop a treatment for XLHED," said Neil Kirby, Ph.D., President and CEO of Edimer. "There is increasing recognition that just because a disease is rare it does not mean that it isn't important. I am proud to be part of a company and an industry committed to making a difference in the lives of people affected by rare disease."

About NFED

The National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias, currently celebrating its 30th anniversary, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower and connect people touched by ectodermal dysplasias through education, support, and research. The NFED encourages members of the Ectodermal Dysplasias community to dedicate time and resources to raise awareness of the disorders during February -- National Ectodermal Dysplasia Month. The Foundation's National Family Conference is scheduled for July 21-23, 2011 in O'Fallon, Illinois.

About XLHED

X-Linked Hypohidrotic Ectodermal Dysplasia (XLHED) is a rare genetic disorder diagnosed on the basis of fine, sparse hair (hypotrichosis); few and often pointed teeth (hypodontia); diminished or absent sweat function (hypohidrosis); and recurrent respiratory infections in infancy. XLHED is associated with mutations in the EDA gene and is the most common of over 170 different ectodermal dysplasias. XLHED affects primarily males and, in its most severe form, is associated with serious and potentially life-threatening illness in infancy resulting from a lack of sweating leading to hyperthermia and from respiratory infections. Through childhood, the focus of medical care for XLHED patients shifts to the chronic skin issues and severe hypodontia with its associated medical and self-esteem issues. Dentures may be prescribed as early as age 2-3 years to enhance feeding, growth, and speech and to begin to address what are often life-long psychosocial issues. As an X-linked genetic disorder, males with their single X-chromosome are fully affected by XLHED, while females inheriting one normal and one altered X-chromosome are variably affected.

About Edimer Pharmaceuticals

Edimer is a privately held biotechnology company based in Cambridge, Massachusetts dedicated to delivering a significant and durable improvement in the health and quality of life to future generations affected by XLHED. Edimer's lead product candidate, EDI200, is an EDA replacement protein representing the first of a new class of molecules designed to permanently correct a developmental disorder. Edimer was established in 2009 with investment from Third Rock Ventures and VI Partners.

For further information on Edimer Pharmaceuticals, please visit www.edimerpharma.com. To receive quarterly updates about Edimer Pharmaceuticals' progress please join the XLHED network at www.xlhednetwork.com.

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