

FROM: CORNERSTONE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
1 Duncan Drive
Cranbury, NJ 08512
info@cornerstonepharma.com

Media Contact: Rubenstein Public Relations
Contact: Adam Mazur
(212) 843-8073 / amazur@rubensteinpr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CORNERSTONE PHARMACEUTICALS ADDS ACCLAIMED
CANCER RESEARCH PIONEER ROBERT A. WEINBERG, Ph.D.
TO ITS SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

Cranbury, NJ, October 5, 2009 – Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a privately-held pharmaceutical company, announced today that groundbreaking cancer research scientist Robert A. Weinberg, Ph.D., a founding member of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and a Professor of Biology at MIT, has joined the company's Scientific Advisory Board.

Widely recognized for his discoveries of the first human oncogene (the *ras* oncogene that causes normal cells to form tumors), and the isolation of the first known tumor suppressor gene - the *Rb* gene, Dr. Weinberg has long been recognized as a pioneer in cancer research.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Weinberg to our Scientific Advisory Board" commented Dr. Robert Shorr, CEO, of Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals. "Dr. Weinberg's accomplishments in cancer research are monumental and we believe his experience, guidance and vision will be of tremendous benefit to the Company."

Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals is currently recruiting patients with solid tumors to advance multiple Phase I/II human clinical trials of CPI-613, its lead drug to emerge from the company's Altered Energy Metabolism Directed (AEMD) technology platform. CPI-613 is the first drug in a new chemical class that, through a novel mechanism, targets metabolic changes that may be common to many cancer types. CPI-613 is being evaluated in a Phase I/II single agent trial for patients who have failed all other therapy as well as in a Phase I/II combination trial with gemcitabine in newly diagnosed or relapsed patients determined to be treated with gemcitabine. Pancreatic cancer, like many solid tumors, typically has a poor prognosis, spreads rapidly and often goes undetected in its early stages. CPI-613 has been granted orphan drug status by the US FDA for pancreatic cancer.

"I am pleased to join Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals as a member of its Scientific Advisory Board and look forward to helping the Company develop vitally important

potentially life-sustaining compounds that challenge and hopefully enhance conventional wisdom about treatment for a variety of cancers,” said Dr. Weinberg. “Cornerstone is a leader in developing compounds that target the unique metabolic attributes of cancer cells. I believe, as do many others, that this is a promising area in cancer research, as this unique metabolism is essential to cancer cell survival and preserved across multiple cancer types.”

Dr. Weinberg, who received his Ph.D. in biology from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1969, has also held research positions at the Weizmann Institute and the Salk Institute. He co-founded the Whitehead Institute and joined the MIT faculty as a professor of biology in 1982. That same year he published the landmark paper “Mechanism of Activation of a Human Oncogene” in the journal *Nature*. In 1999, he published “Creation of Human Tumor Cells with Defined Genetic Elements” also in *Nature*. Among his many distinctions, Dr. Weinberg was named “Scientist of the Year” by *Discover* magazine in 1982 and won the **National Medal of Science** in 1997 and the **Otto Warburg Medal** in 2007.

About Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals

Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a privately held pharmaceutical company singularly focused on the discovery and development of innovative cancer therapies that exploit the metabolic pathways that are common to different cancer types but different from normal cells and tissues. This unique approach, i.e. understanding and addressing what is similar to multiple cancer types rather than the differences between each, offers a significant opportunity to make a profound impact on the clinical treatment of a variety of cancers.

Cornerstone’s AEMD technology platform was established on cancer metabolism research performed in the laboratories of Paul M. Bingham, Ph.D. and Zuzana Zachar, Ph.D., at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY. Cornerstone has offices and laboratory facilities in both Cranbury, NJ. and Stony Brook, NY. For further information, please log onto <http://www.cornerstonepharma.com>.

About Whitehead Institute

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research is a leading, nonprofit research and educational institution that has defined the cutting edge of biomedical science, creating a legacy of research excellence and academic eminence since 1982. Wholly independent in its governance, finances and research programs, Whitehead shares a teaching affiliation with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), offering the intellectual, collegial and scientific benefits of a leading research university.

For further information or to arrange an interview with Cornerstone Pharmaceuticals senior management please contact Adam Mazur at (212) 843-8073 or email amazur@rubensteinpr.com.

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