



PRESS RELEASE

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EPI-A0001 Improves Neurological Outcome Endpoint in 28-Day Phase 2A Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial in Friedreich's Ataxia

Clinical trial being designed to confirm encouraging results

FARA, June 11, 2011 – In its release issued Friday, Edison Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced that EPI-A0001 significantly improved neurological function as assessed by the Friedreich's Ataxia Rating Scale (FARS). The trial did not show significant improvement in the primary endpoint of glucose disposition index (a measure of the body's glucose handling). The three arms of the trial consisted of placebo, low dose and high dose of EPI-A0001. The FARS scores improvements were reported to be statistically significant in both the low and high dose groups when compared to the placebo group. There were no differences between the placebo group and the two drug-treated groups in the rates of drug-related adverse events.

Dr. David Lynch, the principal investigator of the trial, said, "We are working closely with Edison, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and our colleagues in FARA's Collaborative Clinical Research Network in Friedreich's Ataxia to design extended duration clinical trials to verify this encouraging data." FARA President Ron Bartek added, "FARA would like to thank the patients and patient families who participated in this very promising clinical trial. We look very much forward to working with the FA patient community, Edison and the clinical investigators as EPI-A0001 takes its next steps through clinical development toward the treatment goal for which we are all striving together."

FARA has been involved in the development of EPI-A0001 from its pre-clinical development stage. In 2006, Dr. Robert B. Wilson, Edison Pharmaceuticals and FARA as co-applicants were accepted into the National Institutes of Health Rapid Access to Intervention Development (RAID) Pilot Program. Support by this NIH program accelerated EPI-A0001 clinical development. Additionally, FARA has awarded multiple grants to Edison for the development of both EPI-A0001 and EPI-743. FARA will continue working hand-in-hand with Edison, the investigator team, and the patient and physician community to begin implementation of further EPI-A0001 prospective trials.

About FA

FA is a rare, degenerative, life-shortening neuro-muscular disorder that affects children and adults and involves the loss of strength and coordination usually leading to wheelchair

use; diminished vision, hearing and speech; scoliosis (curvature of the spine); increased risk of diabetes, and a life-threatening heart condition. There are currently no effective treatments.

About FARA

The Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to accelerating research leading to treatments and a cure for Friedreich's ataxia. www.CureFA.org

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