

Esperance Pharmaceuticals Closes Oversubscribed Series B Financing

--Secures additional investment from regional investors dedicated to growing Southeast biotech community--

BATON ROUGE, LA. – August 8, 2011 – [Esperance Pharmaceuticals, Inc.](http://www.esperancepharma.com) today announced the final closing of an oversubscribed \$8.1 million Series B financing. The Company previously announced an initial round of \$7.5 million in early June. The additional funds were provided by regional investors in the Baton Rouge and Shreveport area dedicated to fostering the growing biotech community in Louisiana. Proceeds from the Series B will support further clinical development of EP-100, the lead cancer-targeting drug candidate from Esperance's Cationic Lytic Peptide (CLYP™) platform technology and the continued expansion of the Company's pipeline. The financing was led by a \$4.5 million investment from Sanofi (Paris, France), one of the top five largest pharmaceutical companies in the world. In addition, all existing institutional investors in Esperance—Louisiana Fund I, Themelios Ventures, Research Corporation Technologies and Louisiana Technology Fund—as well as current and new private investors participated in the syndicate.

"We are grateful for the unanimous participation of our current investors and very pleased to have such a strong showing of support from local investors in this final round of our Series B financing," said Hector Alila, PhD, President and CEO of Esperance Pharmaceuticals. "This oversubscribed syndicate, led by our new investor Sanofi, will support the planned initiation of the next phase of EP-100 clinical studies later this year."

"While the strength of the overall financing is certainly a testament to Esperance and its pipeline, it also speaks to our community's increasing support of what is rapidly becoming a vibrant life sciences community in Southeastern Louisiana," said Joseph F. Lovett, Chairman of the Board of Esperance and Managing General Partner at Louisiana Fund I. "We hope this serves to encourage other biotechnology companies to capitalize on all this region has to offer."

About Esperance Pharmaceuticals

Esperance Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a clinical stage company developing a new class of targeted anticancer drugs using its Cationic Lytic Peptide (CLYP™) platform technology. These drug candidates, called targeted membrane-disrupting peptides (tMDPs) and antibody drug conjugates (ADCs) selectively seek and destroy cancer cells, including cells known to be resistant to chemotherapeutic drugs, without harming normal cells. Targeting occurs through binding to specific receptors and antigens on the cell's surface. The Company was founded on patented technology discovered by scientists at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, the Louisiana State (LSU) Ag Center and LSU main campus. Founding investors include the Louisiana Fund I, Themelios Ventures and Research Corporation Technologies. Additional investors include Sanofi, Advantage Capital Partners, Louisiana Technology Fund and private investors. More information can be found at www.esperancepharma.com.

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