IK-595, a best-in-class MEK-RAF complex inhibitor, drives broad and potent anti-tumor activity in RAS/RAF-driven tumors

Eric Haines, Rachel Catterall, Victor De Jesus, Jill Cavanaugh, Sarah R. Wessel, Bin Li, Joseph D. Mann, Michael Burke, Daniel Hidalgo, Marta Sanchez-Martin, Ao Yang, Oksana Zavidil, Lan Xu, Sergio Santillana, Jeffrey Eceddy, X. Michelle Zhang, and Sabine K. Ruppel

IKena Oncology, Boston, MA, USA

**Background**

First gen MEK inhibitors trigger CRAF mediated pathway reactivation

- Approved MEK inhibitor blocks MEK kinase activity
- CRAF plays a critical role in the therapeutic resistance of approved MEK inhibitors in RAS mutant cancer patients

Large Unmet Medical Need Drives Development of Next-Gen MEK-RAF Inhibitors

**Results**

IK-595, a Potential Best-In-Class Next-Gen Inhibitor, Stabilizes MEK-RAF Complex in an Inactive Conformation

IK-595 Demonstrates Robust Anti-Tumor Activity Across RAS/RAF-Driven In Vivo Models Demonstrating Potential Breadth of Applicability

IK-595 Binds to MEK with a Very Slow Off-Rate

Increased Sensitivity to IK-595 in RAR/RAF-Altered Cell Lines

IK-595 Demonstrates Prolonged and Robust Inhibition of MEK and ERK1/2 Phosphorylation

IK-595 Combines Broadly with Therapies Targeting RAS or Other Compensatory Pathways

**Conclusion**

IK-595 has potential to be a best-in-class inhibitor that could broadly impact RAS/RAF driven cancers independent of BRAF status.