NEOTHETICS ANNOUNCES LAST SUBJECT ENROLLED IN PHASE 2 PROOF OF CONCEPT TRIAL FOR LIPO-202 FOR THE REDUCTION OF SUBMENTAL SUBCUTANEOUS FAT

SAN DIEGO, March 20, 2017 — Neothetics, Inc. (NASDAQ: NEOT), a clinical-stage specialty pharmaceutical company developing therapeutics for the aesthetic market today announced completion of subject enrollment for its Phase 2 proof of concept trial, LIPO-202-CL-31, for the reduction of submental subcutaneous fat.

"We are excited to announce the conclusion of enrollment in our first trial with LIPO-202 for the reduction of submental fat. We are encouraged by the strong investigator interest and rapid subject enrollment," said Kim Kamdar Ph.D., a member of Neothetics' Operating Committee and Board of Directors. "This is a robust clinical trial design based on both our significant experience with LIPO-202 and extensive feedback from key opinion leaders and investigators on submental fat reduction."

LIPO-202-CL-31 is a multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 2 proof of concept trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of two doses of LIPO-202 versus placebo for the reduction of submental bulging due to subcutaneous fat. The trial has enrolled approximately 150 subjects at 12 sites across the United States. Subjects will be randomized 1:1:1 and receive up to either 0.3 mcg, or 3.0 mcg dose of LIPO-202, or placebo. Subjects will receive up to 30 subcutaneous injections of LIPO-202 or placebo once a week for eight weeks and follow up visits to assess safety and efficacy will occur one week and four weeks post the last treatment.

The study endpoints include both safety and efficacy measurements. Efficacy measures will assess improvement in the subject's submental region as evaluated by both the patient and clinician, covering overall subject satisfaction and evaluation of submental fat thickness by calipers.

The Company expects to report top-line data in June 2017.

About LIPO-202

LIPO-202 is a proprietary, first-in-class injectable formulation of the well-known long-acting ß2-adrenergic receptor agonist, salmeterol xinafoate, which is an active ingredient of FDA-approved inhaled products such as SEREVENT DISKUS, ADVAIR HFA and ADVAIR DISKUS. Our studies suggest that salmeterol xinafoate activates ß2 -adrenergic receptors on fat cells, triggering the body's natural process of metabolizing stored triglycerides (fat) resulting in a reduction in size and volume of the fat cells in the treatment area without damage of nearby tissues. LIPO-202 has an extremely favorable safety profile, with little to no adverse post treatment effects. LIPO-202 is being evaluated for the reduction of submental fat commonly referred to as a double-chin.

About Neothetics, Inc.

Neothetics is a San Diego based clinical-stage specialty pharmaceutical company developing therapeutics for the aesthetic market. Our initial focus is on localized fat reduction and body contouring. Our lead product candidate, LIPO-202, is a first-in-class injectable formulation of the long-acting ß2-adrenergic receptor agonist, salmeterol xinafoate, which is an active ingredient in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, approved inhaled products SEREVENT DISKUS, ADVAIR HFA and ADVAIR DISKUS. For more information on Neothetics, please visit www.neothetics.com. Neothetics, LIPO-202, LIPO-102 and the Neothetics logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Neothetics, Inc. Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Forward Looking Statements

Statements contained in this press release regarding matters that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the ability to develop a modified formulation of LIPO-202, timing of conducting and obtaining results from Phase 2 trials and proof of concept study with a modified formulation of LIPO-202, whether our modified formulation of LIPO-202 is able to demonstrate positive results, Neothetics' plans to research, develop and commercialize LIPO-202 and other product candidates, our expectations regarding the potential market size and opportunity of LIPO-202, as well as expected timing for reporting results from clinical trials. Because such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based upon Neothetics' current expectations and involve assumptions that may never materialize or may prove to be incorrect. Actual results and the timing of events could differ materially from those anticipated in such forward-looking statements as a result of various risks and uncertainties, which include, without limitation, risks and uncertainties associated with clinical trials, such as the ability to timely initiate clinical trials and enroll a sufficient number of patients on a timely basis into clinical trials, the extent to which top-line data is available and whether the clinical trials achieve positive results, product development activities, obtaining regulatory approval to commercialize LIPO-202 and other product candidates, Neothetics' use of cash, and the need to raise additional funding, when needed, in order to conduct our clinical trials and other business, the degree of market acceptance of LIPO-202 by physicians, patients and others in the medical community, our reliance on third parties, including third-party suppliers for manufacturing and distribution of products, regulatory developments in the United States and foreign countries, Neothetics' ability to obtain and maintain intellectual property protection for LIPO-202 and its product candidates, competition in the aesthetics industry and other market conditions. All forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date on which they were made. Neothetics undertakes no obligation to update such statements to reflect events that occur or circumstances that exist after the date on which they were made. Investors should consult all of the information set forth herein and should also refer to the risk factor disclosure set forth in the reports and other documents the company files with the SEC available at www.sec.gov, including without limitation, Neothetics' Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 and subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q.

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