



## Exicure to Present Data at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2018 Annual Meeting

April 16, 2018

SKOKIE, Ill. – April 16, 2018 – Exicure, Inc., the pioneer in gene regulatory and immunotherapeutic drugs utilizing three-dimensional, spherical nucleic acid (SNA™) constructs, announced today that it will present preclinical data in a poster session at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) 2018 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois from April 14-18, 2018. The poster titled "TLR9 agonist SNA-induced innate and adaptive immune responses in tumor microenvironment enhance checkpoint inhibitor antitumor activity in mouse tumor models" supports the ongoing clinical development of the company's proprietary SNA™ technology and highlights its potential impact in the tumor microenvironment in potentiating antitumor effects of anti-PD-1.

The data presented in the poster, in combination with many other preclinical studies, provided the basis for advancing Exicure's drug candidate, AST-008, into its Phase 1 clinical trial. We began subject dosing in our Phase 1 clinical trial for AST-008 in the fourth quarter of 2017 and expect this trial to be completed in mid-2018.

AST-008 utilizes Exicure's proprietary spherical nucleic acid (SNA) technology designed in this case to agonize toll-like receptor 9, or TLR9, for application in immuno-oncology. Exicure has observed that administration of AST-008 as a monotherapy can have anti-tumor activity in colon cancer, breast cancer, lymphoma and melanoma mouse models. The company has also observed that, in preclinical studies in a variety of tumor models, AST-008 applied in combination with certain checkpoint inhibitors exhibited anti-tumor responses and survival rates that were greater than those demonstrated by checkpoint inhibitors alone.

Details on the poster presentation are as follows:

**Title:** TLR9 agonist SNA-induced innate and adaptive immune responses in tumor micro-environment enhance checkpoint inhibitor antitumor activity in mouse tumor models

**Abstract No:** 3758

**Session Title:** Immunomodulatory Agents and Interventions 1

**Date/Time:** April 17, 2018; 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM CT

**Location:** McCormick Place South, Exhibit Hall A, Poster Section 32

Full abstracts are available on the AACR conference website at <http://www.aacr.org>.

### About Exicure, Inc.

Exicure, Inc. is a clinical stage biotechnology company developing a new class of immunomodulatory and gene regulating drugs against validated targets. Exicure's proprietary 3-dimensional, spherical nucleic acid (SNA™) architecture unlocks the potential of therapeutic oligonucleotides in a wide range of cells and tissues. Exicure's lead programs address inflammatory diseases, genetic disorders and oncology. Exicure is based outside of Chicago, Ill. [www.exicuretx.com](http://www.exicuretx.com)

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