



## **FDA Grants Orphan Drug Status to Inologic's Lead CF Compound**

SEATTLE, August 27, 2003 -- Inologic, Inc. announced today that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted orphan drug designation for Inologic's lead compound for treating patients with cystic fibrosis (CF).

In addition, Inologic has appointed a veteran biotech dealmaker and fundraiser, Dr. Debby Jo Blank, to its board of directors.

These announcements signal a new phase of growth for the Seattle-based biotechnology firm as it gears up to initiate human clinical trials in 2004.

### **Orphan Drug Designation**

Inologic is currently developing an entirely new class of compounds designed to target the cause of CF rather than the symptoms by bypassing the molecular defect found in cystic fibrosis cells. Inologic's lead compound (INO-4913) has the potential to restore normal function to the mucous membranes, leading to fewer lung infections and less inflammation in CF patients.

"Inologic is pleased to have received orphan drug designation for INO-4913. This designation, coupled with our \$1.5 million award from the CF Foundation that we received earlier this year, places us in an ideal position for the continued development of our compounds," states Ed Field, president and CEO of Inologic.

The FDA's orphan drug status is reserved for promising new therapies for diseases that affect fewer than 200,000 people in the United States. This designation provides Inologic with a number of possible financial and regulatory benefits during the course of drug development, including tax credits, government grants and a seven-year market exclusivity upon final FDA approval.

### **Dr. Debby Jo Blank**

Dr. Blank joins Inologic's board with a strong track record in both the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Most recently, she served as Chief Business Officer for Genencor International's health care division where she was instrumental in Genencor's successful \$130 million IPO and closed four deals in cancer and therapeutic vaccines with a value of more than \$450 million.

"We are happy that Dr. Blank will be working with us to attract additional investment and provide strategic leadership to the company."

Dr. Blank has also held senior management positions at Isis Pharmaceuticals, DuPont Merck Pharmaceuticals, Syntex Laboratories, Advanced Technology Laboratories, and Cypress Bioscience.



She received her B.A. from Stanford University and her M.D. from Tufts University School of Medicine. She also completed a three year Kaiser Scholar's fellowship in health care policy and management at The Sloan School of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

For more information on Inologic, please visit <http://www.inologic.com> or contact Ed Field, President and Chief Executive Officer at 206.448.9226.