



XORTX Announces PKD Foundation Collaboration

CALGARY, AB – April 19, 2018 – XORTX Therapeutics Inc. ("XORTX" or the "Company") (CSE:XRX) is pleased to announce that the PKD Foundation has recognized XORTX as a leader in advancing the development of treatments for progressive kidney disease, including polycystic kidney disease ("PKD") and rare diseases such as autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease ("ADPKD").

At the present time, despite considerable effort, very few approved therapeutic options exist to treat progressive kidney disease. There is reason for hope, however. Based on recent clinical study evidence, the presence of uric acid above the normal range can act to negatively affect the health and therapeutic outcomes of patients with PKD. The PKD Foundation is supportive of new treatments to lower and maintain uric acid levels in patients. Towards this goal, the PKD Foundation will make available its scientific expertise to support and collaborate with XORTX to discover these new treatments.

Dr. David Baron, Chief Scientific Officer, PKD Foundation stated, "We believe that the combination of the PKD Foundation's and XORTX's scientific expertise may enable an entirely new class of highly active and potentially important treatments for patients for whom current biopharmaceutical approaches have had limited success."

Dr. Allen Davidoff, XORTX's CEO added, "We are thrilled to receive this important endorsement of our programs from the PKD Foundation. Their support and collaboration will help advance XORTX's programs to define the beneficial effects of our therapies, in ADPKD patients but potentially in other forms of polycystic kidney disease as well. There are substantial benefits to working with the leading polycystic kidney disease foundation in the world and collaborating on the development of treatments that will redefine how physicians treat this disease in the future."

About PKD Foundation

The PKD Foundation began over 35 years ago to find treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease (PKD) and to improve the lives of those it affects. The Foundation does this through the promotion of research, education, advocacy, support and awareness on a national level, along with direct services to local communities across the U.S. The PKD Foundation is the largest private funder of PKD research, having invested more than \$42 million in basic and clinical research, nephrology fellowships and scientific meetings with a simple goal: to discover and deliver treatments and a cure for PKD.

About XORTX Therapeutics Inc.

XORTX Therapeutics Inc. is a BioPharmaceutical company focused on developing innovative therapies to treat progressive kidney disease. XORTX has lead programs to develop treatments for progressive kidney disease due to diabetes, diabetic nephropathy and polycystic kidney disease. Secondary programs focus on developing therapies for health consequences that accompany pre-diabetes, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Additional information on XORTX Therapeutics is available at www.xortx.com.



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