NERVGEN PHARMA EXPANDS PLATFORM INTO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

NERVGEN PHARMA'S NVG-291 COMPOUND ON TRACK TO BEGIN PHASE 1 IN Q1 2020

Vancouver, Canada. October 28, 2019 – **NervGen Pharma Corp. (TSX-V: NGEN) (OTCQX: NGENF)** ("NervGen" or the "Company"), a regenerative medicine company dedicated to creating novel treatments for nerve damage and neurodegenerative diseases, today announced a research initiative to advance its proprietary therapeutic technology platform, currently in development for spinal cord injury and multiple sclerosis, to generate new treatments for Alzheimer's disease ("AD").

Alzheimer's disease, a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that destroys memory and cognitive functions, is becoming a healthcare crisis with an estimated 30 million people affected globally including 5.8 million in the United States. As AD research and development efforts have failed to produce new effective treatments in the last fifteen years, the medical community and pharmaceutical industry are seeking technologies with novel approaches through new targets and pathways.

"NervGen's platform technology provides an innovative approach to treating Alzheimer's disease and has received positive affirmation from several Alzheimer's disease key opinion leaders," said Bill Radvak, NervGen's Executive Chairman. "The essence of our technology is that it unlocks a damaged nervous system's natural ability to repair itself and this could translate to helping people suffering from Alzheimer's disease."

"NervGen's platform technology introduces a truly novel approach to treating Alzheimer's disease," stated George Perry, PhD, editor-in-chief for the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Professor of Biology and Semmes Distinguished University Chair in Neurobiology at the University of Texas at San Antonio. "Work that began in the early 90s has confirmed the importance of the biological effect of proteoglycans in the central nervous system. In particular, the ability to shift microglia from the inflammatory phase to the phagocytic or housekeeping phase, as evidenced in both a spinal cord injury and multiple sclerosis model, is promising as it is the natural reparative process for removal of amyloid plaques. This demonstration of an immunomodulatory effect on the microglia will be of specific interest in the quest for a solution to Alzheimer's disease as the function of the microglia is one of the hot topics in this still evolving story."

"We remain dedicated to delivering on our clinical program preparing our NVG-291 compound for a Phase 1a study to begin in Q1 2020 followed by a Phase 1b on subsets of both chronic and sub-acute spinal cord patients and a Phase 2 study on multiple sclerosis in 2021. We are excited to expand our platform to Alzheimer's disease," said Dr. Ernest Wong, NervGen's President & CEO. "Chondroitin sulfate proteoglycans ("CSPG") are intimately associated with senile plaques and our work with PTPσ knockout mice and other data with chondroitinase all suggest a pivotal role for PTPσ in AD. We will consult with Alzheimer's disease experts to generate a research and development program for AD with our platform and at the same time increase our business development efforts. Given the novelty of our approach and the potential applications to different disease indications, we believe that the technology should be of strong interest to prospective partners."

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About Alzheimer's Disease

According to the new report on Alzheimer's disease facts and figures, published online by the Alzheimer's Association, 5.8 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease – 5.5 million of them aged 65 years and older. By 2025, the number of seniors with Alzheimer's disease could reach 7.1 million, up nearly 29 percent. The prevalence of Alzheimer's disease could reach 13.8 million by 2050. The estimated cost in 2019 of caring for Americans with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias is $277 billion – and that does not include unpaid caregiving. Of that amount, $186 billion is the cost to *Medicare* and *Medicaid*, and $60 billion is for out-of-pocket costs. Alzheimer's disease is currently ranked as the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, but recent estimates indicate that the disease may rank third, just behind heart disease and cancer, as a cause of death for seniors.

About NervGen's Platform Technology

The body produces a scar at sites of physical injury such as a spinal cord injury as well as sites of inflammatory damage from neurodegenerative diseases such as multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's disease. The purpose of the scar is to encapsulate the site of the injury to prevent further damage but it ultimately inhibits the body's reparative mechanisms. The co-inventor of NervGen's technology, Dr. Jerry Silver, Professor of Neurosciences at Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine, discovered that a constituent of these scars, a protein called CSPG, inhibits the body's natural ability to regrow and regenerate. NervGen's technology platform removes this inhibition and, via multiple endogenous repair mechanisms, unlocks the nervous system's ability to repair itself in a manner adapted to the site of injury and type of disease. Numerous repair mechanisms, including regeneration, plasticity and remyelination, have been observed in the various animal models such as stroke, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, cardiac arrhythmia and peripheral nerve injury as reported in over a dozen peer reviewed papers.

About NervGen

NervGen is restoring life's potential by creating innovative solutions for the treatment of nerve damage and neurodegenerative diseases. The Company is developing drugs for both spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's disease.

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Follow NervGen on Twitter (@NervgenC) and LinkedIn (NervGen Pharma Corp.) for the latest news on the Company.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This news release may contain "forward-looking information" and "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of applicable Canadian and United States securities legislation. Such forward-looking statements and information herein include, but are not limited to, the Company's current and future plans, expectations and intentions, results, levels of activity, performance, goals or achievements, or any other future events or developments constitute

forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding advancement of NVG-291 toward clinical development and commercialization, the timing of human trials and regulatory approval, the potential efficacy of the Company's products and technology, and the potential to identify, evaluate and develop other drug candidates. The words "may", "will", "would", "should", "could", "expect", "plan", "intend", "trend", "indication", "anticipate", "believe", "estimate", "predict", "likely" or "potential", or the negative or other variations of these words or other comparable words or phrases, are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by the Company in light of management's experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors that the Company believes are appropriate and reasonable in the circumstances. Many factors could cause the Company's actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements or future events or developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements, including without limitation, a lack of revenue, insufficient funding, reliance upon key personnel, the uncertainty of the clinical development process, competition, and other factors set forth in the "Risk Factors" section of the Company's Prospectus, financial statements and Management Discussion and Analysis which can be found on SEDAR.com. All clinical development plans are subject to additional funding.

Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements made in this document. Furthermore, unless otherwise stated, the forward-looking statements contained in this document are made as of the date of this document, and the Company has no intention and undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law. The forward-looking statements contained in this document are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

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