NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO TREAT PNEUMONIA RESULTING FROM COVID-19

- Special antibiotic supply in support of patients suffering from hospital acquired and ventilator associated pneumonia resulting from COVID-19
- Designed to Help Address Potential Antibiotic Shortages
- Sponsoring an Expert Infectious Disease Panel Discussion of the Management of Complicated Respiratory Infections Resulting from COVID-19

Cumberland Pharmaceuticals Inc., a U.S. specialty pharmaceutical company based in Tennessee, has launched a national initiative to support the treatment of patients with hospital-acquired and ventilator-associated pneumonia associated with the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Pneumonia caused by secondary bacterial infections – such as a Gram-positive bacterial infection – is common among patients with viral respiratory infections.

**Pneumonia was the leading cause of death in patients suffering from the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic,** which was prior to the use of antibiotics, according to a manuscript co-authored by Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the current director of the U.S. National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.¹

Cumberland manufactures the **potent antibiotic** VIBATIV® (telavancin) injection, designed to treat serious infections due to *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) and other Gram-positive bacteria, including *Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA). The special supply initiative for VIBATIV is to support not only the current demand, but also the potential increased demand due to shortages of other antibiotics, such as vancomycin and daptomycin.

Cumberland’s initiative includes a special supply and financing arrangement for the country’s hospitals and clinics to help ensure the antibiotic’s availability during this unprecedented healthcare crisis.

In addition, Cumberland is sponsoring a national program with infectious disease experts to provide information on the management of complicated respiratory infections resulting from the novel coronavirus.

For additional information regarding this special supply, contact the office of the CEO, A.J. Kazimi, at ssimpson@cumberlandpharma.com

Cumberland’s **national program with infectious disease experts** – designed to help prepare health care professionals for increased hospitalizations due to COVID-19 – will cover the management of complicated respiratory infections resulting from COVID-19, including those caused by secondary bacterial infections. The risk of such infections grows as hospitals see more patients with respiratory symptoms due to COVID-19. Research shows that hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP) and ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) account for 22 percent of common hospital-acquired infections.² Methicillin-sensitive and methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MSSA and MRSA) are important disease-causing pathogens in these cases.²

**References:**
VIBATIV® (telavancin) injection was discovered in a research program dedicated to finding new antibiotics for serious infections due to *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) and other Gram-positive bacteria, including MRSA and MSSA. VIBATIV is a once-daily, injectable lipoglycopeptide antibiotic with *in vitro* potency, bactericidal activity within six hours, and penetration into target infection sites.

The drug is approved in the U.S. for the treatment of adult patients with hospital-acquired and ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia (HABP/VABP) caused by susceptible isolates of *S. aureus* when alternative treatments are not suitable.

In addition, VIBATIV is approved in the U.S. for the treatment of adult patients with complicated skin & skin structure infections (cSSSI) caused by susceptible isolates of Gram-positive bacteria, including *S. aureus*, both methicillin-susceptible (MSSA) and methicillin-resistant (MRSA) strains.

The product labeling also describes the use of VIBATIV in treating patients whose pneumonia or skin infection is complicated by concurrent bacteremia.

The product's proven efficacy against difficult-to-treat Gram-positive infections has been demonstrated in several large, multinational registrational studies, which involved one of the largest cohorts of patients with *S. aureus* infections studied to date.

Importantly, these studies demonstrated significantly higher cure rates for VIBATIV as compared to vancomycin in HABP/VABP due to any single Gram-positive pathogen or *S. aureus* with vancomycin MIC $\geq 1 \, \mu g/mL$.

Additionally, there is extensive and well-documented evidence of the drug's *in vitro* potency and *in vivo* activity against a broad collection of Gram-positive bacterial pathogens, including those that are considered difficult-to-treat and multidrug-resistant. For full prescribing information, visit [www.vibativ.com](http://www.vibativ.com).