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For Immediate Release

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News Release

**Enanta Pharmaceuticals Presents R&D
at Mass Opps Investor Conference**



WATERTOWN, Mass., October 29, 2002 -- Enanta Pharmaceuticals Inc.

(www.enanta.com), a leading drug discovery company that focuses on transforming existing drugs, natural products and biologically-active peptide leads into small molecules with improved pharmacological properties presented today its product development progress and a company overview at the Mass Opps Investor Conference (Boston, MA). Dr. Spiros Jamas, President and CEO of Enanta, discussed the company's current R&D programs for the development of therapeutics for respiratory tract infections, asthma, psoriasis, and Hepatitis C (HCV).

"Enanta is focusing on three product areas; macrolide antibiotics, novel cyclosporin analogs and HCV protease inhibitors," said Spiros Jamas, President and CEO of Enanta Pharmaceuticals. "We feel that these therapeutic areas represent significant markets with unmet medical needs. Fueling Enanta's progress is our chemistry-driven capability that we apply to transform existing drugs, natural products and biologically active peptide leads into small molecules with improved pharmacological properties."

Enanta has developed a new class of proprietary cyclosporine A analogs with improved toxicity for the treatment of asthma and psoriasis. These analogs can be applied topically, through inhalation to the lung, where they exert a potent local anti-inflammatory effect by inhibiting T-cell activation and proliferation. Enanta is also involved in the discovery of novel macrolide antibiotics with improved antimicrobial and pharmacologic properties for the treatment of respiratory tract infections. The company's macrolides have, to date, shown potent activity against respiratory pathogens and excellent oral bioavailability. Enanta is applying its macrocyclic chemistry expertise to the discovery of novel HCV therapeutics and has entered into an exclusive collaboration with Chiron Corporation (Sept. 4, 2002) that involves the synthesis of compounds, structure-based drug design and testing of lead compounds in enzyme assays, whole cell assays and animal models.

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About Enanta

Headquartered in Watertown, Mass., Enanta Pharmaceuticals is using its breakthrough chemistry technology - Drug Morphing™ and Peptide Morphing® -- to create new intellectual properties by transforming existing drugs, natural products and biologically active peptides into novel small-molecule drugs. The Company is initially focusing on new chemical entities derived from existing drugs that address significant unmet medical needs: (a) new-generation macrolide antibiotics to overcome bacterial resistance; and (b) anti-inflammatory drugs for a variety of indications, including asthma, psoriasis and inflammatory bowel diseases.

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