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*News Release*

**Enanta Pharmaceuticals signs Collaboration Agreement with  
Chiron Corporation for Hepatitis C Therapeutics**



**WATERTOWN, Mass., September 4, 2002** – Enanta Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ([www.enanta.com](http://www.enanta.com)), a chemistry-driven biopharmaceutical company developing macrolide antibiotics and immunosuppressants, announced today that it has signed an exclusive, joint collaboration with Chiron Corporation for the discovery and development of small molecule therapeutics for the Hepatitis C (HCV) virus. Within the parameters of this collaboration, Enanta will apply its novel macrocyclic chemistry and medicinal chemistry expertise to the design and synthesis of compounds targeting key enzymes involved in the replication of the virus. The financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

"Working with Chiron in a disease area that they are strongly committed to and affects so many people worldwide, affords Enanta an excellent opportunity to apply our drug discovery capabilities to develop effective therapies to treat HCV," said Spiros Jamas, President and CEO of Enanta. "This collaboration aligns itself strongly with our business goal of combining our chemistry expertise with a corporate partner's know-how on novel targets. We feel that Chiron's selection of Enanta as an exclusive partner for their internal HCV program is an endorsement of the research strategy and chemistry capability of our company."

The joint research program will involve the synthesis of compounds, structure-based drug design and testing in enzyme assays, whole cell assays and animal models. Chiron will grant Enanta a non-exclusive license to certain of its HCV patents and Enanta will grant Chiron an exclusive worldwide license to compounds that are developed for treatment of HCV. Enanta will also receive research funding, milestone payments and royalties on worldwide product sales from Chiron, while Chiron will be responsible for preclinical and clinical development, manufacturing and sales and marketing. A Collaboration Management Team comprised of representatives from each company will manage this program.

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According to the World Health Organization, Hepatitis C has become a global epidemic, affecting approximately 170 million people worldwide – 3 percent of the world’s population. The majority of those infected with the HCV virus have it for life and can develop cirrhosis, which can lead to cancer or liver failure.

**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 ‘morphing’ 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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