



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Lymphoma Research Foundation Statement on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Approval of Venetoclax (Venclexta®) for Relapsed/Refractory CLL**

New York, NY – On April 11, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it has approved the use of venetoclax (Venclexta®) for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) patients with 17p deletion, for whom at least one prior therapy regimen has failed. This approval comes on the heels of a breakthrough therapy designation, priority review status, and accelerated approval standing granted by the FDA for the BCL-2 inhibitor, after nearly 80 percent of trial participants saw either a complete or partial remission in their cancer.

“The approval of venetoclax provides an important treatment option for relapsed and refractory CLL patients who have a 17p deletion, offering them hope after not responding to other treatments,” said Meghan Gutierrez, Chief Executive Officer of the Lymphoma Research Foundation.

Today’s announcement marks the first FDA approval of a BCL-2 inhibitor that targets the B-cell lymphoma 2 protein that is often overexpressed in CLL patients with CLL. Patients found to have the abnormality who have not responded to at least one treatment prior will qualify for the oral medication, after 17p deletion is confirmed by a Vysis CLL FISH probe kit. For additional information on the approval of venetoclax, visit

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm495253.htm>.

For additional information on chronic lymphocytic leukemia, visit www.focusoncll.org.

About the Lymphoma Research Foundation

The Lymphoma Research Foundation (LRF) is the nation’s largest non-profit organization devoted to funding innovative research and serving the lymphoma community through a comprehensive series of education programs, outreach initiatives and patient services. To date, LRF has awarded more than \$58 million in lymphoma-specific research. For additional information on LRF’s research, education and services, visit lymphoma.org.

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