

## NeonMind Engages Certara to Advance its Synthetic Psilocybin Drug Candidates for Obesity

Vancouver, British Columbia--(Newsfile Corp. - March 11, 2021) - **NeonMind Biosciences Inc.** (CSE: NEON) (OTC: NMDBF) (FSE: 6UF) ("**NeonMind**") is pleased to announce that on March 10, NeonMind engaged Certara<sup>®</sup>, the global leader in model-informed drug development to provide strategic integrated drug development support for the investigation of NeonMind's psilocybin based drug candidates for the treatment of obesity.



**Figure 1: NeonMind Engages Certara to Advance its Synthetic Psilocybin Drug Candidates for Obesity**

To view an enhanced version of Figure 1, please visit:  
[https://orders.newsfilecorp.com/files/7646/76845\\_neon2.jpg](https://orders.newsfilecorp.com/files/7646/76845_neon2.jpg)

NeonMind is exploring psilocybin as an innovative treatment approach to support weight loss. NeonMind's first drug candidate aims to use synthetic psilocybin to enhance a patient's ability to alter behaviours that cause weight loss through psychedelic-assisted cognitive therapy. The second drug candidate proposes low dose synthetic psilocybin as a treatment to suppress appetite.

"Certara has the expertise, technology and network to further our drug development efforts to help us achieve our goals of progressing psilocybin-based weight loss treatments through the rigorous drug development process," said Rob Tessarolo, President & CEO of NeonMind. "We are assembling world-class R&D capabilities dedicated to creating a dossier of scientific evidence to support regulatory approval for these novel treatments that can positively impact millions of people."

The typical roadmap to regulatory submission for a product involves a sponsor like NeonMind to complete a complex interconnected sequence of evaluations on the product's quality (CMC - chemistry, manufacture, and controls), preclinical efficacy, safety pharmacology and toxicology, and preclinical and clinical pharmacological characterization. The evaluations and their sequence are established in an integrated drug development plan by a cross-functional team of experts.

Pursuant to the engagement, NeonMind with access to global leaders in drug development strategy, due diligence, toxicology, clinical pharmacology, regulatory science, and the full spectra of drug development subject matter experts across Certara.

Certara provides biosimulation software to transform traditional biopharmaceutical R&D with a scientific team that has more than 3,500 years of collective drug discovery and development experience. Since 2014, 90% of new drug and biologic approvals by the US FDA have been received by Certara's customers.

### **About NeonMind Biosciences Inc.**

NeonMind has two distinct psilocybin drug development programs targeting obesity. NeonMind's first drug candidate aims to use synthetic psilocybin to enhance a patient's ability to adopt behaviours that cause weight loss through psychedelic-assisted cognitive therapy. The second drug candidate proposes low dose synthetic psilocybin as a treatment to suppress appetite.

NeonMind's first drug candidate employs psilocybin as an agonist to the serotonin receptor 5-HT<sub>2A</sub>, which is involved in the hallucinogenic effect of psychedelics, and the second drug candidate employs psilocybin as an agonist to the 5-HT<sub>2C</sub> receptor, which controls appetite.

NeonMind has an intellectual property portfolio which includes uses of psychedelic compounds for the treatment of compulsive eating disorder, obesity and related complications, to aid in weight loss, reduce food cravings, decrease food intake and to alter diet. NeonMind has filed 10 US provisional patent applications for psychedelic compounds, of which 2 have been converted to PCT applications, with potential rights in 152 countries. NeonMind's first PCT patent application covering the administration of psilocybin and its analogs to treat obesity and compulsive eating disorder has a priority date of December 4, 2019. The anticipated patent protection expiry of these pending patents is 2041.

For more information on NeonMind, go to [www.NeonMindBiosciences.com](http://www.NeonMindBiosciences.com).

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*The Canadian Securities Exchange has not reviewed, approved or disapproved the contents of this news release.*

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