

## Cerep announces a BioPrint™ based research and development agreement with Sepracor

Rueil-Malmaison, France, October 29, 2001

Cerep (Nouveau Marché, Cerep) today announces the signature of a five year Research and Development Agreement with Sepracor Inc. (Nasdaq, SEPR). This agreement is based on the use of Cerep's BioPrint™ technology in specific discovery efforts.

Cerep's BioPrint™ technology includes a complete characterization of the *in vitro* and *in vivo* properties of 2000 current drugs. The BioPrint™ data set combined with Sepracor's approach to new drug discovery and development will provide a unique starting point for the rapid identification of potential pharmaceutical candidates. Under terms of the agreement, Sepracor will have access to Cerep's *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays to support discovery and development of new drug candidates.

Financial terms of the agreement include payments for research services, milestones at key compound development steps and royalties on product sales.

« This agreement validates the high potential of BioPrint™ technologies, and we are confident that the unique combination of Sepracor's and Cerep's drug discovery efforts will lead to success in identification of promising new drugs » commented Thierry Jean, President and CEO of Cerep.

*Cerep's mission is to optimize the drug discovery process. Cerep provides solutions to the pharmaceutical industry allowing faster and more cost effective drug discovery by identifying at early stages the most promising drug candidates as well as eliminating those compounds likely to fail in development. Cerep's integrated platform encompasses a complete range of technologies including chemistry, biology, and informatics.*

*Cerep provides its technologies to more than 170 pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies worldwide including most of the top pharmaceutical firms. Cerep has signed several strategic alliances for drug discovery with leading pharmaceutical and agrochemical companies, including Bristol-Myers Squibb, Sanofi-Synthélabo and Aventis CropScience as well as multi-year service contracts with such companies as Pfizer and Solvay.*

*Statements included in this press release which are not historical in nature are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, "forward-looking statements" for purposes of the safe harbor provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words including "anticipates", "believes", "intends", "estimates", "expects" and similar expressions. The company cautions readers that forward-looking statements, including without limitation those relating to the company's future operations and business prospects, are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Factors that may affect future operations and business prospects include, but are not limited to, clinical and scientific results and developments concerning corporate collaborations and the company's proprietary rights and other factors described in the company's Document de référence.*

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