



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Dicerna Pharmaceuticals to Present at 2009 Biologics Drug Delivery & Beyond Conference**

**WATERTOWN, Mass., September 21, 2009** – Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a second generation RNA interference (RNAi) company developing novel therapeutics utilizing its proprietary Dicer Substrate Technology™ and dicer substrate RNAi molecules, today announced that Sujit K. Basu, Ph.D., senior director, formulation, will be presenting at Biologics Drug Delivery & Beyond, being held September 23-25, 2009 at the Sheraton Hotel in Boston.

Dr. Basu will present a case study entitled “Creating Novel Therapeutics with Superior Potency, Duration of Action and Unique Delivery Potential by Harnessing Second Generation Dicer Substrate RNAs (DsiRNAs)” at 9:15 a.m. EST on September 25, 2009. The presentation will demonstrate reduction of target gene expression in a highly selective and specific fashion using DsiRNA therapeutics. The presentation will also compare this second generation RNAi strategy to other RNAi approaches, and identify how the extra length and unique properties of DsiRNAs provide excellent opportunities for targeted therapeutics and integrated delivery.

### **About RNAi**

First described in plants and then in worms, flies and higher organisms, RNA interference (RNAi) is a key cellular mechanism regulating gene expression in both normal and disease processes. Dicer is a critical enzyme involved in the gene-silencing cascade. Dicer processing of double-stranded RNA oligonucleotides of 25 or more base pairs and hand-off to the gene-silencing complex (RISC) results in a five-to-10-fold more potent activity and longer duration of action.

### **About Dicerna**

Dicerna Pharmaceuticals is a private, venture-backed RNAi-focused biopharmaceutical company developing novel therapeutic agents in multiple disease areas based on its proprietary Dicer Substrate Technology platform. Dicerna is developing second generation RNAi-based therapies, and related drug delivery systems, that use the engagement of the enzyme Dicer, which is an earlier step in the gene silencing process and a natural initiation point for the RNAi cascade. This distinct biological pathway demonstrates greater potency and a longer duration of action, differentiating it from other RNAi approaches, and resulting in the knockdown of expression of a

targeted gene in a way that is highly selective and specific. In collaboration with Archemix Corp., Dicerna is developing DsiRNA-aptamer conjugates to leverage both the potent gene silencing of Dicerna's DsiRNA molecules and the targeted delivery capabilities of Archemix's aptamers. Dicerna believes that its Dicer Substrate Technology is based on intellectual property that is both broadly enabling and distinct from other IP in the field. Dicerna has exclusive, worldwide rights to the Dicer Substrate Technology and has the sole right to grant sublicenses to the full portfolio of Dicer Substrate intellectual property. Dicerna is based in Watertown, Massachusetts. For more information, please visit [www.dicerna.com](http://www.dicerna.com).

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