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Dicerna Pharmaceuticals Appoints C. Ronald Kahn, M.D., Vice Chairman of Joslin Diabetes Center, to its Scientific Advisory Board

Watertown, Mass., January 29, 2008 –Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (www.dicerna.com), a second generation RNA interference company developing novel therapeutics utilizing its proprietary Dicer Substrate Technology™, announced today the appointment of C. Ronald Kahn, M.D. to its Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). Dr. Kahn is a distinguished scientific expert in diabetes and obesity and has pioneered research in insulin signaling and insulin resistance.

“We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Kahn has joined our SAB. The Dicerna SAB is comprised of world-renowned experts in RNA interference, oncology, virology and genetics and Dr. Kahn’s experience in diabetes – including the molecular and cellular mechanisms of insulin action and insulin resistance – will add to the expertise of this distinguished group,” said James Jenson, Ph.D., chief executive officer and co-founder, Dicerna Pharmaceuticals. “We look forward to continuing our work with the SAB to identify the most promising targets, optimize our compounds and our proprietary drug delivery systems, and advance our innovative RNAi-therapies toward the clinic.”

Dr. Kahn currently serves as senior investigator and head of the Joslin Section on Obesity and Hormone Action, the Mary K. Iacocca Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and vice chairman of the Joslin Board of Directors. Dr. Kahn’s laboratory has pioneered discoveries in insulin signal transduction and mechanisms of altered signaling in disease. Dr. Kahn joined the Joslin Diabetes Center in 1981 and became a professor of medicine at Harvard in 1984. Prior to joining Joslin, Dr. Kahn served as section head of the Cellular and Molecular Physiology of the Diabetes Branch of NIH. Dr. Kahn received his B.S. and M.D. at the University of Louisville. He has received over 60 awards and honors and is the author of over 170 publications.

“I look forward to working with the members of the SAB and the Dicerna team as the company continues to develop RNAi-therapies,” added Dr. Kahn. “With Dicerna’s ground-breaking research and proprietary dicer-substrate technology, the company is focused on developing

novel RNAi-targeted therapies. I believe that my experience in working in the fields of diabetes and obesity will complement the experience of my colleagues currently serving on the SAB and will help to advance the company's research and development programs.”

About RNAi

First described in plants and then in worms, flies and higher organisms, RNAi works differently in mammals because of the activity of Dicer, a key enzyme involved in the processing of double-stranded RNA into siRNA. In humans, Dicer optimally processes double-stranded RNA oligonucleotides of 25 or more base pairs, resulting 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 novel RNAi-based therapies, and related drug delivery systems, that use an earlier step in the gene silencing process, namely the engagement of the enzyme Dicer, which is a natural initiation point for the RNAi cascade. This approach results in the knockdown of expression of a targeted gene in a way that is highly selective and specific, and demonstrates greater potency and longer duration of action than other RNAi approaches. The Dicer Substrate Technology is based on intellectual property that is both broadly enabling and distinct from other IP in the field. Dicerna is based in Watertown, Massachusetts. For more information, please visit www.dicerna.com.

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