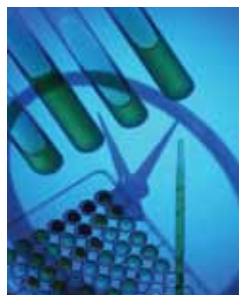
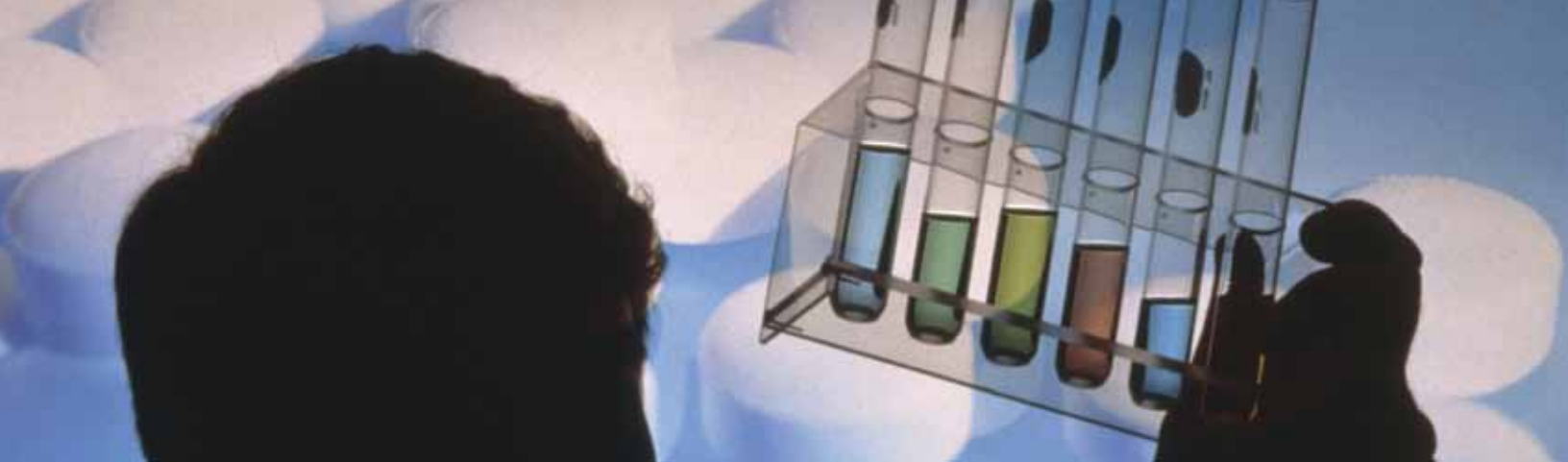


# Expanding Boundaries in Drug Discovery





## INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Unique, Cutting-Edge Technology Proprietary SIGMACEPTOR™ Discovery Platform has resulted in, and continues to generate, novel compounds with unique modes of action; enormous potential.

### Strong Pipeline

30+ novel candidate drugs that address urgent unmet medical needs for treating major devastating diseases including Alzheimer's Disease, epilepsy, depression, stroke, neuropathic pain and various types of cancer.

### Intellectual Property

Strength of patents coverage: E.U., U.S. and many other countries.

### Leadership Team

Anavex is led by a seasoned Board and management team and has access to leading scientists and clinicians through its Scientific Advisory Board.



## CORPORATE PROFILE

Anavex Life Sciences Corp. (OTCBB: AVXL) is engaged in the discovery and development of new drugs for the treatment of Central Nervous System (CNS) diseases and cancer, utilizing its proprietary SIGMACEPTOR™ Discovery Platform.

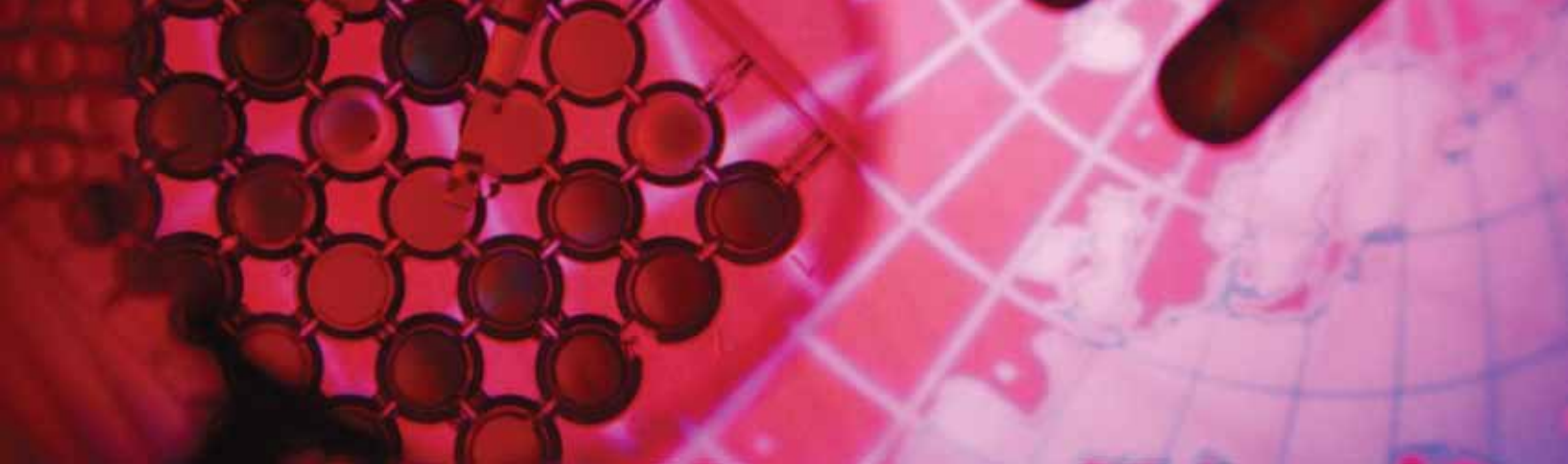
The Anavex portfolio comprises novel, wholly owned sigma receptor agonists and antagonists in clinical and preclinical stages that target neurodegenerative diseases and cancer. The company's lead drug candidate for Alzheimer's Disease (AD), ANAVEX 2-73, has successfully completed a Phase 1 single ascending dose (SAD) clinical trial. Results regarding the compound's safety profile are very encouraging. The company has also started scale-up manufacturing of ANAVEX 1-41, its second lead compound, targeting depression and AD. With sufficient quantities of ANAVEX 1-41 in hand, the company will be in a position to advance the program and begin preclinical studies on large animals in the near term. Another three compounds (for malignant melanoma, prostatic cancer and epilepsy) will complete preclinical testing soon. Additionally, further compounds, which target conditions such as stroke, depression and neuropathic pain, as well as various types of cancer, are in preclinical development and will potentially enter clinical trials over the following years.

The company is proud of its innovative and radically different approach, which in AD emphasizes tackling some of the potential upstream causes of AD and may be disease-modifying, unlike the currently available symptomatic-only treatments. The company's work is led by a strong, proven Board of Directors and management team and supported by a highly experienced Scientific Advisory Board and skilled biochemists, medicinal chemists, pharmacologists, toxicologists and molecular biologists, who work in collaboration with leading research and academic institutions.

### Robust Pipeline of Disease-Modifying Drugs

Anavex's proprietary SIGMACEPTOR™ Discovery Platform has resulted in, and continues to generate, small molecule drug candidates with unique modes of action targeting sigma receptors in many neurological diseases (such as AD, depression, epilepsy) and cancer. When bound by Anavex's specifically designed compounds, sigma receptors influence the functioning of multiple biochemical signals that are involved in the pathogenesis (origin or development) of a disease.

With its SIGMACEPTOR™-N program, Anavex is focused on developing the first of a new class of disease-modifying treatments for CNS and neurological diseases.



The company's lead AD drug candidate is ANAVEX 2-73. This compound has preclinical pharmacological, behavioral and histological evidence as a potentially effective anti-amnesic, neuroprotective (i.e. protects nerve cells from degeneration or death) and anti-depressive agent, due to its potent affinity for sigma-1 receptors and moderate affinities for M1-4 muscarinic receptors. ANAVEX 19-144 is the company's lead drug candidate for the potential treatment

of epilepsy. Preclinical data reveals that these compounds exhibit significant anti-amnesic, neuroprotective and anticonvulsant properties in a variety of in vitro systems and specialized animal models. These activities involve sigma-1, muscarinic and NMDA receptor components, in addition to positively impacting ion channels, indicating a unique mode of action. During animal studies in epilepsy, ANAVEX 19-144 has shown it may help control seizures and the epileptogenesis process. Moreover, its neuroprotective properties may prevent the process that causes long-term damage to tissue and cells as well as biochemical and physiological alterations in the brain resulting from seizures. The company has also reported promising preclinical developments with ANAVEX 1-41, a sigma-1 receptor agonist and a lead compound to treat depression. It may also be a potential back-up compound to ANAVEX 2-73 for AD. Preclinical tests revealed significant neuroprotective benefits through the prevention of endoplasmic reticulum stress, mitochondrial stress and oxidative stress, which damage and destroys cells and may be involved in primary causes of AD. In addition, ANAVEX 1-41 prevented the expression of caspase-3 in animal models. Caspase-3 is



Scientists at work at Anavex's 11,000-square-foot research facility in Athens, Greece

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anti-depressive effects. Both ANAVEX 2-73 and ANAVEX 1-41 may slow the progression of AD and potentially improve the quality of life of those impacted by the disease.

The SIGMACEPTOR™-C program leverages some unique properties of sigma receptor compounds, which allows Anavex to create the first of a new class of drug candidates designed to combat various types of solid cancers. Sigma receptors are highly expressed in different tumor cell types and binding by appropriate sigma receptor binding compounds may induce selective apoptosis.

In addition, through tumor cell membrane reorganization and interactions with ion channels, the company's cancer drug candidates may play an important role in inhibiting the processes of metastasis (spreading of cancer cells from the original site to other parts of the body), angiogenesis (the formation of new blood vessels) and tumor cell proliferation.

ANAVEX 1079, ANAVEX 1007 and ANAVEX 1519 are the company's drug candidates for the treatment of melanoma and prostate cancers. These are low molecular weight,



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## INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Drug Development

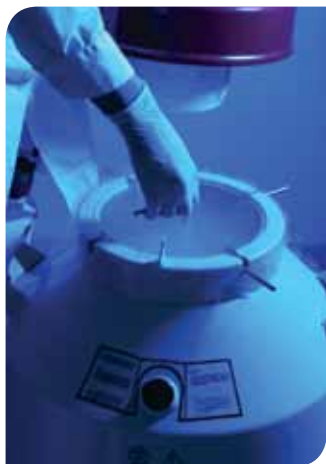
Seven product candidates. ANAVEX 2-73 has completed a Phase 1 SAD clinical trial, targeting Alzheimer's Disease. Initiation of scale-up manufacturing of ANAVEX 1-41 targeting a range of important CNS disorders, including depression and Alzheimer's Disease. Three more of its compounds (for malignant melanoma, prostatic cancer and epilepsy) are expected to reach final preclinical stages in the near term.

### Capital Efficiency

Scientific collaborations with leading academic institutions limit R&D costs while maintaining intellectual property and research control.

### Academic Collaborations

Significant scientific publications support the therapeutic potential of the SIGMACEPTOR™ Discovery Platform.



synthetic compounds exhibiting high (nanomolar) affinity for sigma-1 and moderate (micromolar) affinity for sigma-2 receptors and sodium channels. In advanced preclinical studies, these compounds have revealed anti-tumor potential with no toxic side effects to date in animal models. They have also been shown to selectively kill human cancer cells in xenograft models without affecting normal/healthy cells and significantly suppressed tumor growth in immune-deficient mice. These results have been reported in several scientific publications.

ANAVEX 1066 is the company's novel drug candidate for the potential treatment of pancreatic and prostate cancers and neuropathic pain.

Numerous additional compounds are currently in the early discovery and lead optimization stages of Anavex's SIGMACEPTOR™-N and SIGMACEPTOR™-C programs.

## Significant Economic Potential

The financial potential of compounds that successfully tackle these conditions is substantial. IMS Health estimates that the annual sales in the markets for drugs that combat Alzheimer's Disease, epilepsy and depression are projected to reach \$8 billion, \$13 billion, and \$14 billion respectively in 2012. The market for cancer drugs will reach \$75-\$80 billion annually by 2012, almost double the 2007 value of \$41 billion, according to the 2008 IMS Global Oncology Forecast.

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Anavex is well-positioned to maximize the enormous potential of its cutting-edge technologies and novel drug candidates that address urgent unmet medical needs for treating major devastating diseases.

## Strongly Positioned

The company's 11,000-square-foot research laboratory in Athens, Greece is the home base for a core team of researchers with expertise in medicinal chemistry, molecular biology, biochemistry, toxicology and pharmacology. In addition, Anavex boasts a network of strategic collaborations with ABX-CRO, Syntagon, Cerep, Oncodesign, Eurogenet Laboratories, FORENAP Pharma EURL, Amylgen SAS and leading academic institutions, such as Université Montpellier, Université Nice and Sophia Antipolis in France. These collaborations make it possible for Anavex to outsource parts of its R&D process to drive capital efficiency while maintaining control of its research initiatives and intellectual property.

# BIOPHARMACEUTICALS: A Critical and Growing Sector

The global pharmaceutical market continues to experience high growth. Significant R&D efforts and innovative new treatments from smaller biotech companies are fuelling innovation for big pharmaceutical firms and for the market in general.

The global market for pharmaceuticals is expected to reach \$1.1 trillion in 2014, according to a report published in April 2010 by IMS Health. Drug companies have enjoyed extremely high returns on investment capital in recent years as well as a favorable company survivorship rate compared with many other industries, notes investment author and economist Larry MacDonald.



“Demographic trends suggest the need for growth in the pharmaceutical sector to support future medical needs – particularly in Anavex’s areas of focus. In North America, the aging of the “baby boom” generation is already enhancing the demand for new, disease-modifying treatments for serious age-related diseases

such as Alzheimer’s and cancer. Meanwhile, the rise of new middle class populations in emerging markets, such as China, India, Russia and Brazil, has created a vast new international market for the best medications available. Companies that can help to satisfy such needs are poised for enormous success.”

## A New Generation of Drugs

### Alzheimer’s Disease

According to the Alzheimer’s Association, by 2030, it is estimated one out of eight people over age 65 will have AD and nearly 50% of those over 85 will be affected. Now it is critical for researchers, industry drug developers and regulators to work together in order to bring disease modifying therapies for AD to market. According to a study of the University of Connecticut, the successful development of disease modifying drugs for AD could potentially save the U.S. healthcare system an estimated \$4 trillion.

AD is a healthcare system ‘time-bomb.’ Medications today only treat the symptoms, not having the ability to stop the onset nor progression of the disease. Meanwhile, the majority of AD treatments in development are focused on reducing or dissolving amyloid-beta plaques. There have been many well-publicized failures of those potential amyloid-removal therapies, including Neurochem’s Alzamed, Myriad Genetics’ Flurizan and Lilly’s semagacestat. Vaccines that

clear amyloid-beta plaques, such as Wyeth/Elan’s AN-1792, have also failed to impact the disease, while tau therapy is considered by many to be not reproducible and fails to impact the disease. Monoclonal antibodies have also failed to show compelling and statistically significant benefit in Phase 2 studies across the range of Alzheimer’s patients. Recently, Medivation/Pfizer’s Dimebon, an off-patent anti-histamine, failed in Phase 3 clinical trials.

While approximately 50 novel compounds are being studied, most are in big pharma pipelines or are tied up under existing partnership agreements. Typically, no small companies with compounds that have successfully cleared Phase 2 clinical trials are left unpartnered with big pharma. Anavex was recognized in January 2011 by the independent publication Alzheimer’s Weekly as ‘the most promising drug in Alzheimer’s disease’ after their analysis of more than 100 studies and over 10,000 articles.

### Epilepsy

It is estimated that 50 million people are living with epilepsy worldwide, according to the International Bureau for Epilepsy. New drugs that could potentially modify the onset and progression of epilepsy are needed and may have blockbuster potential. Such drugs would have a novel mode of action that combines anti-amnesic, anxiolytic and neuroprotective properties, as well as excellent safety and tolerability profiles. Anavex is currently developing drug candidates seeking to deliver these properties.

### Cancer

Cancer is a leading cause of death around the world, according to the World Health Organization. Cases of cancer doubled globally between 1975 and 2000, will double again by 2020, and will nearly triple by 2030, says the report. There were an estimated 12 million new cancer diagnoses and more than seven million deaths worldwide this year. The projected numbers for 2030 are 20 to 26 million new diagnoses and 13 to 17 million deaths. Currently available treatments are not accessible nor effective for many patients, and have limited impact on survival for patients with metastatic disease. New treatments with novel mechanisms of action that can overcome resistance mechanisms, inhibit tumor cell proliferation, and trigger tumor cell death could offer greater therapeutic benefit and improved survival. The Anavex program is seeking to deliver such profiles within its drug candidates. Given the substantial unmet need in cancer, such agents may have the potential to become blockbusters.

## Harvey Lalach

### **President, Secretary and Director**

Mr. Lalach is a senior-level executive with over 24 years of experience. A co-founder of Anavex Life Sciences Corp., he has served as President, Secretary and Director since the company's inception in 2007. He played an instrumental role in the development and successful growth of numerous start-up ventures. He has spent many years focused on the corporate governance and management of public companies, serving in both Director and Officer capacities. He has vast experience in corporate finance activities and strategic initiatives, including several M&A transactions and raising equity in North America and Europe.

## George Tidmarsh, MD, PhD

### **Executive Director**

Dr. Tidmarsh has more than 20 years of experience and brings to Anavex a significant track record in clinical trials, FDA drug approvals and corporate growth. He has founded several successful companies including Horizon Therapeutics (now Horizon Pharma) (NASDAQ: HZNP). From 2005 through 2008 Dr. Tidmarsh served as Horizon's Chief Executive Officer, successfully completing four Phase 1 and two large Phase 3 trials, including the registration trials for Duexa, now FDA approved. Prior to Horizon, Dr. Tidmarsh founded Threshold Pharmaceuticals (NASDAQ: THLD) where he served as the company's President and as a Director from 2001 to 2006. Most recently, Dr. Tidmarsh served as Chief Scientific Officer at Spectrum Pharmaceuticals as a part of their acquisition of Metronome Therapeutics, a novel cancer drug development company that Dr. Tidmarsh founded in 2007. In addition, Dr. Tidmarsh's background includes various positions at Coulter Pharmaceuticals, including Chief Medical Officer, and SEQQUS where he played a key role in the approval of Doxil. He has also held scientific and clinical positions at Gilead Sciences and SyStemix. Dr. Tidmarsh has published 25 peer-reviewed articles in leading journals and authored 15 U.S. patents. He received his Bachelor of Science, M.D., and Ph.D. from Stanford University, where he also completed Residency and Fellowship training. In addition, Dr. Tidmarsh is currently an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatology at Stanford University School of Medicine.

## Sean Lowry

### **Director**

Since 2001, Mr. Lowry has been president of Wm. Lowry Consulting, a management consulting company. He has been a partner and portfolio manager in Gulfstream Ventures, a venture capital firm, since 2006. He has served as an officer and director of several private companies, and was director of investor relations for the publicly traded Workbrain Inc. between 2004 and 2006. He has financial oversight responsibilities.

## Robert Chisholm

### **Director**

A finance and administration executive with more than 25 years of experience, Robert Chisholm has significant expertise in corporate finance, strategic business initiatives and growth-oriented public companies. Mr. Chisholm is currently an officer and partner of Emprise Capital Corp, a private company focused on advising portfolio companies on managing finances, including development and implementation of comprehensive budgeting processes, public market listings and oversight of contract negotiations. He is CFO and a director of Savary Capital Corp., Windmere Ventures Ltd. (formerly Advanced Vision Systems Corp.) and Brookwater Ventures. Mr. Chisholm is also a member of the Board of Directors for Seymour Ventures.

## Alexandre Vamvakides, Ph.D.

### **Scientific Founder, Chief Scientific Officer, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board.**

Dr. Vamvakides has spent 30 years in research, focusing on the therapeutic/pharmacological areas of anti-neurodegenerative, anti-epileptic and anti-depressive molecules. The author of more than 80 scientific papers, he has worked at the Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale (INSERM), the University of Athens, Ciba-Geigy (now Novartis), Sanofi and many other research laboratories throughout Europe, for the discovery and development of new concepts in the therapeutic areas of CNS, oncology and anti-inflammatory diseases.

## Tangui Nicolas Maurice, Ph.D.

### **Scientific Advisory Board**

Dr. Maurice has spent 15 years in the field of neurosciences, including behavioral and molecular neuropharmacology, sigma receptors, neuropeptides, neurosteroids, neurotrophic factors, normal/pathological aging models for Alzheimer's and related disorders, and behavioral phenotyping of rodent models. He is a researcher at the Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale (INSERM) U710 at Montpellier. He has also held research positions at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), INSERM U336, the department of neuropsychopharmacology and hospital pharmacy at Meijo University (Nagoya, Japan), and Jouveinal Research Institute (Fresnes, France).

## Paul Aisen, MD

### **Scientific Advisory Board – Clinical Expert**

Dr. Aisen is a leading clinician and researcher in Alzheimer's disease clinical trials and is on the faculty of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine's Department of Neurosciences. Since 2007, he has been Director of the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study, funded by the National Institute on Aging to develop assessment instruments and conduct clinical trials. He is Associate Editor of Alzheimer's Research and Therapy, and sits on the editorial board of BMC Medicine. He has published more than 180 peer-reviewed papers.

## Rachelle Doody, MD, PhD

### **Scientific Advisory Board – Clinical Expert**

Dr. Doody is the Effie Marie Cain Chair in Alzheimer's Disease Research and Professor of Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine, where she directs the Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center (ADMDC), which was the lead developer of the most widely prescribed Alzheimer's disease drug worldwide. She has published over 135 original articles, receiving multiple research grants. She participates in a wide range of collaborative efforts and boards, including Steering Committees for NIH AD Cooperative Study and AD Neuroimaging Initiative.

## Jeffrey Cummings, MD

### **Scientific Advisory Board – Clinical Expert**

Dr. Cummings is Professor of Neurotherapeutics and Drug Development in the Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic. He is Director of the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Las Vegas, Nevada and Ohio. He has expertise in neuropsychiatric assessment and clinical trials. He has authored more than 500 peer-reviewed papers and 30 books on AD, neuropsychiatry and clinical trials. He is a member of many organizations, including the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study.

## Christopher Shackleton, MD

### **Scientific Advisory Board – Advisor**

Dr. Shackleton is a prominent, uniquely qualified physician and surgeon, clinical investigator, information technologist, and corporate finance/healthcare solutions consultant. He holds triple specialist credentials in medical and surgical disciplines. He has a strong publication record and is a renowned innovator, pioneer and leader in the development and deployment of new clinical techniques and treatment modalities. Obtaining medical education and training from the Universities of British Columbia, Toronto and Harvard, he also studied corporate finance, financial markets and derivatives at The London School of Economics, reaching the rank of full professor at the University of Los Angeles (UCLA). He is also on the Board of Trustees of the Fraser Institute.

## STOCK INFORMATION

Symbol: OTCBB: AVXL

Shares Outstanding: 26,571,574 (as of October 28, 2011)

## INVESTOR RELATIONS

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Direct (outside North America): +1 (416) 489-0092

Email: [ir@anavex.com](mailto:ir@anavex.com)

## CORPORATE INFORMATION

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<http://www.anavex.com>

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The statements in this brochure and accompanying collateral materials that are not strictly historical in nature are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions based on current information and expectations and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Forward looking statements in this document include the potential efficacy of our compounds as a treatment for various diseases and types of cancer, the scheduling of clinical trials, the potential market for our drugs if successful, and the economics of our company. Actual events or results may differ materially from those projected in any of such statements due to various factors, including the risks and uncertainties inherent in drug discovery and development, which include, without limitation, the potential failure of development candidates to advance through preclinical studies or demonstrate safety and efficacy in clinical testing and the ability to file an IND or commence clinical studies, the possibility that our patents cannot be enforced, our ability to raise sufficient funds to finance our plans, our ability to retain key employees and consultants, our competitors may develop better medical alternatives, that our drugs may have unforeseen and harmful side effects and that we may not be able to profitably commercialize our drugs. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof, and you are referred to the risk factors disclosed in our most recent periodic filings on EDGAR. This caution is made under the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement and Anavex Life Sciences Corp. undertakes no obligation to revise or update this press release to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

Investment Caution: Investors should seek advice from their registered investment advisor before making any investment decision.

