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Xention to Present on the Role of Ion Channels in Atrial Fibrillation

Dr David Madge to present status of Xention Atrial Fibrillation research

CAMBRIDGE, UK – XENTION LTD, the Cambridge biopharmaceutical company specialising in ion channel-modulating drugs, announced today that the Company's Vice President of Research, Dr David J Madge will deliver a lecture at the Aurora Biomed Ion Channel Retreat, taking place on 29 and 30 June in Vancouver. The presentation is entitled '*Atrial selective ion channel blockers*'.

The annual Ion Channel Retreat brings together many of the leading industrial and academic scientists in ion channel drug discovery to discuss the latest developments in ion channels. Dr Madge's lecture will describe the Xention atrial fibrillation programmes, which target the IKur and IKACH cardiac currents, including the rationale for the choice of these targets, how chemical leads were identified and the current status of the programmes.

'We are delighted that the organisers have invited Dr Madge to speak at this important meeting', commented Tim Brears, Xention's Chief Executive. 'Xention has many years' experience in ion channel drug discovery and development and, under Dr Madge's leadership, our team has generated drug candidates with high potency and selectivity that we are progressing through development. Xention is recognised as having one of the best functional assay and chemistry capabilities in the industry for ion channel targets and this has led to partnerships with leading pharmaceutical companies and research consortia'.

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Notes to Editors

About Xention:

Xention is a leader in the discovery and development of ion channel-modulating drugs. The Company is developing a pipeline of innovative products for the treatment of atrial fibrillation, an indication for which there is high unmet medical need, by targeting key ion channels. In addition, it has drug discovery collaborations with Ono Pharmaceutical Co Ltd and the Grünenthal Group. Xention is a member of the EUTRAF, EDICT and MAREX consortia focused on the identification of novel targets for atrial fibrillation, the structure and function of ion channels and the identification of new tools for the characterisation of ion channels respectively. The Company is the recipient of a prestigious drug discovery award from the Wellcome Trust and a grant under the Eurostars programme that supports market-oriented research in SMEs. Xention is a leader in the use of electrophysiology, ion channel chemoinformatics and medicinal chemistry and uses its innovative approach to discover and design potent and selective small-molecule drugs that target ion channels involved in a wide variety of diseases. For further information, please see <http://www.xention.com>.