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## **Inimex Co-Founder Honored at 43<sup>rd</sup> Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC)**

### **Robert E.W. Hancock Named 2003 Aventis Pharmaceuticals Award Laureate**

**Chicago, IL. and Vancouver, B.C., Canada – September 15, 2003** – Inimex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is pleased to announce that the company's scientific co-founder, Professor R.E.W. (Bob) Hancock has been named laureate of the 2003 Aventis Pharmaceuticals Award, the American Society of Microbiology's premier award in antimicrobial research. The Award honors sustained accomplishment in research toward the development of new antimicrobial agents, the investigation of action or resistance, and the pharmacology, toxicology, or clinical use of those agents. Dr. Hancock is an established leader in this field.

Dr. Hancock's research regarding mechanisms of innate immunity forms the basis of Inimex Pharmaceuticals' drug discovery program. "Dr. Hancock's contributions to antimicrobial disease therapy have led to significant advances in our understanding of mechanisms of innate immunity," stated Jeffrey Bacha, Inimex Pharmaceuticals' President and CEO. "These discoveries are guiding us in the development of new treatments and prevention strategies for infectious disease. We are very pleased that Bob is receiving this well deserved recognition."

Based on Dr. Hancock's discoveries, Inimex has identified novel drug candidates that treat and prevent infections via a novel approach that may overcome the issues of drug resistance in bacterial infections. Inimex' medicines act by selectively activating elements of host innate immunity to combat infection. By enhancing innate immunity rather than acting directly against bacteria, these compounds will not promote microbial resistance.

Inimex' initial product is being developed as a novel treatment against nosocomial pneumonia and will be delivered in combination with, or in addition to, leading antibiotic therapies. The Company is currently optimizing its initial drug candidates and plans to accelerate the development of its initial drug candidates into human clinical trials.

Dr. Hancock will present new data demonstrating the efficacy of Inimex' drug candidates and their ability to enhance the activity of traditional antibiotic therapies by boosting the innate immune response during the Aventis Award Lecture on *Monday, September 15, 2003, 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.*

Inimex compounds have been evaluated in combination with sub-optimal doses of antibiotics in *in vivo* models to mimic resistant infections. Summary data being presented by Dr. Hancock describes the results of Inimex compound, IMX503, in combination with a non-effective dose of



the antibiotic Maxipime® (cefepime hydrochloride) to treat systemic *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) infection. *S. aureus* is a Gram positive bacterium that causes a range of infections from endocarditis to pneumonia. Administration of the Inimex peptide “boosts” ineffective antibiotic therapy, leading to significantly reduced levels of bacterium and demonstrating the potential for combination therapy utilizing a traditional antibiotic plus an Inimex medicine to enhance host innate immunity for treatment of drug-resistant infections.

Inimex will also present data related to a proprietary gene expression profile, which corresponds to the mechanism of Inimex compounds during the scientific poster sessions on *Tuesday, September 15, 2003*. These data related to the controlled augmentation of the host innate immune response further demonstrate the ability of Inimex medicines to selectively enhance innate immunity without causing excessive inflammation.

#### About Inimex Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Inimex Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a Vancouver, B.C. based biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of new medicines that utilize the innate immune response to prevent or treat human disease. For additional information, please visit the company's website, [www.inimexpharma.com](http://www.inimexpharma.com), or contact [info@inimexpharma.com](mailto:info@inimexpharma.com).

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