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**For Immediate Release**

**Tularik Announces the Initiation of Phase II Studies for Anti-cancer Compound**

**South San Francisco, CA – July 17, 2000** – Tularik Inc. (NASDAQ: TLRK) today announced the initiation of phase II efficacy and phase I combination studies in major cancer centers worldwide for its anti-cancer compound T64 (lometrexol). T64 is in a class of drugs called antifolates, which are validated for the treatment of cancer. Specifically, T64 inhibits purine biosynthesis. Currently, there are no specific inhibitors of purine biosynthesis approved for the treatment of solid tumors.

“During the course of phase I clinical trials, a total of 5 partial responses and 1 complete response were observed in multiple tumor types and in different cancer centers. We are encouraged by this early data and look forward to efficiently and successfully advancing this compound through the clinic,” stated Jackie Walling, Ph.D., Medical Director at Tularik. “The initiation of these phase II studies represent a significant milestone in our clinical development program.”

Phase II studies will be conducted in cancer centers in the US, UK and Australia. These studies will include patients with soft-tissue sarcoma, melanoma, breast cancer, non-small cell lung cancer and head and neck cancer. T64 is being evaluated in phase I combination studies with each of the following agents: temozolomide, doxorubicin, carboplatin, gemcitabine and paclitaxel. These studies will be conducted in cancer centers in the US, UK and the Netherlands.

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Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available drugs based on gene regulation. Tularik programs address cancer, CMV, diabetes, obesity, inflammation, allergy/asthma, lipid disorders and bacterial diseases, and a class of targets known as orphan nuclear receptors. Tularik has established strategic partnerships with Japan Tobacco Inc., Roche Bioscience and Knoll AG. For additional information, visit Tularik's Internet website at [www.tularik.com](http://www.tularik.com).

*Statements in this press release that are not strictly historical are "forward-looking" statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. There can be no assurance that Tularik will obtain necessary regulatory approvals for its drug candidates or be able to develop a commercially viable pharmaceutical product. These and other risks are more fully discussed in Tularik's SEC reports, including the report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2000.*

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