

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## **CONTACT:**

Michele Rozen Pure Communications 617-730-8284

## Catabasis Pharmaceuticals Promotes Michael Curtis, Ph.D., to Senior Vice President, Product Development and Regulatory Affairs

Company Continues to Expand Executive Leadership Team to Support Advancement of Lead Clinical Program

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – November 2, 2011 – <u>Catabasis Pharmaceuticals</u>, a biopharmaceutical company leveraging the therapeutic potential of omega-3 fatty acids to create therapeutics for the treatment of inflammatory and metabolic diseases, today announced that Michael Curtis, Ph.D., has been promoted to senior vice president, product development and regulatory affairs. In his new position, Dr. Curtis will be responsible for chemistry, manufacturing and controls functions, toxicology, and regulatory approvals. He will continue to be responsible for leading the company's product development strategy.

"Since joining the Catabasis management team a year ago, Michael has been instrumental in driving our clinical development program forward," said Michael Jirousek, Ph.D., chief scientific officer and co-founder of Catabasis. "Michael brought to Catabasis a strong track record of moving products from discovery to clinical development which has greatly benefited the company. Under his guidance, Catabasis recently and successfully initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial of CAT-1004, our lead compound in type 2 diabetes. Michael is a critical member of the Catabasis team, and we are pleased to promote him to this new role."

Dr. Curtis joined Catabasis in September 2010 as vice president of product development and has more than 20 years of experience in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry. During his time at Catabasis he has overseen the advancement of its preclinical programs, IND-enabling studies and clinical trials, including the advancement of the CAT-1004 compound into a Phase 1 clinical trial. Dr. Curtis has also been responsible for the company's product development strategy.

"Michael's promotion to senior vice president of product development and regulatory affairs is a testament to the significant contributions he has made on the development and regulatory affairs fronts," said Jill C. Milne, Ph.D., chief executive officer and co-founder of Catabasis. "It is an exciting time at the company as we advance our lead program into the clinic and further our preclinical pipeline of new chemical entities. Michael's expertise will be a tremendous asset as we continue to execute our development strategy and prepare to begin human clinical trials in hypertriglyceridemia in 2012."

## **About Catabasis**

Catabasis is a clinically staged company dedicated to the discovery and development of innovative, effective and safe medicines to treat inflammatory and metabolic diseases. The

company has assembled a team of passionate and experienced scientists who are committed to improving the lives of patients. Catabasis has developed a pipeline of molecules that amplify the beneficial effects of omega-3 fatty acids to target the underlying etiologies of a spectrum of complex human diseases. Catabasis' approach dramatically enhances the therapeutic potential of docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), two essential fatty acids found in fish oil, by improving the delivery, potency and efficacy. The company was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Cambridge, Mass. Please visit <a href="www.catabasispharma.com">www.catabasispharma.com</a> for more information.

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