

Akebia Therapeutics President and Chief Executive Officer Establishes Stock Purchase Plan

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ:<u>AKBA</u>), a biopharmaceutical company focused on delivering innovative therapies to patients with kidney disease through the biology of hypoxia inducible factor (HIF), announced today that John P. Butler, President and Chief Executive Officer of Akebia, has established a personal stock purchasing plan to acquire shares of the company's common stock. The purchasing plan complies with Section 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which enables securities holders to adopt pre-arranged stock purchasing plans for the acquisition of predetermined amounts of securities on a non-discretionary basis.

The transactions under this 10b5-1 purchasing plan will commence no earlier than December 15, 2014. The details of the transactions will be publicly available through Form 4 filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

About Akebia Therapeutics

Akebia Therapeutics, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, focused on delivering innovative therapies to patients with kidney disease through HIF biology. Akebia's lead clinical program, AKB-6548, is a oncedaily, oral therapy which has completed a Phase 2b study in non-dialysis patients with anemia related to CKD and is in Phase 2 development for the treatment of anemia in patients undergoing dialysis, serious medical conditions that lead to increased morbidity and mortality if left untreated. For more information on Akebia, please visit <u>www.akebia.com</u>.

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