

15 November 2017

The Manager Companies  
ASX Limited  
20 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

(2 pages by email)

Dear Madam

## **BIOTRON COMPOUNDS DEMONSTRATE ACTIVITY AGAINST HEPATITIS B VIRUS**

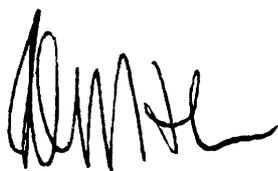
**Sydney, Australia, 15 November, 2017:** The Directors of Biotron Limited (ASX: BIT) are pleased to advise that in recently completed preclinical studies several of the Company's compounds have demonstrated significant anti-viral activity against hepatitis B (HBV). The studies were completed in the USA in cell culture models that are considered 'industry standard' and are well recognised by potential pharma and biotech partners.

The World Health Organisation estimates that 257 million people are infected with HBV and that up to 900,000 die every year from the disease for which there is no cure. Estimates by GBI Research indicate that the market for HBV drugs is expected to reach US\$3.5 billion by 2021.

Pharmaceutical companies such as Gilead, Janssen and Merck have active programs developing drugs to treat HBV. These activities combined with aggressive development programs being undertaken by US biotechnology companies such as Alnylam, Arrowhead and Arbutus are focussing significant investor interest in the search for and development of effective HBV treatments.

Biotron's Managing Director, Dr Michelle Miller, noted "Although Biotron's work on its HBV compounds is preclinical the interest level in the development of HBV treatments is at an all-time high. We are seeing evidence of this in the number of early stage deals and collaborations currently being undertaken in the sector. We believe this may provide Biotron with an early stage development opportunity with an appropriate partner".

Yours sincerely



Peter J. Nightingale  
Company Secretary

pjn9164

**About Biotron**

Biotron Limited is engaged in the research, development, and commercialisation of drugs targeting significant viral diseases with unmet medical need. The Company has BIT225 in clinical development for both HIV-1 and HCV and also has several earlier stage preclinical and research programs designing drugs that target a class of virus protein known as viroporins which have a key role in the virus life cycle of a very broad range of viruses, many of which have caused worldwide health issues such as Dengue, Hepatitis B, Ebola, Middle East Respiratory virus, Influenza and Zika viruses.

**Enquiries**

Dr Michelle Miller  
Managing Director  
Biotron Limited  
+61-(0)412313329

Rudi Michelson  
Monsoon Communications  
+61-3 9620 3333