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The Manager Companies
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
20 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000

(1 pages by email)

Dear Madam

HEPATITIS C VIRUS PROGRAM ADVANCED

The Directors of Biotron Limited ('Biotron') are pleased to advise that Biotron's Hepatitis C virus ('HCV') antiviral drug development program has been advanced by recent preclinical antiviral efficacy results.

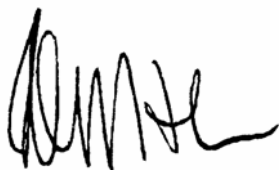
The latest experiments with Biotron's antiviral drug BIT225 have shown that the drug is able to inhibit virus-induced cell death in infected cells *in vitro*. The results from these experiments, which are a continuation of the program to develop a drug to treat HCV, confirm and extend earlier studies which have shown that BIT225 has activity against HCV.

These latest results move the Hepatitis C program significantly closer to commencement of human trials.

As previously announced, BIT225 has recently completed a formal preclinical safety program that was designed to determine the drug's potential in the treatment of HIV. Submissions for regulatory and ethics approval for commencement of human trials with BIT225 in the HIV program are in progress. A significant advantage of the Company's anti-viral platform technology is that this initial human trial, which is a Phase I safety study in healthy volunteers, will support future Phase II trials of BIT225 in the treatment of both HIV and HCV infected patients.

For further information, please contact Dr Michelle Miller, CEO, on (61-2) 61258001.

Yours sincerely



Peter J. Nightingale
Company Secretary

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