



630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3110  
New York, NY 10111

Tel 212 218 8720  
Fax 212 218 8721

4840 Pearl East Circle, Suite 300W  
Boulder, CO 80301

Tel 303 516 8500  
Fax 303 530 1296

[www.tapestrypharma.com](http://www.tapestrypharma.com)

# Press Release

**Contact:** Tapestry Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
L. Robert Cohen  
Vice President, Investor Relations  
212 218 8715  
[lrcohen@tapestrypharma.com](mailto:lrcohen@tapestrypharma.com)

**Investor:** Lilian Stern  
Stern Investor Relations, Inc.  
212 362 1200

**Media:** Peter Steinerman  
516 374 3031

## For Immediate Release

### **TAPESTRY INITIATING SECOND IN VIVO PRECLINICAL DOSE RESPONSE STUDY FOR HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE**

Technology Detailed in September Issue of Journal of  
Molecular Neuroscience

Boulder, CO., September 30, 2004 – Tapestry Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: TPPH) announced today that the Company is initiating a second *in vivo* study to establish the dose response for its proprietary oligonucleotides in a transgenic mouse model of Huntington's disease (HD). The new *in vivo* study is designed to further validate the results of previous studies as to the efficacy of Tapestry's proprietary oligonucleotides. These oligonucleotides may potentially inhibit the aggregation of the huntingtin protein, which is thought to be a leading cause of neurotoxicity and neuronal cell death in HD. To date there is no effective treatment for the disease, which afflicts approximately 35,000 people in the United States.

The Company also announced that Dr. Eric Kmiec, Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Delaware and Senior Scientific Advisor to Tapestry, has published a paper describing the discovery of these proprietary oligonucleotides. The report, in the September issue of the *Journal of Molecular Neuroscience*, disclosed that the oligonucleotides were found to retard inclusion body formation in a model neuronal cell line. The *in vitro* assay was used in conjunction with a standardized biochemical assay to identify molecules that could disrupt the process of aggregate formation. This publication

served as the basis for selection of the Tapestry oligonucleotides that are being evaluated for *in vivo* efficacy.

“The *in vitro* and preliminary *in vivo* data that we have gathered are important first steps and are quite encouraging. This second preclinical study will expand our experience with these molecules and provide us additional insight into the potential therapeutic benefit of our proprietary oligonucleotides in patients who are suffering with Huntington’s disease,” stated Anne L. Bailey, Vice President and General Manager, Genomics.

Data on earlier studies of Tapestry’s proprietary oligonucleotides were presented by Dr. Kmiec at an oral session of the 2003 annual scientific meeting of the American Society of Gene Therapy. These studies described the single-stranded oligonucleotides’ ability to extend the life of relevant neuronal cells by at least 40 percent in a validated cell culture model.

Huntington’s disease is characterized by an expansion of a tract of CAG codons in the gene encoding the huntingtin protein. In contrast to normal, soluble huntingtin protein, mutant huntingtin protein with its expanded polyglutamine tract, aggregates with other proteins in microscopically visible intracellular inclusions. Tapestry’s oligonucleotides are designed to block or retard this protein aggregation, reducing the number of inclusions, and consequently may have a potential therapeutic effect on the progression of the disease.

## **Citation**

Parekh-Olmedo H., Wang J., Gusella J.F., Kmiec E.B. (2004) “Modified Single-Stranded Oligonucleotides Inhibit Aggregate Formation and Toxicity Induced by Expanded Polyglutamine.” *Journal of Molecular Neuroscience*, Vol 24, pages 281-291.

## **About Huntington’s Disease**

Huntington's disease is a hereditary neurodegenerative disorder that is characterized by aggregate formation and cell death in most areas of the brain. The disease usually occurs in mid-life, and is characterized by involuntary physical movements, severe emotional disturbance and increasing cognitive decline. In the United States, the prevalence of the disease is about 10 cases per 100,000 people -- about 35,000 people in all -- with another 175,000 people genetically at risk.

## **About Tapestry Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

Tapestry Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a company focused on the development of proprietary therapies for the treatment of cancer and hereditary disease.

For more information about Tapestry and its technologies, visit Tapestry’s web site at [www.tapestrypharma.com](http://www.tapestrypharma.com).

The statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that represent management's beliefs and assumptions as of the date of this press release, based on currently available information. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as “believes,” “intends,” “estimates,” “may,”

“will,” “should,” “anticipates,” “expected” or comparable terminology or by discussions of strategy, and include statements regarding the therapeutic potential for Tapestry’s proprietary oligonucleotides, their ability to block or retard protein aggregation associated with Huntington’s disease and whether the study being announced will provide sufficient insight into the potential therapeutic benefit of Tapestry’s proprietary oligonucleotides in the treatment of Huntington’s disease. Such statements involve risks and uncertainties, including whether Tapestry’s proprietary oligonucleotides will show sufficient prospect in the treatment of disease to warrant further development, the costs of continuing development of any or all of the Company’s development programs and whether the Company will have sufficient resources to pursue and complete development of the molecules, as well as other factors identified under the captions “Risk Factors,” “Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements” or “Cautionary Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements” in the Company’s documents filed from time to time with the SEC, including the Company’s Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, filed February 11, 2004, Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ending December 31, 2003 filed on May 5, 2004 and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ending June 30, 2004. Should one or more of these risks materialize (or the consequences of such a development worsen), or should the underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results could differ materially from those forecasted or expected. The Company disclaims any intention or obligation to update publicly or revise such statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

For further information, please contact L. Robert Cohen, Vice President, Investor Relations of Tapestry Pharmaceuticals, Inc. at 212-218-8715.