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Tularik Achieves Milestones under Oncology Collaboration with Amgen; Two Compounds Selected for Advancement

South San Francisco, Calif. – (BW HealthWire) – Oct. 14, 2003 – Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq:TLRK) announced today the achievement of the first milestones under its collaboration agreement with Amgen Inc. (Nasdaq:AMGN) to discover, develop and commercialize therapeutics aimed at oncology targets. Amgen has selected for optimization two compounds identified by Tularik, each directed against a different target, resulting in the payment of two milestones.

In May of this year, Tularik and Amgen entered into a five-year collaboration that included multiple drug discovery and development programs. In addition to committed funding of \$125 million, Tularik will receive royalty payments and escalating milestone payments as compounds are selected and progress to market approval. Aggregate milestone payments for compounds active against each oncology target could reach \$21 million.

"The rapid accomplishment of these collaboration milestones demonstrates the power and value of Tularik's drug discovery engine," said Terry Rosen, Ph.D., Tularik's Executive Vice President of Operations. "We've enjoyed a productive collaboration with Amgen and are confident that these will be the first of many milestones achieved."

About Tularik's Oncogene Discovery Program

The goal of Tularik's Oncogene Discovery Program is to identify and validate primary cancer genes, or oncogenes, and to discover and develop therapeutics that target the proteins encoded by these oncogenes. Proteins encoded by oncogenes play a direct role in cancer and are thus excellent targets for anti-cancer drugs. Tularik discovers oncogenes by using a variety of proprietary approaches. These techniques enable Tularik scientists to rapidly identify oncogenes that are involved in a variety of common cancers. To date, Tularik has identified approximately 30 oncogenes associated with various tumor types.

About Tularik

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available medicines that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik's scientific platform is focused on three therapeutic areas: cancer, immunology and metabolic disease. The Company currently has four drug candidates in clinical trials. In the cancer area, Tularik is currently conducting a pivotal study of T67 for the treatment

of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and Phase 2 trials with T607 for the treatment of HCC, ovarian cancer, gastric cancer and esophageal cancer. T487, for the treatment of inflammatory diseases, and T131, for the treatment of type 2 diabetes, are moving into Phase 2 trials. For more information, visit Tularik's Internet website at www.tularik.com.

This press release contains "forward-looking" statements. For this purpose, any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "will," "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause the results of Tularik to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, risks detailed from time to time in Tularik's SEC reports, including the report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2003 and the report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002. Tularik does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements.