



Contacts: Tularik Inc.  
Traci McCarty (investors/media)  
650-825-7182

## **Tularik and Sankyo Advance GPCR Drug Discovery Collaboration**

**South San Francisco, Calif.** – December 9, 2003 -- Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced that Sankyo Company, Ltd. has selected a target for further development under their collaboration focused on orphan G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs).

Under the terms of the collaboration to jointly discover and develop human therapeutics that act on GPCRs, Sankyo will fund research and pre-clinical development activities relating to compounds with activity against the selected target for up to 4 years. The parties will share equally all clinical development costs and profits in the U.S. and Europe. Tularik is entitled to milestone and royalty payments as compounds against this target progress through clinical trials to registration outside of the U.S. and Europe. Other financial terms were not disclosed.

“Sankyo’s selection of a target for further development provides Tularik with continuing revenue and expertise from a strong partner in the area of GPCRs,” said Terry Rosen, Ph.D., Tularik’s Executive Vice President, Operations. “We have enjoyed working with Sankyo and look forward to exciting results from this important collaboration.”

Dr. Norio Nakamura, Ph.D., Senior Executive Officer and General Manager of the Research Institute of Sankyo, said, “We are very glad to have established a truly reliable working partnership with Tularik, in which we accumulated deep respect for Tularik’s scientific capabilities. We look forward to the discovery of an innovative drug as the fruit of this collaboration.”

### **About GPCRs**

G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) are proteins that traverse the cell membrane seven times (also referred to as heptahelical receptors). These proteins regulate diverse biological functions including sight, taste and smell. Furthermore, GPCRs are involved in the regulation of inflammation, blood pressure, reproduction, digestion and appetite. Approximately one third of the top 100 drugs currently on the market act on GPCRs, including Claritin<sup>®</sup>, Cozaar<sup>®</sup> and Singulair<sup>®</sup>, which are the top three sellers targeting GPCRs. Drugs that target GPCRs generate more than \$65 billion annually. (Source: MedAd News, May 2003)

### **About Sankyo**

Sankyo Co., Ltd. is one of Japan's largest pharmaceutical companies with annual worldwide sales of \$5 billion and over 11,500 employees. Sankyo has a long history of discovering new classes of drugs, including the statin class of lipid-lowering drugs with its discovery of the first statin, mevastatin, and pravastatin, the second statin therapy to be marketed globally. In addition, Sankyo developed and launched the first glitazone, which revolutionized long-term control of type 2 diabetes. Sankyo is continuously working toward new discoveries especially in the field of Cardiovascular, Diabetes, Obesity, Bones and Joints, Immune system related disorders and allergies. For more information, please visit [www.sankyo.co.jp](http://www.sankyo.co.jp).

### **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 psoriasis, 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](http://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 September 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.*