



COMPANY CONTACT:

Vion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Alan Kessman, Chief Executive Officer

Howard B. Johnson, President & CFO

Tel: (203) 498-4210

Vion Pharmaceuticals to Host Conference Call

NEW HAVEN, CT, May 30, 2006 - VION PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. (NASDAQ CAPITAL MARKET: VION) will hold a conference call and simultaneous webcast on Wednesday, May 31, to provide an update on its clinical and preclinical programs. The call will begin at 8:45 a.m. eastern time.

To participate in the conference call, please dial (800) 510-0178 in the U.S. ((617) 614-3450 for international callers) at least 15 minutes before the start of the call. When prompted for a passcode, please enter 56955938. An audio webcast of the call will be accessible at www.vionpharm.com. Those who wish to listen to the conference call on the Web should visit the Investor Relations section of the company's website at least 15 minutes prior to the event's broadcast. Then, follow the instructions provided to assure that the necessary audio applications are downloaded and installed. These programs can be obtained at no charge to the user.

A replay of the call will be available two hours after the completion of the call at (888) 286-8010 in the U.S. ((617) 801-6888 for international callers), passcode 72021198. The replay will be accessible through Monday, June 26, 2006.

A transcript of the call will be available on Vion's website, www.vionpharm.com.

Vion will issue a press release related to the conference call on Wednesday, May 31, at 7:00 a.m. eastern time.

Vion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is committed to extending the lives and improving the quality of life of cancer patients worldwide by developing and commercializing innovative cancer therapeutics. Vion has two agents in clinical trials: Cloretazine[®] (VNP40101M), a unique alkylating agent, is being evaluated in: (i) a Phase III trial in combination with cytarabine in relapsed acute myelogenous leukemia and (ii) a Phase II pivotal trial as a single agent in elderly patients with previously untreated *de novo* poor-risk acute myelogenous leukemia. Additional trials of Cloretazine[®] (VNP40101M) as a single agent in adult and pediatric brain tumors, small cell lung cancer and chronic lymphocytic leukemia, and in combination with temozolomide in hematologic malignancies, are also underway. Triapine[®], a potent inhibitor of a key step in DNA synthesis, is being evaluated in trials sponsored by the National Cancer Institute. In preclinical studies, Vion is also evaluating VNP40541, a hypoxia-selective compound, and hydrazone compounds. The Company also is seeking development partners for TAPET[®], its modified *Salmonella* vector used to deliver anticancer agents directly to tumors. For additional information on Vion and its product development programs, visit the Company's Internet web site at www.vionpharm.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to certain risk factors which may cause Vion's plans to differ or results to vary from those expected, including Vion's ability to secure external sources of funding to continue its operations, the inability to access capital and funding on favorable terms, continued operating losses and the inability to continue operations as a result, its dependence on regulatory approval for its products, delayed or unfavorable results of drug trials, the possibility that favorable results of earlier clinical trials are not predictive of safety and efficacy results in later clinical trials, the need for additional research and testing, and a variety of other risks set forth from time to time in Vion's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including but not limited to the risks discussed in Vion's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 Except in special circumstances in which a duty to update arises under law when prior disclosure becomes materially misleading in light of subsequent events, Vion does not intend to update any of these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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