



	Annual EPS	Annual Revenue	Rating/Target
Changes	2011E (\$2.48) from (\$2.39) 2012E (\$1.95) from (\$2.33)	2011E \$20.1M from \$16.1M 2012E \$41.7M from \$17.7M	No change

# **AVEO Pharmaceuticals**

**BUY** 

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**Target: US\$23.00** 

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# AVEO: NASDAQ: US\$13.88

#### **COMPANY STATISTICS:**

Market Cap (M):	470.7
52-week Range:	6.01 - 17.93
Avg. Daily Vol. (000s):	93.0

#### **EARNINGS SUMMARY:**

FYE Dec		2010E	2011E	2012E
Revenue (M):		44.7	20.1	41.7
EPS:		(2.30)	(2.48)	(1.95)
Revenue (M):	Q1	10.9A	5.0	-
	Q2	15.6A	5.0	-
	Q3	6.2A	5.0	-
	Q4	12.0	5.0	-
Total		44.7	20.1	41.7
EPS:	Q1	(2.27)A	(0.51)	-
	Q2	(0.50)A	(0.55)	-
	Q3	(0.60)A	(0.64)	-
	Q4	(0.30)	(0.78)	-
Total		(2.30)	(2.48)	(1.95)

### SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE:



# **COMPANY DESCRIPTION:**

AVEO Pharmaceuticals is a biotechnology company devoted to the discovery and clinical development of oncologic therapeutics.

All amounts in US\$ unless otherwise noted.

Life Sciences -- Biotechnology

# RICH TIVO DEAL VALIDATES COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL

**Investment recommendation.** We are aggressive buyers of AVEO shares on the announcement of what we view as a highly attractive deal with Astellas centered on worldwide (ex-Asia) development of lead oncology drug candidate, tivozanib.

# Investment highlights

- Astellas' attraction to tivozanib potential confirms our view that other VEGFR inhibitors, besides entrenched Sutent and Nexavar, have a place in treating both validated indications (e.g., renal cell carcinoma) and other solid tumor types. While knocking Sutent from front-line establishment remains an attractive possibility, we believe the relative tolerability and proven combinability of tivozanib at full dose for treatment of other larger market indications is probably what really grabbed Astellas' attention. Sutent, in particular, cannot be combined safely with other cancer therapies. Deal terms include a 50/50 U.S. profit split, tiered royalties on ex-U.S. sales, and share of development costs. In return, AVEO will receive \$125M in cash upfront (\$96M net of fees), \$1.3B in potential milestones, and access to Astellas' commercial infrastructure.
- Management believes top-line TIVO-1 data could be available midyear, which we regard as a major catalyst for the stock. With yearend cash guidance of at least \$125M, we estimate sufficient cash into 2013 with runway extension on attainment of tivozanib regulatory milestones.

### Valuation and risks

Our \$23 target is based on a DCF. Risks include failure of clinical trials and regulatory setbacks.

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# Figure 1: AVEO investment synopsis

# Key investment driver(s):

- Potential of tivozanib in renal cell carcinoma (RCC).
- Potential of AV-299 in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

### **Investment themes.** We rate shares BUY based on:

- Excellent Phase II data and rapid trial enrollment support high likelihood of success for Phase III TIVO-1 trial of tivozanib in RCC.
- High tivozanib potency yields potential in other indications including metastatic breast cancer.
- Potential for wholly-owned AV-299 validated by data from other c-met inhibitors.

# CG differentiation from the Street:

- Concerns about TIVO-1 design using Nexavar rather than standard-of-care Sutent as comparator can be discounted, as physician focus lies on absolute magnitude of responses.
- Company valuation, considering holding of two wholly owned assets, is attractive relative to comparable peers.

**Critical financial metrics.** 2011 year-end cash of \$127.9M, which we model as sufficient to fund operations through 2013. Updates to our model from Astellas deal will be communicated shortly.

# Risks to BUY thesis:

- Potential failure of tivozanib clinical trial
- Competitive products in development could appear similar or better than tivozanib
- Challenging market conditions could complicate future financing needs

Source: Canaccord Genuity



Figure 2: AVEO upcoming expected events

Drug (Target)	Indication	Details	Event Timeline (Estimated)			
( - 3 - 4			Q1/11	Q2/11	Q3/11	Q4/11
Phase III						
tivozanib	Renal Cell Carcinoma, front-line	TIVO-1 trial; single-			ne data,	
(VEGFR)	Tenar deli darenoma, nont-inte	agent vs. Nexavar		mid-	2011	
Phase II						
AV-299	Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer,	combo +Iressa			Interim da	ata, H2/11
(HGF)	front-line					
tivozanib (VEGFR)	Renal Cell Carcinoma	single-arm biomarker study	Initiated			
Phase I						
tivozanib	Metastatic Breast Cancer	combo +paclitaxel	Ongoing			
(VEGFR)	wictastatic breast Caricer	combo · paciitaxei	Origonity			
tivozanib	Colorectal Cancer	combo +FOLFOX6	Ongoing			
(VEGFR)	Colorcolar Carlott	COMIDO 11 OLI ONO	Chigonity			

Source: Company data and Canaccord Genuity estimates

# **Investment risks**

- 1. TIVO-1 could fail to hit its primary endpoint
- 2. Competitive products in development could appear similar or better than tivozanib
- 3. Deteriorating market conditions could complicate future financing needs



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Site Visit:

An analyst has visited the issuer's material operations in Cambridge, Massachusetts. No payment or reimbursement was received from the issuer for the related travel costs.

#### **Price Chart:\***



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	Coverage Universe		IB Clients	
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Speculative Buy	65	8.6%	52.3%	
Hold	236	31.1%	17.8%	
Sell	20	2.6%	5.0%	
	758	100.0%		

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Company	Disclosure
AVEO Pharmaceuticals	1A, 2, 3, 5, 7

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