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Argos Therapeutics (ARGS)

Overweight

Positive News Out of the Gate

CONCLUSION

Argos presented data from Phase IIa studies of dendritic-cell vaccine AGS-004 ('004) as a potential immunological cure in HIV yesterday at the Conference for Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) in Boston. One poster describes 6 patients that had started antiretrovirals (ART) within 45 days of HIV infection, were treated with monthly '004 and subjected to an ART interruption (TI). Another poster describes chronically infected subjects undergoing TI. The posters highlight notable immune responses to '004 and provide signals of efficacy that enhances our conviction on the upcoming planned adult and pediatric eradication studies. Recall that Phase IIb data in HIV is expected around mid-year. That said, given the non-proven path to market, we continue to value Argos primarily on AGS-003 in renal cell cancer, but believe there is significant platform technology value in other oncology and infectious disease indications for Argos that is bolstered by these data.

- The AGS-004-003 study data. This subgroup was selected based on acute HIV infection that was treated with ART <45 days following infection. The group consisted of 6 males ranging in age from 26 to 56 years (baseline characteristics in Exhibit 1). All subjects demonstrated a memory T-cell response to a set of HIV antigens: GAG, Nef, Vpr, and/or Rev, and TI durations that ranged from 36 to greater than 268 days. The subject (51-102) on TI for over 268 days remains on TI (Exhibit 2) and is particularly interesting, in our view, in that they had the lowest baseline CD4+ cell counts of 397 cells/mm3, the highest had 937 cells/mm3. Patients were taken off the TI due to a viral load of >10k viral RNA counts per ml and/or a greater than 20% decrease in CD4+ cell counts.
- And from AGS-004-001. The main takeaway from this study of chronically infected patients was that AGS-004 treatment produced an extended time to increases in viral load upon induction of TI (Exhibit 3). Also, notably this study produced a correlation between PD-1 expression levels and length of TI (Exhibit 4). Generally, lower PD-1 expression on T-cells correlated with longer sustained treatment interruption. These data look encouraging to us, in particular the continuing low viral load in subject 51-102 in the AGS-004-003 study described above, and may bode well for the ongoing Phase IIb to read out mid-year, which is looking at extended dosing (12 months) of AGS-003, vs. these studies that looked at 3-4 months of dosing. We are also intrigued with the PD-1 result as it suggests to us that there may be at least additive, perhaps synergistic, effects of combining the Arcelis platform with a PD-1 inhibitor to drive a "killer app" approach for treating cancers unsatisfactorily but nonetheless responsive to both.

PRICE: US\$12.30 TARGET: US\$18.00

DCF of AGS-003 in metastatic renal cell carcinoma in the U.S. + a technology/pipeline value of ~\$5/share

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Changes	Previous	Current
Rating	_	Overweight
Price Tgt	_	US\$18.00
FY14E Rev (mil)	_	US\$8.o
FY15E Rev (mil)	_	US\$o.o
FY14E EPS	_	US\$(1.61)
FY15E EPS	_	US\$(2.09)
52-Week High / Low	US\$12	.55 / US\$7.97
Shares Out (mil)		19.9
Market Cap. (mil)		US\$244.8
Book Value/Share		US\$4.50
Net Cash Per Share		US\$5.10
Debt to Total Capital		0%
Div (ann)		NA
Fiscal Year End		Dec



RISKS TO ACHIEVEMENT OF PRICE TARGET

Failure of AGS-003 in mRCC Phase III or other studies.

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Argos Therapeutics develops dendritic cell vaccines for oncology and infectious diseases.

VEAD	REVENUE (US\$ m)								EARNINGS PER SHARE (US\$)								
YEAR	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	FY	FY RM	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	FY	FY P/E					
2013E	_	_	_	2.7	6.4	38.2x	_	_	_	(2.41)	(20.94)	NM					
2014E	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	8.0	30.6x	(0.40)	(0.40)	(0.40)	(0.40)	(1.61)	NM					
2015E	_	_	_	_	0.0	NA	_	_	_	_	(2.09)	NM					

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Exhibit 1

AGS-004-003 PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS, RESPONSES

Participant ID	Age (years)	Race/ethnicity	Baseline CD4 count (cells/mm³)	Baseline SCA (cps/mL)	Criteria met for IR	Duration of ATI (days)	Reason for ART restart	Viral suppression after ATI	Baseline Frequency of RCI (IUPM) ^a	Post-treatment Frequency of RCI (IUPM) ^a
51-100	34	African American	662	<0.6	Yes	36	VL >10,000	Yes	0.266	0.140
51-102	31	African American	397	_	Yes	268+ ^b	N/A	N/A	0.767	0.572
54-100	56	White, non-hispanic	574	<0.4	Yes	90	VL >10,000 / >20% ↓ CD4%	Yes	0.179	0.067
54-101	26	White, non-hispanic	482	<0.5	Yes	147	VL >10,000	Yes	0.043	0.049
54-102	51	African American	937	<0.5	Yes	58	>20% ↓ CD4%	Yes ^c	0.088	0.195
54-104	26	African American	714	0.8	Yes	41	>20% ↓ CD4%	Yes ^c	0.525	0.691
^a IUMP= infe	ectious u	ınits per million ^{; b} Rem	ains on ATI; ^c Vi	iremic after	initial re	-suppress	ion due to non-	compliance w	ith daily ART a	dherence.

Source: Company reports

Exhibit 2

PATIENT 51-102 TREATMENT INTERRUPTION RESPONSE

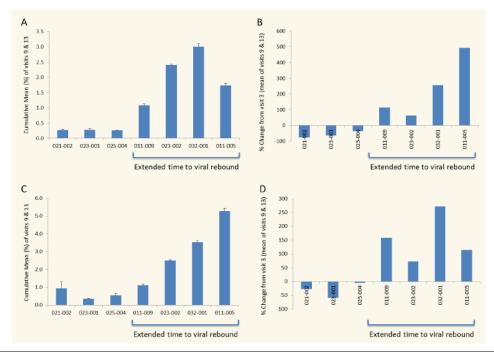


Source: Company Reports

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Exhibit 3

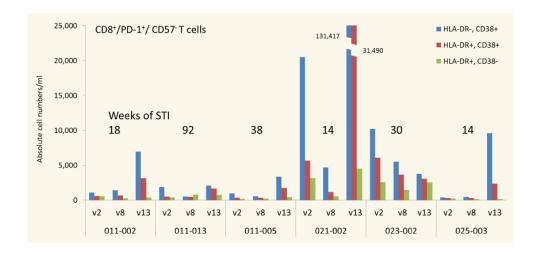
INDUCED DELAY TO VIRAL REBOUND ON AGS-004



Source: Company Reports

Exhibit 4

PD-1 EXPRESSION & TREATMENT INTERRUPTION



Source: Company Reports

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Argos (\$ in thousands, except per share amounts)	2011	2012	1st 9 months 2013	4Q13E	2013E	1Q14E	2Q14E	3Q14E	4Q14E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E	2018E
Income Statement														
Revenue														
License and milestone fees, grants	7,643	7,039	3,706	1,700	5,406	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,000	-			
% total revenue		100%	100%		84%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	na	na	0%	0%
Revenues under collaborative agreements	-	-	0	1,000	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	-			
% total revenue		0%	0%		16%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na	0%	0%
Product sales and royalties	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,503	109,677
% total revenue		0%	0%		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	na	na	100%	100%
Total Revenues	7,643	7,039	3,706	2,700	6,406	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,000	-	-	33,503	109,677
Costs & Expenses:														
Cost of product revenue	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,350	10,968
R&D	12,668	17,617	16,922	5,000	21,922	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	24,000	24,914	27,405	28,775	30,214
SG&A	3,704	6,136	3,042	1,000	4,042	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	16,000	16,609	17,440	21,799	25,069
Total Operating Expenses	16,372	23,752	19,964	6,000	25,964	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000	41,523	44,844	53,925	66,251
Operating Income (loss)	(8,729)	(16,713)	(16,258)	(3,300)	(19,558)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Investment income	1	5	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest expense	(6,656)	(292)	(1)	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other expense	(4,756)	6,530	355	-	355	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income (loss) before income taxes	(20,141)	(10,471)	(15,901)	(3,300)	(19,201)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Income tax (benefit) provision	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tax rate	-	-		35.0%		35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
Net income (loss)	(20,141)	(10,471)	(15,901)	(3,300)	(19,201)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Net loss from non-controlling interest	(63)		0		-									
Net income (loss) available to common stockholders	(20,078)	(10,471)	(15,901)	(3,300)	(19,201)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Add back: accretion of redeemable convertible preferred stock	(927)	(352)	5,250	-	5,250									
Less: net income attributable to participating securities	-	-	(14,726)	-	(14,726)									
Net income (loss) to common shareholders	(21,004)	(10,824)	(25,377)	(3,300)	(28,677)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Basic Earnings Per Share	(32.88)	(9.10)	(\$18.53)	(\$2.41)	(\$20.94)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$1.61)	(\$2.09)	(\$1.73)	(\$0.79)	\$1.68
Diluted Earnings Per Share	(32.88)	(9.10)	(\$18.53)	(\$2.41)	(\$20.94)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$0.40)	(\$1.61)	(\$2.09)	(\$1.73)	(\$0.79)	\$1.68
Basic Shares Outstanding	639	1,190	1,369	1,369	1,369	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	25,893	25,893	25,893
Diluted Shares Outstanding	639	1,190	1,369	1,369	1,369	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	19,893	25,893	25,893	25,893

Proprietary to Piper Jaffray & Co. March 5, 2014
Argos: Charles Duncan; 212.284.2505
Current disclosure information for this company can be found at:
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1		i	i							in .				
Balance Sheet	2011	2012	1st 9 months 2013	4Q13E	2013E	1Q14E	2Q14E	3Q14E	4Q14E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E	2018E
Current assets														
Cash and cash equivalents	2.003	8.215	18.224	35.219	35.219	111.614	99.364	87.114	74.864	74.864	16,403	138.818	114.947	152.873
Marketable securities. AFS	0	4,149	0	0	0	0	0	0.,	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accounts receivable	1.037	979	671	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.675	5.484
Inventories, net	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	o	0	0	0
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,025	514	635	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	o	0	0	0
Total current assets	5,066	13,857	19,530	35,219	35,219	111,614	99,364	87,114	74,864	74,864	16,403	138,818	116,623	158,357
Total property, plant and equipment, net	908	1,539	1,482	1,232	1,232	5,982	10,732	15,482	20,232	20,232	39,232	43,232	47,232	51,232
Other assets	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total assets	5,974	15,397	21,013	36,451	36,451	117,596	110,096	102,596	95,096	95,096	55,635	182,050	163,855	209,589
Current liabilities														
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	1,885	1,691	1,406	(19,000)	(19,000)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,061	1,121	1,348	1,656
Convertible promissory notes, including accrued interest payable	10,376	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred revenue, current portion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current portion long term debt	0	32	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	12,346	6,393	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total current liabilities	24,607	8,115	1,438	(19,000)	(19,000)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,061	1,121	1,348	1,656
Deferred revenue, net of current portion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Long-term debt, net	0	48	24	9,000	9,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
Deferred obligation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other long-term liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total liabilities	24,607	8,164	1,462	(10,000)	(10,000)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,061	30,121	30,348	30,656
Commitments														
Stockholders' equity:	-													
Convertible preferred stock	77.722	75.801	87.326	113.326	113.326	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accumulated other comprehensive income	86	(94)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)	(99)
Common stock	1	(34)	(33)	(55)	(55)	(55)	(55)	(55)	(55)	(33)	(33)	(33)	(33)	(55)
Additional paid-in capital	29.413	58,468	75.166	79.361	79.361	241.832	242.332	242.832	243.332	243.332	245.332	416,532	418.532	420.532
Accumulated deficit	(128.829)	(126,943)	(142.843)	(146,143)	(146,143)	(154.143)	(162,143)	(170,143)	(178,143)	(178,143)	(219,666)	(264.510)	(284.933)	(241.507)
Total stockholders' equity	(21,607)	7.233	19.550	46,446	46,446	87.591	80.091	72.591	65.091	65.091	25,568	151.924	133.502	178,928
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	5,974	15,397	21.013	36,446	36,446	117,591	110.091	102,591	95,091	95.091	55,630	182,045	163,850	209,584
Promise to Pierre Information March 5 0044	0,014	.0,007		- 5,440	-0,440	,001	,001	,	- 5,001	-0,001	-0,000			_30,004

Total labilities and stockholders' equity
Proprietary to Piper Jaffray & Co. March 5, 2014
Argos: Charles Duncan; 212.284.2505
Current disclosure information for this company can be found at:
http://www.piperjaffray.com/researchdisclosures

Argos (\$ in thousands, except per share amounts)														
Cash Flow Statement	2011	2012	1st 9 months 2013	4Q13E	2013E	1Q14E	2Q14E	3Q14E	4Q14E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E	2018E
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES														
Net Income (Loss)	(20,141)	(10,471)	(15,901)	(3,300)	(19,201)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	(32,000)	(41,523)	(44,844)	(20,422)	43,426
Adjustments to reconcile to cash used in operating activities:														
Depreciation and amortization	680	505	473	250	723	250	250	250	250	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Stock-based compensation expense	472	1,044	587	196	782	500	500	500	500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Change in fair value of warrant liability	4,662	(4,917)	(355)	-	(355)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Change in fair value of investor rights / obligations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Write-off defered financing costs	-	1,786	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-cash interest expense	6,656	292	-											
Derivative expense (income)	95	(1,036)		-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	
Issuance of restricted stock for consulting expense	9	15	17	-	17	-	-	-	-			-	-	-
Loss (gain) on disposal of equipment	1	(5)	(51)		(51)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Change in operating assets and liabilities:														
Other receivable	-	-	-	671	671	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,675)	(3,809
Inventories	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,878	(216)	270	635	905	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	103	(194)	(285)	(20,406)	(20,691)	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	61	60	227	308
Deferred revenue	-				-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Net cash used in operating activities	(4,586)	(13,198)	(15,246)	(21,954)	(37,200)	12,750	(7,250)	(7,250)	(7,250)	(9,000)	(38,461)	(41,785)	(18,870)	42,926
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES														
Purchases of marketable securities, net		(4.149)	4.149		4.149					_				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, net	(244)	(1.132)	(364)		(364)	(5.000)	(5,000)	(5.000)	(5,000)	(20.000)	(20,000)	(5,000)	(5.000)	(5,000
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(244)	(5,281)	3,785		3.785	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Net cash provided by (used iii) investing activities	(244)	(3,201)	3,703	-	3,703	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES														
Proceeds from convertible promissory notes	3,500	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Financing costs on convertible promissory notes		-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net	(1,786)	(209)	82	30,000	30,082	48,645	0	0	0	48,645	-	169,200	0	0
Stock option exercise	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Proceeds from notes payable		96												
Repayment of LTD, net	(27)	(16)	(24)	8,944	8,920	20,000	0	0	0	20,000		0	0	0
Proceeds from issuance of convertible preferred stock	-	25,000	21,417	0	21,417	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Proceeds from issuance of common stock under equity incentive plans, net		-	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	1,687	24,871	21,476	38,944	60,419	68,645	0	0	0	68,645	0	169,200	0	0
				0.0	(0.1)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Effect of exchange rate	3	(180)	(0)	0.0	(0.1)									
	(3,139)	6,212	10,014	16,990	27,004	76,395	(12,250)	(12,250)	(12,250)	39,645	(58,461)	122,415	(23,870)	37,926
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	(3,139) 5,142	6,212 2,003	10,014 8,215				(12,250) 111,614			35,219	74,864	16,403	138,818	114,947
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	(3,139)	6,212	10,014	16,990	27,004	76,395	(12,250)	(12,250)	(12,250)					
Effect of exchange rate Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period Cash and cash equivalents at end of period Proprietary to Piper Jaffray & Co. March 5, 2014	(3,139) 5,142	6,212 2,003	10,014 8,215	16,990 18,229	27,004 8,215	76,395 35,219	(12,250) 111,614	(12,250) 99,364	(12,250) 87,114	35,219	74,864	16,403	138,818	114,947

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IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISCLOSURES



Notes: The boxes on the Rating and Price Target History chart above indicate the date of the Research Note, the rating, and the price target. Each box represents a date on which an analyst made a change to a rating or price target, except for the first box, which may only represent the first Note written during the past three years.

Legend:

I: Initiating Coverage

R: Resuming Coverage

T: Transferring Coverage

D: Discontinuing Coverage

S: Suspending Coverage

OW: Overweight

N: Neutral

UW: Underweight NA: Not Available UR: Under Review

	Distribution of Ratings/IB Ser Piper Jaffray	vices		
			IB Serv.	/Past 12 Mos.
Rating	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
BUY [OW]	353	59.53	82	23.23
HOLD [N]	220	37.10	22	10.00
SELL [UW]	20	3.37	0	0.00

Note: Distribution of Ratings/IB Services shows the number of companies currently in each rating category from which Piper Jaffray and its affiliates received compensation for investment banking services within the past 12 months. FINRA rules require disclosure of which ratings most closely correspond with "buy," "hold," and "sell" recommendations. Piper Jaffray ratings are not the equivalent of buy, hold or sell, but instead represent recommended relative weightings. Nevertheless, Overweight corresponds most closely with buy, Neutral with hold and Underweight with sell. See Stock Rating definitions below.

Analyst Certification — Charles C. Duncan, PhD, Sr. Research Analyst — Roy Buchanan, Ph.D., Research Analyst

The views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject company and the subject security. In addition, no part of my compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views contained in this report.

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Research Disclosures

Piper Jaffray was making a market in the securities of Argos Therapeutics, Inc. at the time this research report was published. Piper Jaffray will buy and sell Argos Therapeutics, Inc. securities on a principal basis.

Piper Jaffray expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from Argos Therapeutics, Inc. in the next 3 months. Piper Jaffray has received compensation for investment banking services from or has had a client relationship with Argos Therapeutics, Inc. within the past 12 months.

Within the past 12 months Piper Jaffray was a managing underwriter of a public offering of, or dealer manager of a tender offer for, the securities of Argos Therapeutics, Inc. or the securities of an affiliate.

Within the past 3 years Piper Jaffray participated in a public offering of, or acted as a dealer manager for, Argos Therapeutics, Inc. securities.

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