

# PRESS RELEASE



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## Ascelia Pharma's Nomination Committee proposes election of Lauren Barnes to the Board of Directors

**Ascelia Pharma AB (publ) (ticker: ACE) today announced that its Nomination Committee has proposed Lauren Barnes as new member of the Board of Directors. The company's shareholders will resolve on this nomination at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 6 May, 2020**

"We are extremely pleased to be nominating Lauren Barnes as a new Board member. Her extensive pre-market, pricing and launch experience within the biotechnology sector is a great addition to our Board as we continue to build Ascelia's pipeline of innovative drug candidates, with special focus on Mangoral and Oncoral. This appointment adds to the collective experience of our existing Board members as we continue to build Ascelia Pharma for future growth and success," said Peter Benson, Chairman of the Board of Ascelia Pharma.

Lauren Barnes, born 1974, has more than 20 years of pricing and market access experience with launch experience for approximately 50 products. Apart from several senior positions within the biotech industry, including strategic planning, reimbursement and product commercialization, she has also experience from the field of health insurance at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in Baltimore, MD, where, among other things, she led issues pertaining to drug coverage under the Medicare program.

Lauren Barnes's previous experience includes various strategic planning and reimbursement positions at Amgen, Vertex and Avalere Health. She holds a Master of Health Studies (MHS) in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and a BA in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University.

Other current positions: Lauren Barnes currently serves as Senior Vice President, Market Access, at the NASDAQ listed company Blueprint Medicines in Boston, MA. She is also Chair of the National Board of the Cancer Support Community, a nonprofit network of cancer support worldwide that delivers more than \$50 million in free support services to cancer patients and families.

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## About Ascelia Pharma

Ascelia Pharma is an oncology-dedicated orphan drug development company located in Malmö, Sweden. The company's strategy is to develop drugs, which target unmet medical needs, have an established mode of action and a relatively low development risk. Ascelia Pharma has two drug candidates – Mangoral and Oncoral – currently under development.

Mangoral is a novel contrast agent for MR-scans, currently in the pivotal Phase 3 clinical study SPARKLE. Mangoral is developed to improve the visualisation of focal liver lesions (liver metastases) in patient with impaired kidneys that cannot tolerate current gadolinium contrast agents on the market. Oncoral is an oral chemotherapy tablet ready for Phase II for the treatment of gastric cancer. Ascelia Pharma is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm (ticker: ACE). For more information, please visit [www.ascelia.com](http://www.ascelia.com).