



CONTACT:  
Equitilink LLC  
Andrew Arms  
877-788-1940  
[IR@nutrapharma.com](mailto:IR@nutrapharma.com)

## **NUTRA PHARMA REPORTS FINAL ANALYSIS OF RECEPTOPHARM'S MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS DRUG IN MICROARRAY STUDIES**

**Boynton Beach, FL. – March 2, 2004 - Nutra Pharma Corp., (OTCBB: NPHC)** a biotechnology holding company that owns rights to intellectual property related to the development of drugs for HIV and Multiple Sclerosis has announced that its contract researchers, Eno Research and Development, Inc. (ERDI) have completed their analysis of a series of microarray studies with RPI-78M in the gene expression of cells from Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patients. RPI-78M is the lead drug candidate of Nutra Pharma's minority holding, ReceptoPharm, Inc. and is being studied in preclinical assays for its efficacy in treating MS. ERDI measured the effect of RPI-78M on gene expression using cDNA microarray technology to identify any potentially unique changes in gene expression that may be caused by the therapy.

ERDI was contracted by Nutra Pharma to analyze immune cells and brain lesions of Multiple Sclerosis patients with and without the addition of RPI-78M. They measured the changes in gene expression that occurred with treatment. After statistical evaluation of the data, ERDI found more than sixty genes with significant changes in expression as compared to the control. In analyzing the affected genes, at least thirty of them may have a specific role in the progression of the disease and symptoms of MS.

"RPI-78M had a significant affect on the genes in the cytokine pathway as well as the myelination pathway," commented James Flowers, President and Chief Scientific Officer of Eno Research and Development, Inc. (ERDI). "The cytokine pathway genes play a role in marshaling the attack on the nervous system by immune cells. Since this is one of the principle pathways that lead to the forward progression of MS, it is notable that if these results were replicated in the patient population it may greatly reduce the severity of the disease" he continued. "Additionally, genes responsible for repair and maintenance of the myelin sheathes of neurons were upregulated. MS patients have a loss of myelin, the insulating material that surrounds the nerve fibers in the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves. This damage or loss of myelin can prevent nerve signals from being conducted, or can cause those signals to be conducted too slowly. The data from this study suggests that RPI-78M may aid the patient in reversing some of the damage caused to the myelin by their disease." ERDI will continue to study RPI-78M and its effects on gene expression as well as the drug's effects in histoculture experiments that may further elucidate its mechanism of action.

There has been a great deal of interest surrounding research in Multiple Sclerosis therapies. There are currently four drugs on the market for the treatment of the disease. A fifth drug, Tysabri, was voluntarily pulled from the marketplace earlier this week by the drug's manufacturers, Biogen-Idex and Elan.

"We are working diligently with ERDI to bring this information to the scientific community," commented Rik J Deitsch, Chief Executive Officer of Nutra Pharma. "We expect to present the

data at related conferences and to seek publication of the finished work. These studies, when coupled with the positive results in the recently-completed animal model, create substantial evidence of the drug's effects against MS. We are currently seeking potential partners that should allow us to move into sanctioned human trials," he added.

**About Multiple sclerosis:** Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an autoimmune disease in which the immune system, the body's principal defense against foreign substances such as bacteria, mistakenly attacks normal tissues of the central nervous system. It afflicts approximately 400,000 people in the United States and more than 2.5 million worldwide. Specifically, the disease results in damage to a fatty tissue called myelin that surrounds and protects nerve fibers, creating scarring (sclerosis) that interferes with the normal transmission of nerve impulses. This damage, in turn, leads to a variety of chronic and highly individual and unpredictable neurological symptoms, ranging from movement and balance problems to vision impairment. The disease is largely caused by activation of a specific subset of the patient's own white blood cells, T-cells that then attack the myelin and are largely responsible for disease progression.

### **About Nutra Pharma Corp.**

Nutra Pharma Corp. is a biopharmaceutical company specializing in the acquisition, licensing and commercialization of pharmaceutical products and technologies for the management of neurological disorders, cancer, autoimmune and infectious diseases. Nutra Pharma Corp. through its subsidiaries carries out basic drug discovery research and clinical development and also seeks strategic licensing partnerships to reduce the risks associated with the drug development process. The Company's minority-owned subsidiary, ReceptoPharm, Inc, is developing technologies for the development of drugs for HIV and Multiple Sclerosis ("MS"). The Company's other holding Infectech, Inc., is engaged in the research and development of diagnostic test kits designed to be used for the rapid identification of infectious diseases such as Tuberculosis (TB) and Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare (MAI). Nutra Pharma continues to identify and acquire intellectual property and companies in the biotechnology arena.

<http://www.nutrapharma.com>

### **About ReceptoPharm, Inc.**

ReceptoPharm is a bio-pharmaceutical company developing proprietary therapeutic proteins for the treatment of several chronic, life-threatening viral, auto-immune and neuro-degenerative disorders, specifically including Rabies, HIV, and Myasthenia gravis (MG).

### **About Eno Research and Development, Inc.**

Eno Research and Development, Inc. (ERDI) is a full-service contract research organization located in Hillsborough, North Carolina, near Research Triangle Park. ERDI offers a wide range of pre-clinical development services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, animal health and nutraceutical companies. The scientific staff of ERDI possess expertise in biotechnology, pharmacology, tumor biology, synthetic and analytical chemistry, in silico modeling of drug interaction/binding and rational drug design, as well as microarray technology and bioinformatics. With this expertise, ERDI can offer services ranging from lead discovery through New Drug Applications.

*This press release contains forward-looking statements. The words or phrases "would be," "will allow," "intends to," "will likely result," "are expected to," "will continue," "is anticipated," "estimate," "project," or similar expressions are intended to identify "forward-looking statements." Actual results could differ materially from those projected in Nutra Pharma's ("the*

*Company") business plan. The Company's business is subject to various risks, which are discussed in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The information presented should not be construed as an indication in any way whatsoever of the value of the Company or its common stock. The Company's filings may be accessed at the SEC's Edgar system at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Statements made herein are as of the date of this press release and should not be relied upon as of any subsequent date. The Company cautions readers not to place reliance on such statements. Unless otherwise required by applicable law, we do not undertake, and we specifically disclaim any obligation, to update any forward-looking statements to reflect occurrences, developments, unanticipated events or circumstances after the date of such statement.*

###