

## Nutra Pharma Engages Research Group to Study RPI-78M in Multiple Sclerosis Assays

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Nutra Pharma Corp., a biotechnology holding company that owns rights to patents and intellectual property related to the development of drugs for HIV and Multiple Sclerosis (MS), today announced that it has engaged Eno Research and Development, Inc. (ERDI) to study RPI-78M.

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 Multiple Sclerosis. ERDI will measure the effect of RPI-78M on gene expression using cDNA microarray technology and identify any potentially unique changes in gene expression that may be caused by the therapy.

"Much effort has gone into identifying genes that cause or contribute to the disease process of MS," commented James Flowers, ERDI's President and Chief Scientific Officer. "Still, it is unknown how many of these genes actually relate to the pathogenesis of this disease," he continued. "RPI-78M may allow us to better elucidate the underlying mechanisms of MS while evaluating its potential therapeutic benefits."

ERDI will conduct this research through the end of 2004.

"We are very excited about the talent and experience that ERDI brings to Nutra Pharma and ReceptoPharm," said Rik J. Deitsch, Nutra Pharma's Chief Executive Officer. "The scientific staff of ERDI has the expertise necessary to provide the information that we need to move RPI-78M into the clinical setting," he added.

"ERDI adds a critical component to the work that we have already accomplished," commented Paul F. Reid, Ph.D., ReceptoPharm's Chief Executive Officer. "By evaluating what's occurring in the cells of MS patients at a genetic level, we hope to get a better idea as to the mechanism of RPI-78M," he concluded.

### **SEC Disclaimer**

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