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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

VALEO PHARMA HIGHLIGHTS MDBRIEFCASE NEWSLETTER COMPARING HESPERIDIN AND VITAMIN C FOR COVID-19

- **Growing body of research suggests Hesperidin may interfere with SARS-CoV-2 infection process**
- **Hesperidin may help against Covid-19 viral replication**
- **Hesperidin is a potent antioxidant with anti-inflammatory activity that may help in controlling cytokine storm**

MONTREAL, QUEBEC , January 12, 2020 – [Valeo Pharma Inc.](#) (CSE:VPH, OTCQB: VPHIF, FSE: VP2) (“Valeo” or the “Company”), a Canadian pharmaceutical company, provided comments today on a recently issued newsletter by MDBriefCase entitled “Exploring Novel Therapeutic Approaches for Covid-19: Hesperidin vs Vitamin C”. The complete newsletter is available at:

[Read+more+about+the+need+for+novel+approaches+to+SARS-CoV-2_v2.pdf\[93\].pdf \(valeo-hesperco.s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com\)](#)

According to the newsletter, Hesperidin has recently attracted the attention of researchers, because it binds to key proteins of SARS-CoV-2¹. This may interfere with viral entry into host cells⁴.

In *Wu et. al (2020)*, the screening of 1066 natural substances with potential antiviral effect, plus 78 antiviral drugs already known in the literature for their binding to SARS-CoV-2 proteins, Hesperidin was the only compound that could target the binding interface between viral Spike proteins and ACE-2 human receptors².

Hesperidin can also bind to 3CLpro – the main protease responsible for the cleavage of SARS-CoV-2 peptides into functional units for virus replication and packaging within the host cells^{1,3}. By doing so, it may help against COVID-19 viral replication⁴.

The newsletter continued that cytokine storm is a major cause of acute respiratory distress syndrome, which is the main reason for hospitalization of COVID-19 patients^{5,6}. Chronic inflammation may also contribute to impaired quality of life in COVID-19 survivors⁷.



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Hesperidin is a potent antioxidant and its anti-inflammatory activity may help in controlling cytokine storm^{1,4}.

In discussing vitamin C, the newsletter noted that vitamin C did not demonstrate affinity to receptors that would interfere with SARS-CoV-2 infectivity². Further, many studies on the efficacy of vitamin C in preventing respiratory diseases are inconclusive or negative¹. A complementary therapeutic effect of intravenous high doses of vitamin C has been reported and clinical trials are ongoing¹.

In conclusion, the newsletter stated that recently accumulated evidence suggests that Hesperidin supplementation may be useful as a prophylactic agent against SARS-Cov-2 infection and as a complementary treatment during COVID-19 disease¹.

“There is a growing body of scientific evidence suggesting that the flavonoid “Hesperidin” has certain properties that may prove useful in the management of COVID-19”, said Steve Saviuk, Valeo’s President and Chief Executive officer. “Hesperidin can be found in lower dose formats in a number of natural health products. Hesperco™, Valeo’s unique Hesperidin formulation, is the only format available where every capsule contains 500mg of concentrated Hesperidin. In addition to being available for online ordering on www.hesperco.com and www.amazon.ca, we anticipate that Hesperco™ will be available at major retailers across Canada in early 2021”.

Additional scientific information regarding Hesperidin is available at www.ingenewpharma.com, scientific partner to Valeo Pharma Inc.

References:

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About Hesperco™

Hesperco™ capsules are Valeo's unique hesperidin formulation and are available in bottles of 60 capsules. Hesperidin is a flavonoid with powerful antioxidant properties that help support the immune system. Hesperco™ is available at www.hesperco.com and www.amazon.ca



About Valeo Pharma

Valeo Pharma is a pharmaceutical company dedicated to the commercialization of innovative prescription products in Canada with a focus on Neurodegenerative Diseases, Oncology and Hospital Specialty Products. Headquartered in Kirkland, Quebec, Valeo Pharma has the full capability and complete infrastructure to register and properly manage its growing product portfolio through all stages of commercialization. For more information, please visit www.valeopharma.com and follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter.

Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements about Valeo's objectives, strategies and businesses that involve risks and uncertainties. These statements are "forward-looking" because they are based on our current expectations about the markets we operate in and on various estimates and assumptions. Actual events or results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements if known or unknown risks affect our business, or if our estimates or assumptions turn out to be inaccurate. The Company is not making any express or implied claims that its product has the ability to eliminate, cure or contain the Covid-19 (or SARS-2 Coronavirus) at this time



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