FDA Approves Phase II Trials of Agouron's HIV Protease Inhibitor

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LA JOLLA, Calif--Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. has received FDA approval to extend its phase II clinical trials of AG1343, conducted in England, to the United States. Under an investigational new drug application, researchers at the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center, New York, and Conant Medical Group, San Francisco, will evaluate alternative daily doses of the oral agent in approximately 30 patients.

AG1343 is a synthetic chemical compound designed to inhibit HIV protease--an enzyme that plays an essential role in the replication of HIV. The trial will determine appropriate doses for use in large phase II/III pivotal trials scheduled to start this year.

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