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**Data Safety Monitoring Board Recommends Dosing of Final Two Patients in
VRX496 Phase I Trial**

Gaithersburg, MD – April 5, 2004 – VIRxSYS Corporation, a private biotechnology company focused on the development of novel genetic medicines for the treatment of serious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, announced today that the independent Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) unanimously recommended that the remaining two patients in the Company’s Phase I trial be dosed using VRX496 modified T cells. The clinical trial is the first-ever to use lentiviral vectors in humans.

The Phase I trial is designed to enroll a total of five patients infected with HIV, each of whom has failed two regimens of triple anti-retroviral drug therapy (HAART). The initial plan was for each patient to be dosed with the modified T cells after preceding patients demonstrated initial safety, as determined by the DSMB. However, based on cumulative safety data from the first three patients, the DSMB has now recommended that the final two patients be dosed without delay.

“We are encouraged by the promising observation that no adverse events related to VRX496 have been observed in the first three patients of our Phase I study,” stated Boro Dropulic, Ph.D., Founder and Chief Scientific Officer. “We are similarly

encouraged that, to date, the viral load results are not above pre-dose levels and CD4 counts have remained stable.”

The Phase I trial will be complete after sufficient safety data is accumulated on all 5 patients. The trial is being led by University of Pennsylvania’s Drs. Rob Roy MacGregor, principal investigator, and Carl H. June, co-investigator, both leaders in the fields of infectious diseases and T cell transplantation.

About VIRxSYS

VIRxSYS Corporation is a private biotechnology company founded in 1998, which focuses on the development of a novel HIV lentiviral vector platform technology for the treatment of serious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and cancer. The Company’s highly patented, proprietary technology platform and product application strategy is based on research originally conducted at and exclusively licensed from The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) in Baltimore, Maryland by VIRxSYS’ Founder and Chief Scientific Officer, Dr. Boro Dropulic. Signature Capital, the Company’s lead investor, is a unique venture capital company co-founded by Bill Turner that specializes in identifying companies with innovative approaches. Additional information is available at VIRxSYS’ Web site at <http://www.virxsys.com>, and at Signature Capital’s Web site at <http://www.sigcap.com>.

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