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Nektar Promotes John Nicholson to Serve as Chief Financial Officer

SAN CARLOS, Calif., Dec 11, 2007 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Nektar Therapeutics (Nasdaq: NKTR) announced today the promotion of John Nicholson to serve as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the company. Nicholson reports to Nektar's President and Chief Executive Officer, Howard W. Robin.

"With more than 25 years in the pharmaceutical industry, John's wealth of experience and knowledge is of great value to Nektar," Robin said. "John's strong, in-depth leadership qualities will help accelerate our strategic initiative to transition Nektar from a drug delivery entity to a company that develops high-value, innovative therapeutics."

Previously, Nicholson was Senior Vice President, Corporate Development and Business Operations at Nektar, a position to which he was appointed in the fall of 2007.

Prior to joining Nektar, Nicholson served in a number of leadership roles at Bayer Schering Pharma AG, including Vice President, Corporate Development and Treasurer of Schering Berlin Inc., President of Schering Berlin Insurance Company, President of Bayer Pharma Chemicals Inc., and President of Schering Berlin Capital Corporation. Nicholson also served as Treasurer of Berlex Inc.

The previous Nektar CFO, Tim Harkness, is no longer with the company.

"We thank Tim for his service to the company," Robin said.

Nektar Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company with a mission to develop and enable differentiated therapeutics with its industry-leading pulmonary and PEGylation technology platforms. Nektar pulmonary and PEGylation technology, expertise, manufacturing capabilities and know-how have enabled nine approved products for partners, which include the world's leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Nektar also develops its own products by applying its pulmonary and PEGylation technology platforms to existing medicines with the objective to enhance performance, such as improving efficacy, safety and compliance.

This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect the company's current views as to its management team, revenue potential, product pipeline potential and business prospects. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to: (i) the company's proprietary product candidates and those of certain of its partners are in the early phases of clinical development and the risk of failure is high and can occur at any stage prior to regulatory approval, (ii) the company's or its partner's ability to obtain regulatory approval for product candidates, (iii) the success of the company's partners in sales and marketing efforts to generate from approved products and future products (if any), and (iv) the company's patent applications for its technology platforms and proprietary or partner product candidates may not issue, patents that have issued may not be enforceable, or intellectual property licenses from third parties may be required in the future. Important risks and uncertainties are detailed in the company's reports and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this press release.

The company undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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