

## **Artisan Pharma Appoints Gary Shearman Executive Chairman**

Waltham, MA - January 4, 2010 - Artisan Pharma, Inc. announced today the appointment of Gary T. Shearman, Ph.D as Executive Chairman and Director. Dr. Shearman will be taking over day-to-day management of the operations of Artisan.

Dr. Shearman had been a Director of the Company since October 2007 and has worked over twenty five years in the pharmaceutical industry and in biopharmaceutical venture capital. He was previously Senior Vice President Global Drug Development and Deputy Head of Research and Development at Rhone Poulenc Rorer (now Sanofi Aventis) and Chairman HBM Advisors USA. Dr. Shearman is currently Chairman of Nereus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

"I am pleased to take on this role at this very important time for Artisan. We are well underway with our Phase 2b clinical trial of ART-123 in patients with DIC in sepsis and expect completion in the second half of 2010," commented Dr. Shearman.

### About ART-123

ART-123 is a novel, recombinant, soluble thrombomodulin for the treatment of DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation) in sepsis. ART-123 uniquely targets both anti-coagulant and systemic anti-inflammatory pathways, and holds great promise as a self-regulating treatment of DIC in sepsis. Artisan licensed ART-123 from Asahi Kasei Pharma Corporation and holds all development and commercial rights for ART-123 outside of Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea. ART-123 is approved for marketing in Japan for the treatment of DIC.

### About DIC in Sepsis

Almost 2 million patients in the United States and Europe suffer from sepsis annually, with up to 30% of them developing or being at high risk of developing DIC. For those that do, prognosis is poor. DIC is a severe condition in which widespread microthrombi formation ultimately contributes to organ dysfunction and death. This market is estimated at over \$2 billion and is increasing due to the growing incidence of sepsis in the industrialized world.

### About Artisan's ART-123 Phase 2b Trial in DIC in Sepsis

The Phase 2b study entitled "A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Phase-2b Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy Effects of ART-123 on Subjects with Sepsis and Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation" will enroll 750 subjects in over 150 sites worldwide. For further information please refer to <http://clinicaltrials.gov/>

### About Artisan Pharma, Inc.

Artisan Pharma is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to bringing best-in-class critical care therapeutics to patients. [www.artisanpharma.net](http://www.artisanpharma.net)