



Optimer Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Announces Exercise of Over-Allotment Option by Underwriters

SAN DIEGO, CA – *February 21, 2007*- Optimer Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: OPTR) announced today that the underwriters of the company's recent initial public offering of common stock have exercised an over-allotment option to purchase an additional 1,050,000 shares of the company's common stock from Par Pharmaceutical, Inc. Par is the sole selling stockholder in this offering. Par sold the shares at a public offering price of \$7.00 per share, resulting in estimated net proceeds to Par of approximately \$6.8 million.

Piper Jaffray & Co. and Jefferies & Company, Inc. acted as joint book-running managers for the offering. JMP Securities LLC and Rodman & Renshaw, LLC acted as co-managers for the offering.

A registration statement relating to these securities was declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 8, 2007.

This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction.

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