

Asterand Plc

("Asterand" or "the Company")

Interim Management Statement

Asterand plc (LSE: ATD), a leading provider of human tissue and human tissue-based services to pharmaceutical companies engaged in drug discovery research, today issued its Interim Management Statement for the nine-month period ending 30 September 2008.

Financial Results for the 9 months to 30 September 2008

Asterand has continued to exhibit substantial revenue growth throughout 2008. The Company reported in its Interim Results for the first half of 2008, essentially break-even performance and a 43% growth in revenue over 2007. Third quarter revenue exhibited an even stronger growth trend. The Company continues to make progress in maintaining control of its expenditures and building cash reserves.

Martyn Coombs, Chief Executive Officer of Asterand, commented:

"These are strong results. Growth in the third quarter was even stronger than the 43% that we reported for the first half of 2008. Our results are especially pleasing given the worldwide financial challenges of the last few months. This achievement has been driven by the success of our international sales team in fostering more collaborative relationships with our key customers; the demand for our products and services is strong and growing."

"In addition to the fore-mentioned results in our core business, we have benefited from our out-licensing of the R99 programme to Allergan. As previously reported, in addition to an upfront access fee of \$6.25 million, this agreement has the potential to provide us with additional success-based development and sales milestone payments plus royalties. We believe our therapeutics portfolio holds additional opportunities for these types of agreements."

"Overall, The Company remains on track for significant top-line revenue growth in 2008 and expects to continue to improve operational efficiency. Therefore, we believe Asterand is poised for a successful 2008 that will provide a foundation for future success."

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Notes to Editors

Asterand is a leading supplier of high quality human tissue and tissue-based services. Our comprehensive approach to human tissue and research services offers pharmaceutical, biotech and diagnostic companies the unique opportunity to have one company meet all of their human biomaterial needs along the continuum of drug discovery and development. Our mission is to accelerate target discovery and compound validation and enable pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take safer and more effective drugs into the clinic.