

Angiotech Completes Acquisition of Afmedica

VANCOUVER, BC - October 7, 2005 - Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP) today announced that it has completed its acquisition of Afmedica, Inc., a private company developing perivascular technology using the drug rapamycin to treat peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease and end stage renal disease.

The Afmedica transaction strengthens Angiotech's leadership in peripheral by-pass surgery, where Angiotech is currently conducting human clinical studies with its paclitaxel-eluting Vascular Wrap™ product candidate and expects to present one year safety data from its European trial this November at the Veith Conference in New York. To date, two drugs have been widely used in the space of coronary restenosis, paclitaxel and rapamycin. This transaction enables Angiotech to reach beyond the use of paclitaxel and expand its research platform to potentially commercialize rapamycin in peripheral bypass surgery and other selected disease indications.

Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Vancouver-based Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company focusing on drug-coated medical devices and biomaterials, is dedicated to enhancing the performance of medical devices and biomaterials through the innovative uses of pharmaceuticals. To find out more about Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI; TSX: ANP), please visit our website at www.angiotech.com.

Statements contained herein that are not based on historical or current fact, including without limitation statements containing the words "anticipates," "believes," "may," "continue," "estimate," "expects," "may" and "will" and words of similar import, constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, events or developments to be materially different from any future results, events or developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions, both nationally and in the regions in which the Company operates; technology changes; competition; changes in business strategy or development plans; the ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; existing governmental regulations and changes in, or the failure to comply with, governmental regulations; liability and other claims asserted against the Company; and other factors referenced in the Company's filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or the Canadian securities regulators. Given these uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The Company does not assume the obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

###

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Analysts and Investors: Todd Young, Vice President Investor Relations and Communications,
Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
(604) 221-7676 ext 6933

Analysts: Rui Avelar, Senior Vice President Medical Affairs and Communications,
Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
(604) 221-7676 ext 6996

Media: Wendy Carhart, Waggener Edstrom Bioscience, (503) 443-7354,
Email: wendyc@wagged.com