

PRESS RELEASE

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## Study published in *Hepatology* demonstrates ability of saRNA to improve liver function and inhibit carcinogenesis in vivo

**London, United Kingdom – 20 December, 2013 –**

MiNA Therapeutics, a biotechnology company developing RNA for transcriptional gene activation, announced today that its academic co-founders published a study in [Hepatology](#) demonstrating that saRNA therapeutics induced in vivo production of mRNA and proteins to improve liver function and inhibit tumour burden in a rat model of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).

The research provides pre-clinical proof-of-concept that saRNA therapeutics provide an effective and robust platform for gene up-regulation that could be applicable across a number of diseases.

Researchers injected intravenously three doses of saRNA targeting the CEBPA gene in liver cirrhosis / HCC bearing rats. CEBPA (CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein alpha) is an important tumour suppressor gene and regulator of hepatocyte function. At one week following treatment, rats injected with saRNA showed an 80% reduction in tumour burden as well as a normalisation of serum albumin when compared with a non-specific saRNA control. Up-regulation of the target gene CEBPA was confirmed by analysis of liver mRNA.

### **About MiNA Therapeutics**

MiNA is a clinical stage biotechnology company pioneering transcriptional gene activation using a new class of RNA (saRNA). saRNA provide a new way of stimulating the human cell's messenger RNA (mRNA) and protein production. saRNA therapeutics has unique potential to target diseases that are untreatable with today's conventional medicine. MiNA is a privately held company based in London, United Kingdom. To learn more visit [www.minatx.com](http://www.minatx.com).