

Ipsen extends the deadline for entering into its European agreement with Medicis

Paris (France), 16 April 2006 - Ipsen (Eurolist by Euronext™: IPN) today announced that it has decided, jointly with Medicis (NYSE: MRX), to extend to 15 July 2006 the deadline for entering into an agreement relating to the exclusive distribution and development rights of its botulinum toxin A product for the aesthetic market in Europe and subsequently in other territories. This deadline was initially set for 15 April 2006.

As previously announced on 20 March 2006, Ipsen and Medicis entered into an agreement whereby Ipsen granted Medicis rights to develop, distribute and commercialize Ipsen's botulinum toxin A product in the United States, Canada and Japan for aesthetic use by physicians. The product is commonly referred to as Reloxin® in the U.S. aesthetic market and Dysport® for medical and aesthetic markets outside the U.S.

About Ipsen's botulinum toxin Type A

Ipsen's botulinum toxin Type A, developed in the field of aesthetic medicine in the USA, Canada and Japan under the trademark Reloxin® is also approved for aesthetic indications in 17 countries: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Columbia, Honduras, Israël, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Moldova, New Zealand, Philippines, Slovak Republic, Ukania, Uruguay, Vietnam, and Russia (in Russia, it is the first botulinum toxin type A approved in this field). Ipsen is also pursuing regulatory approval for medicine indications for the product in certain additional key international markets.

Under the trademark Dysport®, Ipsen's botulinum toxin type A also acts as a curariform (immobilises muscles), which was initially developed for the treatment of motor disorders and various forms of muscular spasticity, including cervical dystonia (a chronic condition in which the neck is twisted or deviated), spasticity of the lower limbs in children with cerebral palsy, blepharospasm (involuntary eye closure) and hemifacial spasm. It was later developed for the treatment of a wide variety of neuromuscular disorders. Dysport® was originally launched in the United Kingdom in 1991. Dysport® has marketing authorisations in 73 countries.

About Ipsen

Ipsen is a European pharmaceutical group with over 20 products on the market and a total worldwide staff of nearly 4.000. The company's development strategy is based on a combination of products in targeted therapeutic areas (oncology, endocrinology and neuromuscular disorders), which are growth drivers and primary care products which contribute significantly to its research financing. This strategy is also supported by an active policy of partnerships. The location of its four R&D centres (Paris, Boston, Barcelona, London) gives the Group a competitive edge in gaining access to leading university research teams and highly qualified personnel. In 2005, Research and Development expenditure reached €169.0 million, i.e. 20.9% of consolidated sales, which amounted to €807.1 million in the Group's pro forma accounts set up according to the IFRS. Nearly 700 people in R&D are dedicated to the discovery and development of innovative drugs for patient care. Ipsen's shares are traded on Segment A of Eurolist by Euronext™ (stock code: IPN, ISIN code: FR0010259150).



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