



**Sinclair Pharma plc announces positive trial results:
US multicentre trial confirms efficacy of Atopiclair™ in atopic
dermatitis
Atopiclair™ launched in the US**

Godalming, UK: 21 June 2005: Sinclair Pharma plc ("Sinclair" or the "Company") (SPH.L), the specialty pharmaceutical company, today announced positive results of a multicentre clinical double blind study on Atopiclair™, for atopic dermatitis (AD, eczema) and the launch of the product in the US.

The study, conducted in 216 adult patients in the USA, demonstrated significant clinical benefits with Atopiclair™, when compared to a vehicle cream control group. The primary endpoint was the EASI score which is a standard method of assessment of the severity and extent of atopic dermatitis. Compared with the control group Atopiclair already showed a highly significant improvement of the EASI score within the first 8 days of this 50 day trial which was maintained throughout the trial. Similar benefits were observed for itch, erythema, area of atopic dermatitis, physicians global assessment, patients' preferences and the need for rescue medication when 5.5% of patients receiving Atopiclair™ needed rescue medication because of disease flare up versus 40% of patients receiving the vehicle control. Atopiclair™ was well tolerated with no significant side effects reported.

In addition to the study results Sinclair announce that their US licensee, Chester Valley Pharmaceuticals Inc launched Atopiclair™ in the US on 20th June 2005. CVP is a newly founded company that is committed to bringing innovative solutions to the field of dermatology. The company was formed through a partnership between industry veteran Bob Moccia and GTCR Golder Rauner LLC, a leading private equity fund based in Chicago.

Dr Michael Flynn, CEO of Sinclair Pharma Plc, commented "The results of this study reinforce previous positive study results for Atopiclair™ in atopic dermatitis and contact dermatitis. There is a real need for an efficacious, steroid-free product for atopic dermatitis. These study results confirm that Atopiclair™ will be able to meet that need. We expect Atopiclair™ to be one of our most important revenue drivers over the next three years and the launch of our biggest product to date in the biggest market is a very significant event for us".

Bob Moccia, CEO of CVP commented: "This large scale study shows that Atopiclair™ is an effective new approach to manage the symptoms of atopic dermatitis. The results for itch are particularly encouraging; itch associated with atopic dermatitis is one of the most challenging and distressing symptoms of the disease. The dramatic reductions in itch, as well as other results from the study, confirm that Atopiclair™ will be welcomed by physicians and patients in the US."

Dr. William Abramovits, principal investigator of a multicenter study performed in the US said: "Our experience, from clinical trials and from anecdotal reports evidencing that Atopiclair™ is effective in reducing the itch, the severity and the extent of eczema lesions and the rapid



onset of action and very good tolerance seen in this trial, has us very optimistic about the success of the product as soon as it hits the market. "

MORE

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Notes to Editors

Atopiclair™ is a non-steroidal cream, approved as a medical device in the US and EU, for the management of symptoms of atopic dermatitis and contact dermatitis. As well as the US launch, it will be launched in Italy and Portugal in forthcoming months and further territories are in negotiation. For further product information please visit www.atopiclair.com.

Atopic dermatitis (also known as eczema) is one of the most common dermatological complaints and accounts for a large number of physician consultations. It is known to affect approximately 20% of school aged children^{i, ii, iii}. The prevalence in adults is estimated at 1-3%^{iv, v}. The current cornerstone of therapy is topical corticosteroids, which may have unfavourable side effects.

ⁱ Yura A, Shimizu T. . Trends in the prevalence of atopic dermatitis in school children: longitudinal study in Osaka Prefecture, Japan, from 1985 to 1997 Br J Dermatol 2001; 145 (6): 966-73

ⁱⁱ Tay YK, Kong KH, Khoo L et al. The prevalence and descriptive epidemiology of atopic dermatitis in Singapore school children. Br J Dermatol 2002; 146 (1): 101-6

ⁱⁱⁱ Mortz CG, Lauritsen JM, Bindslev-Jensen C, Prevalence of atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, and hand and contact dermatitis in adolescents. Br J Dermatol 2001; 144 (3): 523-32

^{iv} Schultz-Larsen F, Hanifin JM. Epidemiology of Atopic Dermatitis. Immunol Allergy Clin North Am 2002; 22: 1-24

^v Ellis CN, Drake LA, Prendergast MM. Cost of Atopic Dermatitis and eczema in the United States. J Am Acad Dermatol 2002; 46 (3): 361-70