



SINCLAIR PHARMA PLC

OBTAINS EU REGISTRATION FOR TWO NEW ORAL HEALTH PRODUCTS: DECAPINOL® TOOTHPASTE AND DECAPINOL GEL®

REGISTRATION SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES ADDRESSABLE MARKETS IN EU

Godalming UK, 12 July, 2005: Sinclair Pharma plc (“Sinclair” or the “Company”) (SPH.L), the specialty pharmaceutical company, announces that it has obtained EU registration for two new oral health products - Decapinol® Toothpaste (a toothpaste for treating gingivitis) and Decapinol® Gel (a product for the intensive professional treatment of gum infections). Both products are based on the technology behind Decapinol®, the company’s EU and US approved oral rinse for the treatment and prevention of gingivitis. These registrations significantly increase the addressable market for Decapinol® as the sale of medicated toothpastes is greater than that for oral rinses.

Today’s announcement represents a further step of the Company’s stated objective to fully exploit the novel mechanism of action behind Decapinol®. Decapinol® is a new type of oral rinse which has been clinically proven in tests with over 2,000 patients to treat and prevent gingivitis. Decapinol®’s novel mechanism of action includes the creation of a bioadhesive barrier on the teeth and gums. This barrier selectively interferes with the attachment of harmful bacteria to the teeth and gum surfaces thus preventing the colonisation of bacteria at the interface of teeth and gum - the starting point for gingivitis. Decapinol®’s action is different from antiseptics and antibiotics which may kill all oral bacteria and can consequently affect the natural balance of beneficial bacteria in the mouth. Sinclair believes that Decapinol® is the first new chemical entity approved for gingivitis in the past 30 years and that it has the potential to grow the existing market. The combined market for all mouthwashes and toothpastes is estimated to be worth \$12.5 billion of which \$10.5 billion is toothpastes. The market for specific gingivitis products is currently estimated to be worth £1.5 billion.

Prof. Rolf Attström from the Department of Periodontology, at Lund University, Sweden, said:
“It is very important for patients with gingivitis that ‘ecological’ balance in the oral cavity is maintained and that not all bacteria are eradicated. Current data indicate that the biofilm composition formed under the influence of Decapinol® is compatible with a healthy gum. Decapinol® achieves this and is as efficacious in treating gingivitis as the gold standard, chlorhexidine, but, significantly, without chlorhexidine’s unpleasant side effects. Also, Decapinol® appears to influence the production of substances believed to be a part of the caries disease process.”

Dr Michael Flynn, Chief Executive of Sinclair, said:
“Decapinol®’s unique method of tackling dental plaque make it highly suitable as a medicated toothpaste. With the medicated toothpaste market for gingivitis thought to be worth some 2.5 times that of the gingivitis mouthwash market, today’s registration opens up an important new market. Our immediate priority is discussing sales and marketing with potential partners.”

END

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Notes to Editors

Gingivitis: Surveys show that more than 60% of the adult population suffers from gingivitis. Apart from halitosis, gingivitis can lead to periodontitis, which is caused by accumulation of bacteria within dental plaque. These bacteria cause local inflammation of the gum, causing it to bleed easily, and can eventually lead to tooth loss. Improved attention to oral hygiene routine can help to prevent and control the condition. Clinical trials have shown Decapinol® to have fewer side effects and to be better tolerated than chlorhexidine which is presently one of the best recognised mouthwash treatments for gingivitis.

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