

Media Release

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Ground breaking data on Synosia's investigational new Parkinson's drug published in The Journal of Neuroscience

BASEL, SWITZERLAND, December 1, 2010 – New data on Synosia Therapeutics' investigational drug SYN-115 were published today in The Journal of Neuroscience¹.

The data obtained using perfusion magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in patients with Parkinson's disease show that SYN-115 crosses the blood-brain barrier to affect areas of the brain linked to the disease in a dose-dependent manner.

Specifically, SYN-115 inhibits the indirect pathway that is over-activated in Parkinson's patients. SYN-115 was also shown to inhibit cortical activity in a manner consistent with improving alertness and attention. Significant improvement in measures of motor and non-motor function in patients who participated in this study has been previously presented at the annual meetings of the Society for Neuroscience and the American Academy of Neurology.^{2,3}

The results are believed to be the first time that perfusion MRI has been applied to an investigational new drug in humans to successfully measure pharmacodynamic response.

"These results are significant for two reasons," said Dr Stephen Bandak, Synosia's Chief Medical Officer. "Firstly, they show that SYN-115 enters the brain and exerts dose-dependent effects in regions that we know are important to Parkinson's and, secondly, that perfusion MRI can provide rapid, quantitative and clinically relevant dose-finding pharmacodynamic information for pharmaceutical development."

The phase IIa trial was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, crossover study in 21 patients with mild to moderate Parkinson's disease on levodopa. The study was conducted at the Center for

Clinical Imaging Research and the NeuroClinical Research Unit of Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Missouri.

Patients participating in the study received SYN-115 and placebo twice daily each for one week with a one-week washout period in between. Perfusion MRI and clinical assessment was performed at the end of each treatment period.

The findings will inform a phase IIb trial of SYN-115 in Parkinson's patients, due to begin in 2011.

About SYN-115

SYN-115 is an orally-bioavailable potent and selective adenosine 2A (A2a) antagonist, which enters the brain and activates regions associated with motor and non-motor function. Synosia obtained rights to SYN-115 from Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) in 2007 for development and commercialisation in selected indications of the central nervous system and has an option to rights for development in all indications. SYN-115 is currently in phase II.

In October this year, Synosia granted exclusive worldwide rights for development and commercialisation of SYN-115 to UCB. UCB will be responsible for phase III development and commercialisation.

About Parkinson's disease

Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder, after Alzheimer's disease. It affects about one percent of people ages 65-69, rising to up to three percent of people who are 80 years and older.⁴ Parkinson's disease manifestations result from decreased dopamine production in the brain. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that plays an important role in muscle control.

About Synosia

Synosia Therapeutics is a privately owned company, which develops and intends to commercialise innovative, first or best-in-class products for unmet medical needs in neurology and psychiatry. Synosia utilises cutting-edge technologies and creative clinical study designs to de-risk its compounds before moving into larger, more extensive phase II and phase III programmes.

Synosia has six clinical-stage compounds in its pipeline for neurological and psychiatric diseases with high unmet medical need, including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. Synosia is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland. For more information visit www.synosia.com

References

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4. Guttmacher et al. Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease. *New England Journal of Medicine* (2003); 348; 1356-64

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