



Roskilde, 22 September 2004

Press Release

Angiox™ approved in Europe

Nycomed has, together with its US collaborator The Medicines Company (Nasdaq: MDCO), successfully achieved EU marketing authorisation for a new cardiovascular product, Angiox™ (bivalirudin), which will be marketed by Nycomed.

Angiox™ is a thrombin-specific anticoagulant for patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI).

The European Commission's decision follows the Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products' (EMA) announcement of a positive scientific assessment for Angiox™ on 23 June 2004.

"With the final approval of Angiox™, we can now add a very promising product to our steadily growing hospital-specialist product portfolio," said Håkan Björklund, Nycomed CEO. "We are confident that Angiox™ will make a real difference in Europe by simplifying PCI treatment and improving patient outcomes."

Angiox™ is the second hospital-specialist treatment marketed by Nycomed which has achieved EU marketing authorisation during 2004 - following the approval of TachoSil™, a surgical patch for fast and reliable bleeding control. Together these products will strengthen the company's offer to the hospital-specialist sector.

"We have proven the value of our in-licensing strategy to secure new products through partnering," said Håkan Björklund. "We are now looking forward to demonstrating our ability to successfully market these products across Europe."

The EU marketing authorization for Angiox™ is valid in all 25 member states of the European Union. Nycomed will now proceed with preparing the pan-European launch of Angiox™. The first launches are expected in 2004.

About Angiox™

Angiox™ (US tradename Angiomax®) is a thrombin-specific anticoagulant used in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary angioplasty. It was developed by The Medicines Company and launched successfully in the US in 2001. Nycomed entered into a collaboration with The Medicines Company in March 2002 to be the exclusive distributor of Angiox™ in 33 countries in Europe and in Russia/CIS.

Angiox™ is currently also approved in the US and other countries, including New Zealand, Canada, Argentina and Israel.

In clinical trials, bivalirudin has demonstrated reductions in both ischemic and bleeding complications compared to heparin as the foundation anticoagulant in the contemporary catheterization laboratory setting. These reductions in ischemic and bleeding complications remain evident even in high-risk patients.

About Nycomed

Nycomed is a pharmaceutical company differentiating itself by its European focus. The company's capabilities include product sourcing, late-stage clinical trials, registration, pricing and reimbursement negotiation and product life-cycle management. Dedicated sales teams target general practitioners, hospital specialists and pharmacists.

With 2,800 people, mostly in marketing & sales, Nycomed covers 19 European markets including the Russia/CIS. Products are also exported to other countries including Japan and the USA. Nycomed is a privately-owned company with 2003 revenue of € 635.5 million.

Further information is available on: www.nycomed.com

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