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Press Release

Nycomed achieves European approval of TachoSil™

The European Commission has issued an EU marketing authorisation (MA) for Nycomed's new surgical product TachoSil™. This decision follows the Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products' (EMA) announcement on 27 February of a positive scientific assessment for TachoSil™.

With a successful centralised European registration process, Nycomed will now proceed preparing the pan-European launch of TachoSil™. The first launch is expected in the third quarter of 2004 and will be followed by launches in the other European markets throughout 2004 and the first half of 2005.

TachoSil™ is a surgical patch coated with coagulation factors, developed to assist surgeons in achieving fast and reliable bleeding control. It is indicated as supportive treatment in surgery for improvement of haemostasis where standard techniques are insufficient. Within minutes, it seals and protects the injured tissue. TachoSil™ is safely absorbed in the body within weeks.

"TachoSil™ not only provides us with a great opportunity to build ever-closer relations with healthcare professionals throughout Europe. It also holds a great business potential for Nycomed which we expect to demonstrate over the coming years," said Håkan Björklund, CEO at Nycomed.

TachoSil™ is the first of a number of hospital specialist treatments for which Nycomed is seeking EU marketing authorisation. "With the Commission's final approval of TachoSil™, we can now add a very promising product to our steady growing hospital and specialist product portfolio," said Håkan Björklund.

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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