

Lupin receives DCGI Approval to conduct Combined Phase IIB/III Clinical Trials for it's herbal Psoriasis NCE

BSE : 500257	NSE: Lupin	REUTERS: LUPN.BO	BLOOMBERG: LPC IN
---------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------

Mumbai, 18 July 2007: Lupin Ltd.(Lupin), announced today that it has received approval from the Drugs Controller General (India) (DCGI) to conduct a combined Phase-IIB/III Clinical Trial for its herbal Anti-Psoriasis compound LLL-3348 (Desoris).

The botanical drug product LLL-3348 is a once-daily oral formulation for treatment of chronic stable plaque type psoriasis. The approval comes after the company successfully completed an initial Phase II clinical trial in which it evaluated the oral drug product in different lower doses. The study was a multicentric, placebo-controlled, randomized, double blind, parallel group study.

The results of the study showed that LLL 3348 administered for 16 weeks is effective in the treatment of psoriasis. LLL 3348 produced significant reduction in the Psoriatic Area and Severity Index (PASI score) in patients with moderate to severe stable plaque type psoriasis. 62% of patients responded to the highest dose in comparison with 21% response in the placebo arm. The safety evaluation demonstrated that the drug was very safe and well tolerated.

Commenting on the approval, Lupin Chairman, Dr. D B Gupta stated, “We are delighted with the approval and look forward to taking LLL-3348 through Phase III clinical trials now and bring it to the market. This is a very important product for a highly unmet need and we look forward to addressing it effectively and safely”. The company intends to immediately begin a combined phase IIB / III clinical trial with higher doses in close to 10 centers across the nation. The total market for Psoriasis is estimated to be more than US\$ 2 Billion. The Company also has three other New Chemical Entities in various stages of Clinical trials.

About Lupin

Headquartered in Mumbai, Lupin Ltd. is a leading pharmaceutical company with strong research focus. It has a programme for developing New Chemical Entities. The Company has state-of-the-art R&D center in Pune. The Company is a leading global player in Anti-TB, Cephalosporins (anti-infectives) and Cardiovascular drugs (prils and statins) and has a notable presence in the areas of diabetology, NSAIDS and Asthma.

For the financial year ended March 2007, Lupin's Revenues and Profit after Tax were Rs.20,289 million (US\$ 475 million) and Rs. 3,021 million (US\$ 70 million) respectively.

For further information contact:

Raju Kane

The Source

Tel. +91 22 24901327/28

Telefax: +91 22 24901325

Mobile: +91 98200 45656

E-mail: rajukane@sourcepr.com