Statement on media reports linking SARS outbreak with demand for Lupin's ribavirin_____

Mumbai, April 17, 2003: Some recent media reports have suggested that the demand for ribavirin from the SARS outbreak represents a business opportunity for Lupin Limited.

We would like to inform our stakeholders that Lupin has not had any inquiry or supply order for ribavirin from SARS-affected geographies.

Our stakeholders may also like to note the following:

- The Hospital Authority, Hongkong, recommends ribavirin along with steroids in mega doses and appropriate anti-bacterials, as the empirical therapy for SARS, according to information available to us.
- For the empirical usage of ribavirin (despite absence of hard-data), a company wishing to supply ribavirin to SARS affected geographies must ideally first manufacture the raw material to the required pharmacopoeial specifications and then register the dosage forms with the regulatory authorities, specific to each geography

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