Yondelis® Has Been Helping Patients With STS For The Last 5 Years

- **PharmaMar representatives will mark the 5th anniversary of Yondelis® from the authorization of the European Commission at the 17th CTOS (Connective Tissue Oncology Society) annual meeting, which will be held in Prague between 14th and 17th November.**

- **During these five years, more than 12,000 patients around the world were treated with this product.**

- **At the congress there will be a total of 18 publications reporting results of the treatment of advanced STS with Yondelis®.**

Prague, Czech Republic, 14th November 2012. Yondelis®, the first marine origin antitumor drug, celebrates its 5th anniversary since its approval by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for the treatment of patients with advanced Soft Tissue Sarcoma (STS). During these five years, it has helped more than 12,000 patients around the world.

According to the National Oncology Registry, the incidence of STS in the Czech Republic is 2.5 per 100,000 inhabitants (that means that 265 new cases were diagnosed, and 100 people died of STS, in 2009) and year by year the number is slowly increasing year by year. This year PharmaMar, a member of the Zeltia Group and the company which developed Yondelis®, has registered 16 patients who have been treated with Yondelis® in nine hospitals across the Czech Republic.

In Europe the total number of STS patients treated with Yondelis® since launch in 2007 is around 11,000 patients.

"The treatment with Yondelis® in the Czech Republic takes place in specialized oncology centres, which have vast experience with STS. Yondelis® is mostly given to patients suffering from two specific types of sarcoma, where its effectiveness has
been proved. Its side effects are predictable and can therefore be properly managed. Yondelis is also included in guidelines for the treatment of STS issued by the Czech Society for Oncology,” says Kateřina Kubáčková, M.D., of the Department of Oncology and Radiotherapy at the University Hospital Motol, Prague.

Yondelis® is approved by the EMA for the treatment of two types of cancer – soft tissue sarcoma and relapsed ovarian cancer – but PharmaMar is continuing research to establish whether it may also be effective in treating other tumor types.

Phase III trials with Yondelis® are also now being carried out to evaluate the benefit of the product in the first line of treatment for advanced soft tissue sarcoma.

PharmaMar representatives will mark the anniversary of Yondelis® at the 17th CTOS (Connective Tissue Oncology Society) annual meeting, which will be held in Prague from the 14th to 17th of November. There will be a Satellite Symposium where European experts will share the latest data and experience managing this difficult to treat disease with Yondelis®.

Also, at the congress there will be a total of 18 publications reporting Yondelis® (trabectedin) data in STS. Of these publications the highlights are:
1. “Long term and impact of maintenance therapy in patients with advanced sarcoma treated with trabectedin: an analysis of 181 patients from the French compassionate use program”. The conclusions are as follows:
   - Prolonged trabectedin treatment beyond 6 initial cycles seems to be associated with improved Overall Survival (OS) and warrants further exploration in a randomized trial.
   - A total of 56 patients achieved partial response (PR) or stable disease (SD) after 6 cycles of initial treatment with trabectedin. Forty of them received prolonged treatment for a median of 9 cycles (range 7-19) and obtained a statistically superior PFS (median 10.5 vs. 5.3 months, p=0.001) and OS (median 33.4 vs. 13.9 months, p=0.009) as compared to patients who stopped trabectedin after 6 cycles.
   - In this expanded access program with heavily pretreated patients with soft tissue sarcoma (STS) trabectedin yielded progression free survival (PFS) and OS comparable or better than those observed in phase II trials.
   - Patients with liposarcomas had better response rates, PFS and OS, and this was an independent prognostic factor for both OS and PFS.
- Long-term effect on patients’ outcome seems to be associated not only with a unique mechanism of action of trabectedin but also to its selective anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory properties due to the inhibition of production of factors that promote tumor growth, angiogenesis and metastasis.

2. “Trabectedin activity in soft tissue sarcomas of vascular and perivascular cells (STS-V/VP): a retrospective pooled analysis”. STS-V/VP is an extremely rare group of disease that represents less than 2% of all STS but with an aggressive behavior in advanced disease. This retrospective study shows that trabectedin appears to be an active drug for patients with advanced STS-V/VP with tolerability similar to other forms of STS and solid tumors. The results of this retrospective analysis are in the range of other marketed drugs used in first line chemotherapy. However, further, prospective studies are warranted.

3. “Trabectedin in patients with non L-type sarcomas: pre- and post-marketing experience”. The efficacy outcomes reported in retrospective series were in line with those observed in phase II studies. Trabectedin is feasible in L-type sarcoma and has activity in patients with a variety of histologically different, pretreated non L-type sarcoma subtypes.


About PharmaMar

PharmaMar is a biopharmaceutical subsidiary of GrupoZeltia; it is a world leader in discovering, developing and marketing marine-based drugs to treat cancer. Yondelis® is Spain’s first antitumour drug. It is currently approved for soft tissue sarcoma (STS) in 39 countries outside the EEA, and for platinum-sensitive relapsed ovarian cancer (ROC) in 25 of those countries plus Brazil. Yondelis® is approved for STS and platinum-sensitive ROC in all 30 countries of the EEA. Yondelis® is also undergoing Phase II trials on breast and paediatric cancers. PharmaMar has four other compounds in clinical development: Aplidin®, Zalypsis®, PM01183 and PM060184. PharmaMar also has a rich pipeline of pre-clinical candidates and a major R&D programme.

About Zeltia

ZeltiaS.A. is a world-leading biopharmaceutical company specialised in the development of marine-based drugs for use in oncology and central nervous system illnesses. GrupoZeltia consists mainly of the following companies: PharmaMar, the world-leading biotechnology company in advancing cancer care through the discovery and development of innovative marine-derived medicines; Noscira, a biotech firm focused on discovering and developing new drugs against Alzheimer’s disease and other neurodegenerative diseases of the central nervous system; Genomica, Spain’s leading molecular diagnostics company; Sylentis, dedicated to researching therapeutic applications of gene silencing (RNAi); and a chemical division comprising Zelnova and Xylazel, two highly profitable companies that are leaders in their respective market segments.

Important note

PharmaMar, which is headquartered in Madrid (Spain), is a subsidiary of Zeltia, S.A. (Spanish stock exchange: ZEL), which has been listed on the Spanish Stock Exchange since 1963 and on Spain’s Electronic Market since 1998. This document is a press release, not a prospectus. This document does not constitute or form part of an offering or invitation to sell or a solicitation to purchase, offer or subscribe shares of the company. Moreover, no reliance should be placed upon this document for any investment decision or contract and it does not constitute a recommendation of any type with regard to the shares of the company.
For more information contact

Communication Department of Zeltia Group
+34 91 444 4500

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