



Advicenne Pharma sells its drug candidate ADV6209 for moderate sedation to the Swiss Primex Pharmaceuticals

Nîmes, 23 February 2016 – Advicenne, a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of paediatric friendly therapeutics for the treatment of orphan diseases announces today the sale of ADV6209 for moderate sedation to the Swiss Primex Pharmaceuticals, a world leader in anesthetics. The deal is worth several tens of millions of euros with a significant upfront and subsequent milestones and royalties.

ADV6209 is a new oral liquid solution developed by Advicenne in collaboration with Amiens's public hospital (Centre hospital-universitaire) for moderate sedation. Current off-label midazolam formulations for moderate sedation are delivered either rectally, intravenously or buccally and *via* an intranodal route of.

ADV6209 is an excellent alternative and is specially designed to address adults and children that have to undertake medical, therapeutic and diagnostic procedures. It is the only oral midazolam form in liquid form, the only form which is suitable and indicated for children below 6 years and people with swallowing difficulties.

Since its inception, Advicenne aimed to address unmet medical needs in the field of pediatric nephrology and neurology. Developing age-adapted therapeutic options, Advicenne is now a fully integrated pharmaceutical company with strong research and development teams as well as regulatory and commercial capabilities.

« As one of the very first in-house developed products, the deal validates our strategy and capabilities in developing original pediatric-adapted drugs » says Dr Luc-André Granier, CEO of Advicenne. « Primex Pharmaceuticals is probably the best partner for the commercial success of the product as its network is global and its commitment for anesthesiology is very strong ».

« Besides, we can now focus on our main product development in the field of neuropediatrics and nephropediatrics as well as the launches of our two first products dedicated to pediatric epilepsy. » adds Dr Granier.

As the main shareholder of the company and board member representing Bpifrance, Philippe Boucheron, Directeur Adjoint of the Life Science team at Bpifrance Investment stated : « With this deal, Advicenne demonstrates its unique know-how and expertise in the development of pediatric medications. The company will pursue further the development and the expansion of its high quality portfolio, with exciting product in the field of nephrology, one of its main assets according to our vision ».

“This is a breakthrough in the area of pediatric anesthesia, and along with further applications, the annual market potential is between 100 M€ and 350 M€”, says Kari Sarvanto, President of Primex Pharmaceuticals. “We’re extremely enthusiastic about the cooperation with Advicenne and looking forward to bringing such a patient-friendly novel product to the market.”

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About Advicenne

Advicenne is a late-stage biopharmaceutical company focusing on the development of paediatric friendly therapeutics for the treatment of orphan renal and neurological diseases. The Company has a strong portfolio of products in late-stage development targeting critical unmet needs in nephrology and neurology. Advicenne also develops a clinical and pre-clinical pipeline of potential treatments for additional orphan diseases in collaboration with Key Opinion Leaders.

The Company was established in 2007 in Nimes (France). Since its inception, the Company has raised close to €30 million in equity from leading venture capital investors Innobio (Bpifrance), IXO Private Equity, IRDI SORIDEC Gestion, Cemag Invest and MI Care.

About Primex Pharmaceuticals

Primex Pharmaceuticals is a fast-growing company spearheading a new pharmaceutical business model. It supplies high-quality anesthetics and life-saving medicines to healthcare institutions and professionals around the world. Primex's distribution reaches a population of nearly one billion people. The company is headquartered in Finland and Switzerland. Primex Pharmaceuticals has proven underlying business operations and historical strong revenue growth (29 % CAGR in 2012-2015E) and high margins (adjusted EBITDA margin 12% on average 2012-2015E).