



Media Release

Medienmitteilung

Communiqué aux Médias

Sandoz Inc.  
506 Carnegie Center Drive,  
Suite 400  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
Phone +1 609 627 8500  
Fax +1 609 627 8682  
[www.us.sandoz.com](http://www.us.sandoz.com)

## **Sandoz launches generic version of Vantin®**

**Princeton, New Jersey; April 8, 2009** – Sandoz today announced the introduction of Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets, a generic equivalent of Vantin®, in the United States. Cefpodoxime Proxetil is a cephalosporin antibiotic indicated to treat mild to moderate infections caused by Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria, such as ear infections, sore throats and sinusitis.

Sandoz is marketing Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets in 100 and 200 mg strengths, the same as Vantin. Based on IMS Health, US sales for branded and generic Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets were approximately USD 15.8 million for the twelve months February 2009.

### **About Sandoz**

Sandoz, a Division of the Novartis group, is a global leader in the field of generic pharmaceuticals, offering a wide array of high-quality, affordable products that are no longer protected by patents. Sandoz has a portfolio of approximately 1000 compounds and sells its products in more than 130 countries. Key product groups include antibiotics, treatments for central nervous system disorders, gastrointestinal medicines, cardiovascular treatments and hormone therapies. Sandoz develops, produces and markets these medicines along with pharmaceutical and biotechnological active substances and anti-infectives. In addition to strong organic growth in recent years, Sandoz has made a series of acquisitions including Lek (Slovenia), Sabex (Canada), Hexal (Germany) and Eon Labs (US). In 2008, Sandoz employed around 23,000 people worldwide and posted sales of USD 7.6 billion.

### **Disclaimer**

The foregoing release contains forward-looking statements that can be identified by terminology such as "may", "could", "likely", "suggests", "will", "risk", "confidence", or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential future revenues from Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets. Such forward-looking statements reflect the current views of the Company regarding future events, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results with Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets will receive any additional marketing approvals in any other countries or achieve any particular levels of revenue in the future. In particular, management's expectations regarding Cefpodoxime Proxetil tablets could be affected by, among other things, competition and other risks and factors referred to in Novartis AG's current Form 20-F on file with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary



materially from those anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Sandoz is providing the information in this press release as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any such forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

\* \* \*

**For Further Information**

Sandoz US Communications

Carol Cox

+1 609 627 5256

Sandoz Global Communications

Chris Lewis

+49 172 141 8749

Vantin® is a registered trademark of Pfizer