



Media Release

Medienmitteilung

Communiqué aux Médias

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Sandoz launches generic version of Inspra®

Princeton, New Jersey; November 18, 2008 -- Sandoz today announced the introduction of eplerenone tablets, a generic equivalent of Inspra®, in the United States. Sandoz is marketing eplerenone tablets in 25 and 50 mg strengths.

Eplerenone tablets are used to treat high blood pressure and heart failure.

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 more than 950 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 2007, Sandoz employed around 23,000 people worldwide and posted sales of USD 7.2 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 eplerenone 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 eplerenone tablets to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that eplerenone 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 eplerenone 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.



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