



Media Release

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

**Princeton, New Jersey; January 5, 2009** -- Sandoz today announced the introduction of rocuronium bromide injectable, a generic equivalent of Zemuron®, in the United States. Sandoz is marketing rocuronium bromide injectable in 50 mg/5ml and 100 mg/10ml strengths.

Rocuronium injectable is used in conjunction with general anesthesia to facilitate endotracheal intubation and to relax skeletal muscles during surgery or mechanical ventilation.

### **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 rocuronium bromide injectable. 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 rocuronium bromide injectable to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that rocuronium bromide injectable 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 rocuronium bromide injectable 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



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Zemuron® is a registered trademark of Organon USA Inc.