



Media Release

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Sandoz launches generic version of Imitrex® injection

Princeton, New Jersey; November 12, 2008 -- Sandoz today announced the introduction of sumatriptan injection, a generic equivalent of Imitrex®, in the United States. Sumatriptan is a triptan used to treat migraine headaches and helps to relieve pain and other symptoms including sensitivity to light/sound, nausea and vomiting. Nearly 30 million Americans suffer from migraines.

“Sandoz is pleased to be able to offer patients a high-quality, low-cost treatment alternative for migraine pain,” said Frank Della Fera, chief executive officer of Sandoz Inc., the US subsidiary of Sandoz. “Sumatriptan injections are a welcome addition to the broad Sandoz product range, reinforcing our commitment to expanding patient access to new treatment options.”

Sandoz is marketing sumatriptan injection Stat Dose Refill and standard vial in 6mg strength as an Authorized Generic from GlaxoSmithKline. According to IMS Health, annual US sales of Imitrex® injections are approximately USD 220 million.

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 may contain forward-looking statements regarding potential additional marketing approvals or future sales of sumatriptan. Any such forward looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results with sumatriptan to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that sumatriptan will receive any additional marketing approvals in

any other countries, or that it will reach any particular sales levels. Management's expectations regarding sumatriptan could be affected by various risks and factors referred to in the company'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 this information as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Imitrex® is a registered trademark of GlaxoSmithKline.