



PRESS RELEASE

PAION COMPLETES PHASE IIB STUDY WITH SHORT-ACTING ANESTHETIC/SEDATIVE REMIMAZOLAM (CNS 7056)

- Phase Iib study completed within 4 months
- Headline data expected by end of November
- No safety concerns

Aachen (Germany), 27 September 2010 – The biopharmaceutical company PAION AG (ISIN DE000A0B65S3; Frankfurt Stock Exchange, Prime Standard: PA8) today announces the completion of the Phase Iib clinical trial assessing the new short-acting intravenous anesthetic/sedative Remimazolam (CNS 7056) in patients undergoing colonoscopy. No drug-related Serious Adverse Event has been reported.

The Phase Iib trial was a double-blind, randomized, parallel group study examining three doses of Remimazolam compared with Midazolam in 160 patients undergoing a colonoscopy. The patients received either one of three different doses of Remimazolam or Midazolam followed by “top-ups” (i.e. multiple doses) as required to maintain an adequate sedation level to undergo a standard colonoscopy procedure.

The study – conducted in multiple sites in the U.S. – was designed to evaluate the safety of Remimazolam and the success of the sedation, the time to peak sedation as well as the time to full recovery and discharge, in comparison to the gold-standard agent, Midazolam. In addition, based on the results of the successfully concluded Phase Ib and Iia studies, this study was aimed to further refine the optimal dose regimen before moving into Phase III.

"It is anticipated that the excellent safety profile seen in previous studies will be confirmed," commented Dr. Wolfgang Söhngen, PAION's CEO. "We will now carefully perform the steps required to provide the full data set which will be important for our decisive partnering discussions."

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About Remimazolam (CNS 7056)

Remimazolam is an innovative short-acting general anesthetic/sedative. Sedatives are used, for example, in endoscopic procedures such as colonoscopies. After intravenous administration Remimazolam rapidly induces the desired sedation. Importantly, this sedative effect quickly disappears. This rapid offset of the effect of the substance is due to its metabolism by tissue esterase enzymes that are widely distributed throughout the body. Remimazolam is being developed as a sedative agent for day case procedures (procedural sedation) as well as for the induction and maintenance of anesthesia. It could also be used as a sedative for patients in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

PAION is exploring partnering opportunities for the territories outside Japan, where the compound is partnered with Ono Pharmaceuticals in order to be

able to initiate the development of Remimazolam in other indications as early as possible.

As recently published, the INN (International Nonproprietary Name) for CNS 7056 recommended by the World Health Organization is Remimazolam.

About PAION

PAION is a biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Aachen, Germany and has a second site in Cambridge, UK. The company is specialized in developing and commercializing innovative drugs for the hospital-based treatment in indications for which there is a substantial unmet medical need. PAION has a "Search & Develop" business model, which is based on its core expertise in drug development. Where appropriate, particularly during the late stages of the clinical development, PAION seeks to collaborate with experienced partners.

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