



Novagali Pharma names scientific advisory board

Development of innovative eye therapies will benefit from highly-focused international academic expertise

Evry, France, April 27 2005 – Novagali Pharma, a biopharmaceutical company developing innovative drug delivery systems principally in ophthalmology, announces today the members of its Scientific Advisory Board. The company based its choice on international academic excellence and has included American, Japanese, Israeli and French experts working at the cutting edge of ophthalmology and ocular delivery. The company expects the SAB members will give an added boost to Novagali's research and development activities.

The seven members of the SAB are:

Professor Simon Benita (Israel): president of the SAB and cofounder of Novagali Pharma, professor in the school of pharmacy, Jerusalem, specialist in drug delivery, nanotechnologies and emulsion technology.

Professor Penny Asbell (USA): professor of ophthalmology at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, director of the cornea service and refractive surgery center and specialist in dry eye and refractive surgery.

Professor Christophe Baudouin (France): professor of ophthalmology at the Quinze-Vingt Hospital, Paris, associate director of the Inserm U598 laboratory in the University of Paris V whose focus is therapeutic innovations in the physiopathology of ocular disease, president of the Ophthalmological Society of Paris, specialist in dry eye, ocular allergies and glaucoma.

Doctor Francine Behar-Cohen (France): retinal surgeon in the department of ophthalmology of Hôtel Dieu, Paris, director of the Inserm U598 laboratory in the University of Paris V where the focus is on therapeutic innovations in the physiopathology of ocular disease, specialized in retinal disease and retinal surgery.

Professor Patrick Couvreur (France): professor of pharmacy at the university of Paris XI – Faculty de pharmacy in Châtenay-Malabry, director of the CNRS unit UMR 8612 (also Paris XI), a multidisciplinary research group, member of the *Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences* International Federation of Pharmacy, specializes in drug delivery and nanotechnologies.

Professor José-Alain Sahel (France): head of the ophthalmological service at the Quinze-Vingt Hospital, Paris, director of the Inserm U592 laboratory researching Cellular and molecular physiopathology of the retina (at the Saint-Antoine Hospital), head of the "Institut de la Vision" project slated for 2007, specialist in retinal diseases.

Professor Kazuo Tsubota (Japan): Professor and Chairperson, Department of Ophthalmology, Keio University School of Medicine, Tokyo and Visiting Professor,

Department of Ophthalmology, Tokyo Dental College, Chiba, specializes in the cornea, dry eye and refractive surgery.

Novagali Pharma is specialized in cationic emulsions and is developing new therapeutic products for ophthalmic pathologies such as dry eye syndrome and age-related macular degeneration (ARMD). Novagali's unique technology enables the delivery of drugs into all segments of the eye - safely and with optimal comfort for the patient. SAB members bring together complementary know-how in ocular therapy and delivery, a winning combination for the company's future success.

"We are especially pleased to welcome such prestigious scientists and clinicians to our advisory board," said Jérôme Martinez, President and CEO of Novagali Pharma. "They constitute a vital resource to help us define the best way forward in R&D. Their scientific involvement confirms the development potential of Novagali in ophthalmology and sends a clear signal of our intent to succeed on a global scale."

"As founder of Novagali, I am delighted to be part of such a high-level Scientific Advisory Board," said Professor Simon Benita, "As president of the SAB, I am totally committed to helping this promising company. It is clear that cationic emulsions open up tremendous opportunities for the treatment of front and back of the eye diseases – areas in which all the SAB members' expertise will clearly be useful."

About Novagali Pharma

<http://www.novagali.com>

Novagali Pharma, Evry, near Paris, develops innovative drug delivery technologies focused on ophthalmology and oncology. Created in 2000, Novagali already has a number of products in Phase I and II clinical trials. These include ophthalmic emulsions to treat dry eye syndrome and orally administered anti-cancer drugs. Since its creation, Novagali Pharma has raised close to EUR18 million from investors including 1.2.3. Multinova, Auriga Partners, CDC Entreprises Innovation, Fonds de co-investissement J.E., Rothschild Investment Partners, Siparex Ventures et Tech_Invest.

The technology is based on cationic emulsions. The originality of this approach lies in creating emulsion droplets with positive charges on their surface (whereas these droplets usually have negative charges). Thanks to this, the positive emulsion droplets are attracted to all biological membranes as the latter are negatively charged. Novagali's nano-emulsion droplets are about 150 nanometers in size and allow the formulation of a wide range of molecules while enhancing their absorption and effectiveness. This technology platform can be applied in many delivery applications, including ocular, oral, injectable and dermatological, and also across a variety of therapeutic areas.

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