



Sirtex Joins Bayer Healthcare in Major European Liver Cancer Trial

Sydney, 11th February 2010.

Sirtex Medical Limited has taken another step in maximising its potential with a major pan-European randomised controlled clinical trial in liver cancer to commence in 2010. Sirtex's SIR-Spheres[®] microspheres and leading pharmaceutical group Bayer Healthcare's Nexavar[®] will be combined for the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in the trial which will include approximately 375 patients.

The trial, which is known as the 'SORAMIC' study will examine the effectiveness of the Nexavar–SIR-Spheres microspheres combination and will compare this to Nexavar therapy alone for the treatment of patients with intermediate and advanced stage HCC, for whom surgery is not an option. Approximately 80% of patients who contract HCC are ineligible for surgery.

The SORAMIC study is being headed by leading radiologist Professor Dr. Jens Ricke and gastroenterologist Professor Dr. Peter Malfertheiner from the University of Magdeburg, Germany. Professor Dr. Ricke, Director of the Clinic for Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, said "We believe that the combined therapies of SIR-Spheres microspheres and Nexavar may provide the next level for the standard of care in patients with HCC for whom surgery is not an option.

"Up until now, we have been unable to treat patients with advanced HCC or whenever the disease spread beyond the liver, except using Nexavar".

Data presented recently at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium in Orlando, Florida support the therapeutic benefit of Sirtex's SIR-Spheres microspheres in the treatment of intermediate and advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC).¹

Sirtex's Chief Executive Officer, Gilman Wong, said the trial was another key milestone in the evolution of the Company's global clinical programme. "The SORAMIC study is the third major randomised controlled trial supported by Sirtex as part of our commitment to further global clinical research for the betterment of the patients we serve. We expect that the results of the SORAMIC study will establish a new standard of care for patients who currently have limited treatment options available. We are delighted to be collaborating with the University of Magdeburg (Otto Von Guericke Universität) and Bayer Schering Pharma in the support of research to further enhance patient healthcare."

More than 30 European treatment centres are participating in the trial, including sites in Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and Turkey. Patient survival will be evaluated during the trial, together with the patient quality-of-life and the safety of the combination of therapies. This randomised controlled trial is scheduled to take three years and support for the trial is being provided by Bayer Schering Pharma and Sirtex Medical.

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For more information, visit the Sirtex website at www.sirtex.com

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SIR-Spheres[®] is a registered trademark of Sirtex SIR-Spheres Pty Ltd.

Nexavar[®] is a registered trademark of Bayer Healthcare AG, Germany.

Reference:

1. Sangro et al. *ASCO Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium*; Orlando, Florida. 22-24 January 2010; Abs. 130.