

China Pharma Holdings, Inc. Announces Clinical Trials Already Underway for Candesartan

Company initiated clinical trials for leading hypertension drug in China

HAIKOU CITY, China, Feb. 11, 2009 - China Pharma Holdings, Inc. ("China Pharma") (OTC Bulletin Board: CPHI), which develops, manufactures, and markets specialty pharmaceutical products in China, announced today that the company has initiated clinical trials for the generic version of the leading hypertension drug Candesartan.

The clinical trials for this product are anticipated to require approximately 18 months to complete. The sartan group of drugs, used as front-line therapy in the treatment of hypertension, are usually well-tolerated, and have a high safety record. Candesartan was discovered and originally synthesized by the Japanese firm, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited and jointly developed by the same company with AstraZeneca. Worldwide sales for 2007 exceeded \$2.5 billion (1). In China, Candesartan is listed on the National Basic Medical Insurance Drug List, enabling patient reimbursement.

China Pharma's CEO and president, Ms Zhilin Li, commented, "In China today, nearly 60% of all urban adults aged 65 years and over suffer from hypertension (2). Moreover, due to the aging of the population and changes in lifestyle, the urban prevalence of hypertension has been predicted to grow to 100 million by 2011 (2). Even in 2004, sales in China of anti-hypertension drugs exceeded CNY 10 billion (\$1.2 billion, Dec. 2004), exhibiting a market growth of over 30% year on year, and accounting for 22% of all cardiovascular system drugs sold in China (3). Hypertension is a serious problem and is linked to an increased incidence of other diseases, particularly brain edema, coronary heart disease and diabetes. Candesartan is a well established hypertension drug and is known to be particularly suitable for heart failure and diabetic patients. Our R&D strategy is to enable us to provide more effective treatment for the high numbers of patients in China whose medication needs are seriously unmet so we are very happy that we will have this opportunity to provide better health for individuals suffering hypertension in China."

About the drug. Candesartan lowers hypertension by inhibiting blood vessel constriction through blocking angiotensin II receptors.



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About China Pharma Holdings, Inc.

China Pharma Holdings, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company with rapidly growing profit that develops, manufactures, and markets treatments for a wide range of high incidence and high mortality conditions in China, including cardiovascular, CNS, infectious, and digestive diseases. The Company's cost-effective, high margin business model is driven by market demand and supported by 8 scalable GMP-certified product lines covering the major dosage forms. In addition, the Company has a broad and expanding distribution network across more than 29 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. The Company is registered in Delaware, USA. Hainan Helpson Bio-pharmaceutical Co., Ltd (Helpson), located in Haikou City, Hainan Province, China, is a wholly owned subsidiary of China Pharma Holdings, Inc. For more information about China Pharma Holdings, Inc., please visit <http://www.chinapharmaholdings.com>.

- (1) Source: (for year ended March 31 2008) Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd., Annual Report 2008.
- (2) Source: Nature Reviews, Drug Discovery: 2008 May; 7 383-384. Susan Ward. Demographic Factors in the Chinese Health-care Market
- (3) Source: Southern Medical Economic Research Institute: 2006, Dec. Sartan Drugs: Leaders in the Antihypertension Drug Market.(in Chinese) From <http://www.menet.com.cn>

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