



Press Release
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FIRST FIXED ASSOCIATION OF KETOPROFEN & OMEPRAZOLE DEVELOPED IN EUROPE

Ethypharm and Meda Signed a Pan-European Agreement

Ethypharm has signed a licensing and distribution agreement with Meda AB concerning the first fixed association of an anti-inflammatory, Ketoprofen, combined with a proton pump inhibitor, Omeprazole, in a once-a-day formulation.

This association permits to avoid the notorious adverse digestive effects provoked by non steroid anti-inflammatories. It is for use in the symptomatic treatment of chronic inflammatory rheumatism, such as arthritis, for patients suffering from digestive lesions that need continuous anti-inflammatory treatment.

Although commonly used for patients at risk, Ketoprofen and Omeprazole have up till now been administered separately. By associating these two products in one single capsule, this Ethypharm association permits a reduction of the adverse effects provoked by Ketoprofen.

This new product is presented in the form of a capsule of Ketoprofen and Omeprazole available in 4 different dosage strengths.

According to the terms of the Agreement; Meda will ensure the marketing and distribution of the product in most European countries, notably Germany, the United Kingdom and Spain. In addition to a down payment on signature, Ethypharm will get milestones on obtaining marketing approval, and milestones on market sales of the product.

Ethypharm will be in charge of the manufacturing of the product. "We are very happy with the signature of this Agreement with Meda to market the first fixed association of an anti-inflammatory and a proton pump inhibitor. Meda has already successfully launched several pain relief products throughout the whole of Europe," declared Gérard Leduc, President of Ethypharm.

« This important Pan-European Agreement combined with the expertise of Meda in the painrelief and anti-inflammatory field in Europe has been the determining element in the choice of this Partenariat, » he added.

According to World Health Organization data, sales of non steroid anti-inflammatories attained more than 900 Million Euros in Europe in 2006, of which 200 M€ were in The United Kingdom, 150 M€ in Spain and 140 M€ in Germany. They were prescribed for the relief of pain and inflammation associated in the treatment of rheumatism.

Press Contact:

Caroline Guinet,
Corporate Communication
guinet.caroline@ethypharm.com
+ 33 1 41 12 32 82