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NEW TREATMENT FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS PATIENTS

Australian pharmaceutical company, Phebra, has announced the marketing approval of TADIM® (colistimethate sodium powder for nebuliser solution) for treating lung infections in cystic fibrosis patients in Australia.

Marketing approval of TADIM® follows the granting of orphan drug designation by the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration in October 2008 for the treatment of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections in patients with cystic fibrosis.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited genetic disorder that affects over 3,000 Australians. People with cystic fibrosis suffer numerous health issues including chronic lung infections which cause decreasing lung function over a patient's life time.

"Pseudomonal lung infections can be life threatening in patients with cystic fibrosis, so we are therefore excited to be bringing TADIM® to the market and hopefully improving outcomes for people with cystic fibrosis," the CEO of Phebra, Dr Mal Eutick, said today.

"We are also working on reimbursement for TADIM® from the Australian Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and hope we can gain funding for this much needed treatment."

Terry Stewart the CEO of the patient support organisation, Cystic Fibrosis Australia said "If these infections are not controlled, they can damage the lungs and cause further major health issues in patients. We are therefore very pleased to see this new treatment option coming to the Australian market."

TADIM® is licensed to Phebra by Profile Pharma, a member of the Philips group, which markets TADIM® with I-NEB® nebulisers in the UK and via distributors across Europe.

"When Profile started the collaboration with Phebra, Australian cystic fibrosis patients simply did not have access to this treatment; that's why it is encouraging to reach this significant milestone for the marketing approval of TADIM® for the Australian market," Profile Pharma Business Manager, Rob Kenyon, explained.

Phebra is an Australian-based, specialty pharmaceutical company which develops, manufactures and markets critical medicines in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Canada and parts of Europe.

Profile Pharma Limited is a subsidiary of Philips and developed TADIM® for use in cystic fibrosis. Profile Pharma Limited markets TADIM® (also known as PROMIXIN®) with I-NEB® nebulisers in the UK and via distributors across Europe.

At Phebra, we create critical medicines that save and improve lives.

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