

*For Immediate Release*

## **Relenza – Prophylaxis approval extended in Australia**

Melbourne Australia—1 May 2006.

Biota has been advised by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) that the Therapeutic Goods Administration of Australia has extended the approved indications for the use of Relenza to include prophylaxis against influenza in children as young as 5 years of age.

Biota CEO Peter Cook said "The extended prophylaxis claim follows the recent US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) prophylaxis approval for influenza and now means that Relenza can be used for preventative purposes for children as young as 5 years old. GSK are now removing some of the marketing barriers that have in the past, been limiting the true potential of Relenza."

### **About Biota**

Biota is a world-leading antiviral drug discovery company based in Melbourne, with key expertise in viral respiratory diseases, particularly influenza. Biota developed the first-in-class neuraminidase inhibitor drug, zanamivir, (Relenza) and through a partnership with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) brought it to market. Relenza is currently being stockpiled by various governments for defense against avian influenza.

Work has been underway at Biota for some time to develop a new generation of neuraminidase inhibitors designed to be more active and longer acting than the first generation products.

Biota also collaborated with Inverness Medical to develop the FLU OIA influenza diagnostics range for the rapid detection of influenza, which has been marketed since 1999.

<sup>TM</sup>Relenza is a registered trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies

®FLU OIA is a registered trademark of Thermo Electron Corporation

\*Further information available at [www.biota.com.au](http://www.biota.com.au).

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