

*For Immediate Release*

## **Relenza sales increase substantially**

Melbourne, Australia—27 July 2006

Biota today announced that it had received written notification from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) on the worldwide sales and indicative royalties of Relenza during the three months ended 30 June 2006, as follows:

	<b>A\$m</b>
Sales	42.0
Indicative royalties	3.4

Royalty income from Relenza sales to Biota for the year to 30 June 2006 will be approximately \$5.1m.

On 30 June 2006, Biota advised that \$2.2m of royalties had been received from GSK for the twelve month period to 30 April 2006. Therefore the additional \$2.9m of indicative royalties generated in the period 1 May to 30 June 2006 represents a substantial increase on previous months.

Biota CEO, Peter Cook commented, "*Sales in the current quarter represent a substantial increase over those of the previous Jan – March quarter, of \$15.7m. It is pleasing to see that some of the orders announced in 2005 are starting to translate into actual sales, although no U.S. sales of Relenza were reported. Based on earlier advice by GSK of their intention to increase capacity of Relenza to 15 million courses during 2007 and the new level of sales for May and June, Biota expects to earn at least \$18m of royalties in the next financial year*".

## **About Biota**

Biota is a world-leading antiviral drug development company based in Melbourne, with key expertise in respiratory diseases, particularly influenza. Biota developed the first-in-class neuraminidase inhibitor, zanamivir, and subsequently marketed by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) as Relenza. Relenza is currently being stockpiled by a number of national governments for defense against avian influenza. Biota receives royalties from sales of Relenza.

Recent Biota research breakthroughs have included a series of candidate drugs aimed at RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus, bronchiolitis), subsequently licensed to MedImmune Inc. Biota has Phase I clinical trials underway with HRV (human rhinovirus) and is also engaged in early stage research targeting hepatitis C virus infection. In addition, Biota has key partnerships with Sankyo; for the development of second generation influenza antivirals (called LANI or Long Acting Neuraminidase Inhibitors) and with Thermo Electron (Inverness Medical); Biota developed the FLU OIA<sup>®</sup> influenza diagnostics, currently marketed in the US.

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

<sup>®</sup>FLU OIA & FLU OIA A/B are registered trademarks of Thermo Electron Corporation.

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

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