

**Biota Holdings Limited**

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*For Immediate Release*

## **Quarterly Royalties from Relenza reach \$5.3m**

Melbourne, Australia — 27 October 2006

Biota Holdings (ASX:BTA) 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 September 2006, as follows:

	<b>A\$m</b>
Sales	72.3
Indicative royalties	5.3

This compares to the previous quarter sales and indicative royalties during the three months ended 30 June 2006 of:

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

Biota CEO, Peter Cook commented, *"The sales of Relenza reported by GSK in the current quarter represent a substantial 71% increase over those of the previous quarter, although there appears to be no supply yet against the significant US order backlog due for supply before the end of 2008. The US requires 20% of its antiviral pandemic stockpile of 81 million courses, be met by Relenza. More generally, it is pleasing to see GSK is on track with their stated target to be in a position to supply 15 million courses by the end of 2006"*.

### **About Biota**

Biota is a 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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