

Biota Holdings Limited

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Irish Government orders 706,000 courses of Relenza

Biota has received advice from the Department of Health and Children, that the Government of Ireland has ordered 706,000 courses of Relenza for delivery by September 2007. The Department's spokesperson also confirmed that the first 70,000 courses of Relenza have already been delivered.

Peter Cook, Biota CEO, stated "*This order continues to reinforce the increasing importance of Relenza in Government pandemic stockpiles. When fully delivered by GlaxoSmithKline, this Irish order should provide in excess of \$1.0m in net royalties to Biota*".

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, subsequently marketed by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) as Relenza. Relenza is currently being stockpiled by a number of national governments as a defense against a threatened influenza pandemic. Biota receives royalties from sales of Relenza.

Biota research breakthroughs have included a series of candidate drugs aimed at Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) or bronchiolitis, licensed to MedImmune Inc. and novel nucleoside analogues designed to treat hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections, licensed to Boehringer Ingelheim International GbmH. Biota has Phase I clinical trials underway with its lead compound for Human Rhinovirus (HRV) infections in patients with compromised respiration or immune systems. 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 Inverness Medical (Thermo Electron); Biota developed the FLU OIA[®] influenza diagnostics, marketed in the US.

[™]Relenza is a registered trademark of the GlaxoSmithKline group of companies.

[®]FLU OIA & FLU OIA A/B are registered trademarks of Thermo Electron Corporation.

*Further information available at www.biota.com.au.

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