

Letter to Patients

To: Sufferers and carriers of Huntington's disease and their families

From: Medesis Pharma Corporate Communications

Date: 11/12/2009

Subject: NP03 in development for the treatment of Huntington's disease

On 5th November 2009, Medesis Pharma received a positive opinion from the Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP) for an orphan drug designation for the following product:

Lithium citrate tetrahydrate (in reverse-micelle formulation) for the treatment of Huntington's disease

Medesis Pharma has developed a drug delivery technology, based upon a lipidic reverse micelle microemulsion, Aonys®. This technology allows delivery of metal ions providing therapeutic effects at very low doses. Consequently, there is a significant reduction in toxicity normally associated with the therapeutic use of metals, allowing long term treatment over many years.

NP03 is a new pharmaceutical product based upon the active component, lithium, formulated in the delivery technology Aonys®. Recent studies have shown that lithium, used since 30 years for the treatment of bipolar disorder, could have a role in neuroprotection. This research has opened new avenues of research into the use of lithium as a therapeutic agent in a number of neurodegenerative diseases including Huntington's disease.

However, numerous side effects are observed when lithium is used at the active dose commonly used in bipolar disorder, and these have been an obstacle for the prescription of lithium to treat neurodegenerative diseases. The benefit risk ratio is unacceptable, especially when considering that chronic long term treatment is needed to treat these diseases.

Aonys® technology improves the delivery of metal ions and allows metals to penetrate the blood-brain barrier in an improved way. The active dose of lithium administered using this technology is therefore very low.

A long study with a Huntington's disease mouse model has shown that treatment with NP03 provides maintenance of motor control and preservation of neuron numbers and survival.

Having demonstrated in a representative animal model an excellent therapeutic activity without associated toxicity, a clinical trial program will be initiated for NP03. Phase I clinical trials will start in 2010 followed by a phase II study in patients. This first study of efficacy in patients will take place in France and if successful will then be extended throughout Europe and North America in 2012.

Further information concerning this project will be regularly published on the website

www.medesispharma.com