

PRESS



For immediate release

EPIDAUROS Biotechnologie AG, Bernried, Germany, grants commercial license to important polymorphism of drug metabolism gene to Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.

3 November 2004

Bernried, Germany - 3 November 2004 - EPIDAUROS Biotechnologie AG, a pharmacogenetics company located in Bernried near Munich, is very pleased to announce it has granted a non-exclusive commercial license to its patent on a polymorphism of the promoter region of the CYP2D6 gene to Roche Molecular Systems, Inc. (RMS), of Pleasanton, California, USA. RMS uses the EPIDAUROS patent for discovery, production and commercialization of a multi-parameter diagnostic chip, the AmpliChip[®] CYP450 Test *, which is now available for diagnostic use in the European Union.

The CYP2D6 gene codes for an enzyme that metabolizes approximately 25% of widely prescribed drugs. CYP2D6*41 is associated with reduced drug metabolism - and therefore increased plasma concentrations – which can lead to possible overdose and adverse drug reactions.

Under the terms of the license agreement RMS will provide an upfront signing-fee and royalties on their commercial sales of the AmpliChip[®] CYP450 Test.

„We are delighted to report this agreement, since it stands for a newer source of income for EPIDAUROS, namely the commercialization of our own IP“, said Dr. Manfred Zoltobrocki, CEO of EPIDAUROS Biotechnologie AG. “We will continue to offer licenses and pursue negotiations with other possible out-licensing partners“, Dr. Zoltobrocki continued.

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About EPIDAUROS Biotechnologie AG

(www.epidauros.com)

EPIDAUROS Biotechnologie AG is a leading pharmacogenetics company that investigates the genetic factors influencing a person's response to a drug in order to make drug development and therapy safer and more efficient. Its aim is the "personalized drug" that is customized to the genetic profile of each patient. EPIDAUROS investigates and characterizes variations of genes (polymorphisms) that encode for drug transporter proteins and for drug metabolizing enzymes. In addition, EPIDAUROS investigates genes encoding drug targets.

EPIDAUROS offers pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies a comprehensive package of proprietary pharmacogenetic assays and services, which will significantly improve the results of clinical studies and drug treatment. EPIDAUROS develops profiling assays which help to pharmacogenetically characterize compounds in the pre-clinical phase of drug development and therefore to evaluate their success rate. Using EPIDAUROS' pharmacogenetic profiling assays, patients can be selected based on their genetic profiles during clinical phases. These tests minimize the possibility that a patient will receive an ineffective drug treatment or one that will cause adverse reactions.

* AmpliChip[®] is a trademark of a member of the Roche Group. The AmpliChip[®] CYP450 Test is not currently available in the United States, pending FDA review.