

# Sensorion Presents Results of 2 Preclinical Trials at the 2016 IEB congress

- SENS-111 more efficiently reduced symptoms of vestibular vertigo than standard treatments
- Algorithm developed by Sensorion facilitates the study of inner ear tissue

Montpellier, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Sensorion (FR0012596468 – ALSEN), a biotech company specializing in the treatment of inner ear diseases, announced that it had presented results from two studies at the 53<sup>rd</sup> IEB (Inner Ear Biology) Workshop, held in Montpellier from September 17 to 21, 2016.

#### SENS-111 reduces the symptoms of vestibular vertigo in preclinical models

Oral presentation: The clinical stage  $H_4R$  antagonist SENS-111 outperforms clinical comparators for the treatment of spontaneous nystagmus in a rat model of acute unilateral vestibular loss.

In this in-vivo preclinical trial, animals in which a nystagmus¹ associated with unilateral vestibular vertigo was induced, were treated with either SENS-111 or one of the other two most commonly used drugs (meclizine and methylprednisolone) in a clinical setting, either in comparison to or in combination with each of them. In monotherapy, the results showed a greater reduction in vertigo-associated nystagmus in the animals treated with SENS-111 alone, compared with meclizine or methylprednisolone. Combining meclizine or methylprednisolone with SENS-111 did not enhance the effect, but was actually less efficient than SENS-111 alone.

"These results provide us with further confidence in SENS-111's potential as an oral treatment for vertigo, and complements the analysis that is ongoing for this therapeutic. The objective of the phase II clinical trial, which we expect to initiate by the end of 2016, will be to confirm potential of SENS-111 in patients with acute severe vertigo", said Dr. Pierre Attali, Sensorion's Chief Medical Officer.

## An algorithm developed by Sensorion facilitates the study of inner ear tissue and enhances its platform's originality in finding new drug candidates

Poster: Automated cell counting in cochlear histological samples.

A team of researchers from Sensorion and INSERM (the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research) in Montpellier have been working on the development of an automatic 3D system for counting sensorineural cells in the inner ear (hair cells). The comparative ex-vivo tests were applied to the cochlea and confirmed this algorithm's pertinence for all sensorineural cells of the inner ear.

**Dr. Jonas Dyhrfjeld-Johnsen, Sensorion's Head of Pharmacology, concluded,** "We are committed to developing an innovative and efficient technological platform to identify our next generation drug candidates for treating inner ear disorders. This is the first time that a software has been applied accurately to the 3D

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> nystagmus ("dancing eyes") is an involuntary and irregular oscillatory movement of the eyeball caused by eye muscle coordination disorders that may be vestibular or neurological in origin.

visualization of inner ear tissue. This tool allows the analysis of sensorineural cells to be significantly accelerated, and will therefore facilitate histological studies for the preclinical development of drug candidates."

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#### **About SENS-111**

SENS-111 is the first representative of the histamine type 4 receptor antagonist class tested in inner-ear pathologies. This drug candidate displays a neuromodulation effect of the sensorineural inner ear cell function and is being developed for the symptomatic treatment of vertigo crises or tinnitus. SENS-111 is a small molecule that can be taken orally or via a standard injection, and has been successfully assessed in humans in phase 1b.

#### **About Sensorion**

Sensorion specializes in the treatment of pathologies of the inner ear such as acute vertigo, tinnitus and hearing loss. The company was founded by Inserm (the French Institute of Health and Medical Research) and is utilizing its pharmaceutical R&D experience and comprehensive technology platform to develop first-in-class easy-to-administer, notably orally active, drug candidate programs for treating hearing loss and the symptoms of vertigo and tinnitus, for preventing and treating complications associated with progressive lesions in the inner ear, and for preventing the toxicity of chemotherapy in the inner ear. Based in Montpellier, southern France, Sensorion received financial support from Bpifrance, through the InnoBio fund, and Inserm Transfert Initiative.

Sensorion is listed on Alternext Paris since April 2015. www.sensorion-pharma.com

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