



Paris, 2nd of March 2016, 5.45pm

AB Science will present new preclinical and clinical data at the International Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy (ATT 2016)

New data provide insight on the mechanism of action of masitinib in Alzheimer's disease

Interim analysis of masitinib phase 3 in Alzheimer's disease is anticipated in 2017

AB Science SA (NYSE Euronext - FR0010557264 - AB), a pharmaceutical company specializing in the research, development and commercialization of protein kinase inhibitors (PKIs), today announced that two abstracts reporting on the development of masitinib for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease will be presented at the 14th International Athens/Springfield Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy (March 9 - 12, 2016, Athens, Greece). A link to this meeting's agenda is provided below:

<http://www.ad-springfield.com/>

Professor Olivier Hermine, President of the Scientific Committee of AB Science, will deliver two invited presentations.

1) Masitinib for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: Clinical and preclinical data

An invited oral presentation will outline preclinical and clinical evidence that together provide strong biological and medical plausibility for masitinib in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

The new data to be presented include:

- *In vivo* proof of concept established for masitinib in collaboration with the ICM (Brain and Spine Institute) via mouse model of Alzheimer's disease (APPxPS1dE9 model) indicating improved spatial memory in a curative setting and reduced hippocampal amyloid loads in a preventive setting.
- New evidence that masitinib targets proliferating aberrant microglia by inhibiting macrophage colony stimulating factor (CSF1R), a key target for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), but also a valid target in Alzheimer's disease.
- Results from ancillary imaging study in mastocytosis, showing that masitinib is an effective modulator of blood-brain barrier permeability, which may be relevant for Alzheimer's disease.

2) Masitinib for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: a randomized phase 3 trial

A second presentation will focus on clinical trial progress.

A phase 3 double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial (AB09004) is on-going in patients with confirmed mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease. The treatment period is 24 weeks. In this study, masitinib is given as add-on therapy to cholinesterase inhibitor (donepezil, rivastigmine or galantamine and/or memantine). The main measures are the change in two commonly used clinical assessments: the effect on ADCS-ADL, which measures self-care and activities of daily living assessed, and the effect on ADAS-Cog, which the effect on cognition and memory.

The study has previously been assessed as non futile by the Independent Data Monitoring Committee.

The next step for phase 3 in the interim analysis, planned in the protocol and anticipated in 2017.

In a phase 2 study, masitinib showed a consistent improvement in clinically relevant endpoints. The phase 2 results have been published in [Alzheimers Res Ther.](#) 2011 Apr 19;3(2):16. doi: 10.1186/alzrt75.

➤ Abstracts and presentation schedule

- ***Masitinib for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: Clinical and preclinical data***
Date, time: Friday, March 11, (8:50 AM - 10:10 AM).
Professor Olivier Hermine will be a speaker during the 'Emerging Novel Therapeutic Targets' session.
- ***Masitinib for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: a randomized phase 3 trial***
Professor Olivier Hermine will deliver this presentation during the conference poster session.

➤ Targeted population

Estimations in the prevalence of Alzheimer's disease vary. Yet Alzheimer's disease remains a major health problem with between 5 and 10 million people affected in the USA and Europe. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type of dementia among western countries, corresponding to about 60% of cases. Alzheimer's disease is already the sixth leading cause of all deaths in USA and the fifth cause among Americans aged more than 65 years [1,2,3]. Worldwide it is thought that there are more than 15 million people affected by Alzheimer's disease [3].

[1] Rizzi L, et al. *Biomed Res Int.* 2014;2014:908915. doi: 10.1155/2014/908915.

[2] Launer LJ, et al. *Neurology.* 1999 Jan 1;52(1):78-84. doi:10.1155/2014/908915.

[3] Weili Xu et al. *Epidemiology of Alzheimer's Disease, Understanding Alzheimer's Disease.* 2013. doi: 10.5772/54398.

About the 2016 International Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy

The 14th International Athens/Springfield Symposium on Advances in Alzheimer Therapy is a meeting during which leading scientists discuss new targets and drugs for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and novel approaches to current therapy. Approximately 1000 participants, mostly neurologists, psychiatrists, geriatricians and pharmacologists, are expected to attend the meeting.

About masitinib

Masitinib is a new orally administered tyrosine kinase inhibitor that targets mast cells and macrophages, important cells for immunity, through inhibiting a limited number of kinases. Based on its unique mechanism of action, masitinib can be developed in a large number of conditions in oncology, in inflammatory diseases, and in certain diseases of the central nervous system. In oncology due to its immunotherapy effect, masitinib can have an effect on survival, alone or in combination with chemotherapy. Through its activity on mast cells and microglia and consequently the inhibition of the activation of the inflammatory process, masitinib can have an effect on the symptoms associated with some inflammatory and central nervous system diseases and the degeneration of these diseases.

About AB Science

Founded in 2001, AB Science is a pharmaceutical company specializing in the research, development and commercialization of protein kinase inhibitors (PKIs), a class of targeted proteins whose action are key in signaling pathways within cells. Our programs target only diseases with high unmet medical needs, often lethal with short term survival or rare or refractory to previous line of treatment in cancers, inflammatory diseases, and central nervous system diseases, both in humans and animal health.

AB Science has developed a proprietary portfolio of molecules and the Company's lead compound, masitinib, has already been registered for veterinary medicine in Europe and in the USA. The company is currently pursuing thirteen phase 3 studies in human medicine in first-line and second-line GIST, metastatic melanoma expressing JM mutation of c-Kit, multiple myeloma, metastatic colorectal cancer, metastatic prostate cancer, pancreatic cancer, T-cell lymphoma,

mastocytosis, severe asthma uncontrolled by oral corticosteroid, Alzheimer's disease, progressive forms of multiple sclerosis, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The company is headquartered in Paris, France, and listed on Euronext Paris (ticker: AB).

Further information is available on AB Science website: <http://www.ab-science.com>

This document contains prospective information. No guarantee can be given as for the realization of these forecasts, which are subject to those risks described in documents deposited by the Company to the Authority of the financial markets, including trends of the economic conjuncture, the financial markets and the markets on which AB Science is present.

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