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Publication of human phase 2 results of Masitinib in the treatment of mastocytosis in the *American Journal of Hematology*

- **The phase 2 study revealed a improvement in the treatment of indolent forms of mastocytosis**
- **The development of mastinib leads the way towards the treatment of this orphan disease**
- **An on-going phase 3 study aims at registering masitinib for this indication**

AB Science SA (NYSE Euronext - FR0010557264 - AB), a pharmaceutical company specialising in the research, development and commercialisation of protein kinase inhibitors (PKIs), announces that the results of a first human phase 2 study of masitinib carried-out in the treatment of mastocytosis have been **accepted for publication in the American Journal of Hematology** (impact factor 2.61) in an article to be published under « Efficacy and safety of oral masitinib for the treatment of indolent systemic and cutaneous mastocytosis with handicap: a multicentre, open-label, dose ranging, phase 2a study ». The objective of the study was to evaluate the activity of masitinib in patients suffering from indolent forms of mastocytosis.

Alain Moussy, Chairman and CEO of AB Science declared: « **This is a significant achievement for patients and for AB Science in the development of masitinib in this orphan disease. There is no registered treatment at this time in this disease, which can be highly invalidating for patients. For the first time, through this publication, we can show that the concept of targeting mast cells is valid. This is opening the way to new treatments in this disease. AB Science is currently conducting an international phase 3 aimed at registering masitinib in indolent forms of mastocytosis** ».

An abstract of this publication is already available on the American Journal of Hematology: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ajh.21894/abstract>.

Publication in the paper version is scheduled for the coming months.

Characteristics of the phase 2 and results

This multicenter, non controlled, open label study was aimed at evaluating the activity of masitinib after 3 months of treatment in 25 patients diagnosed as having systemic or cutaneous mastocytosis and not bearing mutations of c-Kit.

Improvement was observed in all primary endpoints at week 12 including a reduction of flushes, Hamilton rating (measuring depression), and pruritus as compared with baseline by 64% ($p=0.0005$), 43% ($p=0.0049$), and 36% ($p=0.0077$), respectively. 64% of patients showed an improvement of at least 50% of at least one handicap, with sustainable improvement observed throughout an extension phase (>60 weeks). Common adverse events were oedema, nausea, muscle spasms, and rash, the majority of which were of mild or moderate severity and transient. In conclusion, masitinib is a promising treatment for indolent forms of mastocytosis with handicap and indicates acceptable tolerability for long-term treatment regimens

Read the full publications about masitinib in human and veterinary medicine on AB Science's website: www.ab-science.com.

About masitinib

Masitinib is a new orally administered tyrosine kinase inhibitor that targets mast cells, important cells for immunity, as well as a limited number of kinases that play key roles in various cancers. Owing to its novel 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. Through its activity of inhibiting certain kinases that are essential in some oncogenic processes, masitinib may have an effect on tumour regression, alone or in combination with chemotherapy. Through its activity on the mast cell and certain kinases essential to the activation of the inflammatory cells and fibrosing tissue remodelling, masitinib can have an effect on the symptoms associated with some inflammatory and central nervous system diseases.

About AB Science

Founded in 2001, AB Science is a pharmaceutical company specialising in the research, development and commercialisation of protein kinase inhibitors (PKIs), a new class of targeted molecules whose action is to modify signalling pathways within cells. Through these PKIs, the Company targets diseases with high unmet medical needs (cancer, inflammatory diseases and central nervous system diseases), in both human and veterinary medicines. Thanks to its extensive research and development capabilities, AB Science has its own portfolio of molecules. Masitinib, a lead compound, has already been registered in veterinary medicine in Europe and is pursuing eight phase 3 studies in human medicine, including three studies on-going in pancreatic cancer, GIST and mastocytosis.

Further information is available on AB Science's website: www.ab-science.com

This document contains prospective information. No guarantee can be given as for the realisation 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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