

reMYND's Parkinson's disease drug discovery program reaches breakthrough

LEUVEN, BELGIUM, March 26th, 2007 – reMYND NV ('reMYND') announced today that it has reached a breakthrough in its drug discovery program aimed at identifying disease-modifying drugs for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. A large family of analogous compounds (coded ReS9-S) were found to possess cytoprotective properties in cellular model systems. Efficacy studies with one ReS9-S lead in a well known animal model of Parkinson's disease corroborated these highly promising results.

ReS9-S is the first in a number of chemical series developed by reMYND to attenuate the cytotoxic effects of α -synuclein aggregation in dopaminergic neurons. Degeneration and death of dopaminergic neurons of the *substantia nigra* is the primary cause of Parkinson's disease.

reMYND's ReS9-S represents a family of Lipinski-compliant New Chemical Entities (NCE's) which exerts cytoprotective effects in neuronal cell cultures at the low nanomolar range. reMYND demonstrated that the ReS9-S lead molecule is sufficiently brain permeable for therapeutic intervention. First *in vivo* data point to a complete arrest of *substantia nigra* degeneration in a mouse model of Parkinson's disease.

According to Gerard Griffioen, reMYND's CSO, "this breakthrough validates reMYND's drug discovery technology platform and opens up new and exciting avenues for development of disease-modifying therapies"

reMYND expects ReS9-S to enter the clinic in 2008 and has already been approached by several big pharma companies.

reMYND's CEO, Stefaan Wera comments that "reMYND's unique combination of innovative biology-based high throughput screens and its first in class unit for animal studies, have accelerated the discovery and development of ReS9-S. We will expedite the completion of the pre-clinical studies and start the preparations for a Phase-1 study"

Parkinson's disease is a, mostly age-related, neurodegenerative disorder characterised by tremor and motoric impairments. Current treatments are merely symptomatic aimed at replenishing dopamine levels in the affected brain regions. A disease-modifying treatment is not available. An estimated 3,5 million people suffer from the disease and a doubling of the patient population is expected to occur within the next 10 years.

reMYND NV, based in Leuven, Belgium, is a biotech company with drug discovery programs in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. reMYND is a

privately owned company, founded in 2002 as a spin-off of the University of Leuven. reMYND's unique proprietary models of neurodegeneration have yielded a rich and promising pipeline of lead compounds with potential against neurodegenerative disorders. In addition, reMYND's technology portfolio also includes well-established transgenic Alzheimer mouse models for contract research services to biotech and pharma.

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