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NeuroDerm's Transdermal L-DOPA Parkinson's Patch Completes First Clinical Trial

OFAKIM, Israel--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan 31, 2007 - NeuroDerm, Ltd., announced today that it has completed a pilot clinical trial of ND0601, the first transdermal skin patch for the continuous delivery of levodopa. This drug, which is primarily used in oral form, is the major treatment for Parkinson's disease. Levodopa is the natural precursor of dopamine, a neurotransmitter deficient in the Parkinson's disease brain.

The main objective of this GCP compliant pilot study was to assess the pharmacokinetic profile of levodopa in the blood of healthy volunteers following application of ND0601.

"I am excited to have started the clinical development of ND0601, a transdermal levodopa patch offering great hope for improving the disabling problems common in advanced Parkinson's disease patients. ND0601 should provide continuous delivery of levodopa in a widely accessible form, a highly sought after treatment option in Parkinson's disease that has been unavailable to date" said Oded S. Lieberman, PhD, NeuroDerm's Chairman. "We believe that, by maintaining a steady levodopa blood concentration, ND0601 should minimize or even abolish dyskinesias and other disabling motor complications associated with long-term oral levodopa administration in advanced Parkinson's disease. This novel patch may also help to avoid the development of such complications if used as an initial treatment for Parkinson's disease" said Eli Heldman, PhD, and Moshe Kushnir, MD, the company's founders.

Parkinson's disease patients often suffer from dyskinesias (involuntary, disruptive, jerky movements associated with long-term levodopa therapy) and "off" time (periods of immobility) that result from the fluctuations in levodopa blood concentrations inherent with oral administration of levodopa. ND0601 is based on a proprietary formulation containing levodopa ester as a prodrug that enables the continuous delivery of levodopa through the skin, thereby overcoming the limitations of its short half life. The company previously demonstrated success at maintaining steady therapeutic levodopa blood levels in preclinical animal testing.

This trial was funded by The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research through its highly competitive 2006 Clinical Discovery Program.

About NeuroDerm Ltd.

NeuroDerm is a clinical stage pharmaceutical company, specializing in transdermal therapies for CNS diseases. NeuroDerm was founded on the basis of research started more than ten years ago to solve the problem of continuous delivery of levodopa in Parkinson's disease. The company's core technology and various formulations are protected by strong, wide scope applications and issued patents.

Contact

NeuroDerm, Ltd
Oded S. Lieberman, PhD MBA, Chairman of the Board
Email: oded@neuroderm.co.il
Tel: +972 (544) 770-703
Fax: +1 (925) 290-1209
NeuroDerm, Ltd.
Web Site: <http://www.neuroderm.co.il>