

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Sun Pharma announces research collaboration with Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel & Health Research Institute of Santiago, Spain for brain therapies**

- *Focus on developing breakthrough products for the treatment of neurological diseases like brain stroke*
- *Based on the development of a re-engineered enzyme for immediate administration within initial critical period following brain stroke*
- *Adopts novel approach towards development of a treatment for glioblastoma, a lethal form of brain cancer*

**MUMBAI, December 10, 2015** - Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd (Reuters: SUN.BO, Bloomberg: SUNP IN, NSE: SUNPHARMA, BSE: 524715, Sun Pharma) has entered into a tripartite research and option agreement with Israel-based Weizmann Institute of Science and Spain's Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela (IDIS) to develop breakthrough products for the treatment of neurological diseases like brain stroke; as well as glioblastoma, a lethal brain cancer. Scientists at Weizmann Institute have developed a recombinant enzyme currently undergoing animal studies for indications of brain stroke and glioblastoma. Further studies of this enzyme will be conducted at the Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Moreover, this enzyme may potentially be indicated for uses beyond these two brain diseases. As per the signed triparty agreement, Sun Pharma will have the first right to develop these additional indications.

Sun Pharma will have the exclusive option to conduct further development of the enzyme after completion of the preclinical studies. The company will have commercial rights to this product globally. It will also fund all future studies to be conducted on the enzyme. The tripartite research collaboration agreement has been signed between Sun Pharma, Yeda Research & Development Company, Ltd. (the commercial arm of the Weizmann Institute of Science), and Fundacion Ramón Domínguez (on behalf of IDIS). Based on outcome of animal studies, Sun Pharma will have an option to exercise rights for further development and commercialization of the enzyme.

**Commenting on its collaboration with Weizmann Institute of Science and Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela, Mr. Kirti Ganorkar, Sr. Vice President, Sun Pharma said,** *"This collaboration is in line with our philosophy of putting patients first. We see our collaboration with world-renowned academic institutions like the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela enabling new projects on breakthrough products to address current unmet medical needs. Such products will bring about a better quality of life for the*

*patient by enabling doctors to make crucial decisions and offer immediate treatment in high risk medical emergencies. We are excited about this collaboration and envision that this will enrich our novel and highly specialized product portfolio."*

**According to Prof. David Mirelman, The Weizmann Institute of Science** *"We are pleased to be a part of the tripartite research and development agreement with Sun Pharma. Our work is based on the original discoveries in the Weizmann Institute of the late Prof. Vivian Teichberg . Together with the researchers at the Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela, working under the direction of Prof. Jose Castillo, we hope to bring this work to maturation."*

IDIS believes this collaboration will contribute to developing strong bonds for delivering important benefit in biomedical research and patients. **Prof. José Castillo, director of Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela said,** *"IDIS supports translational research so that new findings can be used in clinical practice. The agreement with Sun Pharma and Weizmann Institute represents an important milestone for our Institution, since the studies carried out by the researchers of the Clinical Neuroscience Research Laboratory and Stroke Unit of the Neurology Department of our University Hospital are now closer to patients. The collaboration initiated with Prof. Vivian Teichberg and later continued with Prof. David Mirelman of the Weizmann Institute culminates through this new agreement. The development work collaborated through this agreement for treatment of neurological diseases like stroke, a leading cause of death and disability including loss of quality of life, can alleviate this epidemic in the 21st century. We also hope that this agreement contributes to bring new perspectives for the treatment of brain glioblastoma."*

**Expected advantages in Brain Stroke treatment:** One of the biggest benefits of this enzyme will be in the treatment of brain stroke. Currently the major challenge in treating neurological diseases like stroke is the need for a definitive diagnosis of the type of stroke: Until physicians have verified whether the stroke is ischemic or hemorrhagic, specific treatment cannot be started. However, the initial few hours are critical, from the prognostic point of view. The delay between the occurrence of the stroke and the diagnosis could mean a life and death scenario, or lifelong disability for the patient. If successful, this enzyme will enable the immediate administration of the treatment by a paramedic while a patient is in transit to the hospital. The enzyme can make a significant difference to the patient, as it can prevent the significant loss of brain function and avoid the debilitating consequences of stroke, while promising an improved quality of life for the patient. Thus the enzyme is expected to overcome this unmet gap in current medical treatments.

**Expected benefits in Brain cancer treatment:** Glioblastoma is a lethal form of brain cancer and despite currently available treatments, mortality rates are very high. Based on preclinical data, the enzyme could prove beneficial in this disease, and it may be able to fulfil a significant, unmet medical need by increasing longevity and quality of life for glioblastoma patients.

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**About Sun Pharma:** Sun Pharma is the world's fifth largest specialty generic pharmaceutical company and India's top pharmaceutical company. A vertically integrated business, economies of scale and an extremely skilled team enable us to deliver quality products in a timely manner at affordable prices. It provides high-quality, affordable medicines trusted by customers and patients in over 150 countries across the world. Sun Pharma's global presence is supported by 50 manufacturing facilities spread across 5 continents, R&D centers across the globe and a multi-cultural workforce comprising over 50 nationalities. The consolidated revenues for 12 months ending March 2015 are approximately US\$ 4.5 billion, of which US contributes US\$ 2.2 billion. In India, the company enjoys leadership across 13 different classes of doctors with 30 brands featuring amongst top 300 pharmaceutical brands in India. Its footprint across emerging markets covers over 100 markets and 6 markets in Western Europe. Its Global Consumer Healthcare business is ranked amongst Top 10 across 4 global markets. Its API business footprint is strengthened through 14 world class API manufacturing facilities across the globe. Sun Pharma fosters excellence through innovation supported by strong R&D capabilities comprising about 2,000 scientists and R&D investments of over 7% of annual revenues. For further information please visit [www.sunpharma.com](http://www.sunpharma.com). Follow us on Twitter @SunPharma\_Live

**About Weizmann Institute of Science:** Weizmann Institute of Science is amongst world's leading multidisciplinary research institutions. The driving force behind the founding of the Sieff Institute, as it was originally called, and the spirit that inspired its scientific activities was Dr. Chaim Weizmann, a world-renowned chemist who headed the World Zionist Movement for many years and served as the first president of the State of Israel. Weizmann Institute's research led to the development and production of Israel's first ethical (original) drug, the development of new computer languages, the solving of three-dimensional structures of a number of biological molecules, including one that plays a key role in Alzheimer's disease, inventions in the field of optics that have become the basis of advanced devices such as virtual head displays for pilots and surgeons, a method for separating isotopes that is used around the world, the discovery and identification of genes that are involved in various diseases, advanced techniques for transplanting embryonic tissues, and the creation of a nanobiological computer that may, in the future, be able to act directly inside the body to identify disease and stop it on the molecular level. Some 250 independent research groups, in five faculties, conduct investigations in all areas of basic scientific research, driven only by their own curiosity. Annually, about 500 scientists from dozens of countries around the globe come to visit or work at Weizmann Institute campus. It also hosts nearly 25 international scientific conferences every year.

**About Health Research Institute of Santiago de Compostela (IDIS):** IDIS is a center of research, innovation and knowledge transfer with a distinctly translational approach. It combines knowledge synergies of two institutions, University of Santiago de Compostela and Clinical University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela/University of Santiago de Compostela. IDIS is accredited as a research center of the National Spanish Health System by the Health Institute Carlos III. The IDIS team are part of research groups organized into six research areas Oncology, Genetics and Systems Biology, Endocrinology, Neuroscience, Platforms and Methodology and inflammation including a support area (technical secretariat and services platforms). Managed by Ramón Domínguez Foundation, IDIS is co-participated by the Servizo Galego de Saude (Galician Health System, SERGAS) and the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC). Devoted to biomedical research, the Institute publishes over 500 indexed original scientific articles annually. More than 100 international clinical trials are signed every year, a portfolio of over 30 patents out of which 6 are licensed. Three new spin-offs and three private-public partnership units complete the transferability framework of IDIS. Clinical Neurosciences Research Laboratory (CNRL), part of IDIS, is a preclinical and clinical research laboratory focusing on studies related to neurological disorders, mainly stroke. It's multidisciplinary group comprises over 30 researchers, including neurologists, biologist, pharmacologists and physics. CNRL's experience in the study of stroke is widely published in over 500 publications. In collaboration with Stroke Unit of the University Clinical Hospital of Santiago de Compostela, CNRL has participated in collaborative projects with leading global pharmaceutical companies. It has also conducted over 30 projects granted by European Union, Spanish Ministries of Health and Science and Innovation and Galician Government. Amongst CNRL's significant research lines include knowledge provided towards clarification of human ischemic tolerance mechanisms, influence of temperature in the physiopathology of brain ischemia, neurotoxicity mediated by specific toxins in brain ischemia and study of factors that condition early neurological deterioration and poor functional outcome.

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