

November 22, 2006

SymBio Pharmaceuticals selects lead managing underwriter for IPO, and Bendamustine enters Phase 1 for treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

At a board meeting on October 31, SymBio Pharmaceuticals asked Nomura Securities Co., Ltd., to serve as lead managing underwriter when it goes public in 2008. On November 22, Nomura Securities officially agreed to serve as lead managing underwriter. SymBio is determined to accelerate its transformation into a public company by augmenting its pipeline, enhancing its development capabilities, establishing internal control systems, and continually refining internal corporate structure.

In December 2005, SymBio signed a license agreement with Astellas Pharma GmbH (Munich, Germany), a German subsidiary of Astellas Pharma Inc. (Tokyo, Japan), with the aim of bringing the antineoplastic agent, Bendamustine hydrochloride (Trial code in Japan, SyB L-0501), to clinic in Japan. A phase I clinical trial was initiated in August, and administration of Bendamustine to patients was initiated on November 1 of last year.

In Germany, Bendamustine has been used for a number of years under the trade name Ribomustin in treating indolent non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma, and chronic lymphocytic leukemia. In North America, the bio-venture company Cephalon Inc. is currently developing Bendamustine for the treatment of Rituximab-refractory, or relapsed low-grade B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, under license from Astellas Pharma GmbH: a Phase III clinical trial is now underway. In the United States, the company is also investigating the improvement in efficacy of Bendamustine in combination with Rituximab, which is a first-line drug for indolent non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Results of a Phase II trial, including a significantly higher response rate, were presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) conference in June, 2006.

Since its establishment on March 25, 2005, SymBio Pharmaceuticals has been negotiating with more than 90 bio-venture and pharmaceutical companies for possible in-licensing opportunities, and signed confidential disclosure agreements for 76 innovative products. Six of these products are now under active negotiation, and a second product is expected to be in-licensed for development before long. Focusing on neoplastic, hematologic, and autoimmune diseases, SymBio Pharmaceuticals credo is "Delivering hope to patients in need." The needs of patients are always placed first, as SymBio specializes in developing therapeutics for diseases affecting small numbers of patients, thereby addressing existing unmet medical needs.

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About SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited:

SymBio Pharmaceuticals' focus is on oncology/hematology and autoimmune disease therapies. Established in March 2005 by Fuminori Yoshida, who previously served as both Corporate Vice President of Amgen Inc. and President of Amgen Japan, SymBio Pharmaceuticals' underlying corporate philosophy is "Delivering hope to patients in need," and the company aims to address unmet medical needs of patients in Japan by cultivating a mutually beneficial or symbiotic relationship among physicians, scientists, regulatory agencies, and investors. SymBio Pharmaceuticals core philosophy is that profitability and socially responsibility as a pharmaceutical enterprise can go hand in hand, and need not be mutually exclusive.

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