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Biogen Idec Announces Positive Top-Line Results from the First Phase 3 Trial Investigating Oral BG-12 (DIMETHYL FUMARATE) in Multiple Sclerosis

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- DEFINE Study Achieves Primary and All Secondary Endpoints for Both Study Doses -

- Full Data to Be Presented at a Future Medical Meeting -

WESTON, Mass. (BUSINESS WIRE [2]) B ogen Idec [3] (NASDAQ: BIIB) announced today pos t ve top ne resu ts from DEFINE, the f rst of two p vota Phase 3 c n ca tra s des gned to eva uate the nvest gat ona ora compound BG 12 (d methy fumarate) as a monotherapy n peop e w th re aps ng rem tt ng mu t p e sc eros s (RRMS). Resu ts showed that 240 mg of BG 12, adm n stered e ther tw ce or three t mes a day, met the pr mary study endpo nt, demonstrat ng a h gh y stat st ca y s gn f cant reduct on (p<0.0001) n the proport on of pat ents w th RRMS who re apsed at two years compared w th p acebo. Both doses of BG 12 a so met a of the secondary study endpo nts, prov d ng a stat st ca y s gn f cant reduct on n annua zed re apse rate, n the number of new or new y en arg ng T2 hyper ntense es ons, n new gado n um enhanc ng (Gd+) es ons, and n the rate of d sab ty progress on as measured by the Expanded D sab ty Severty Sca e (EDSS) at two years.

DEFINE was a g oba , random zed, doub e b nd, p acebo contro ed, dose compar son study to determ ne the eff cacy and safety of BG 12 n peop e w th RRMS. In add t on to meet ng the pr mary and a secondary endpo nts, n t a data from the tr a showed that BG 12 demonstrated a favorab e safety and to erab ty prof e. The overa nc dence of adverse events and ser ous adverse events was s m ar among the p acebo group and both BG 12 treatment groups. The safety prof e was cons stent w th what was seen n the pub shed Phase 2 study of BG 12. Further ana yses of the DEFINE study are ongo ng, and the company ant c pates present ng deta ed data at a future med ca meet ng.

“The s gn f cant c n ca responses seen n the DEFINE study represent an mportant step forward n the deve opment of BG 12 for mu t p e sc eros s (MS),” sa d Doug as W ams, Ph.D., B ogen Idec’s Execut ve V ce Pres dent of Research and Deve opment. “We are very p eased w th these data and be eve that BG 12 has the potent a to offer MS pat ents a h gh y effect ve ora treatment opt on w th a strong safety prof e.”

Data from sc ent f c stud es nd cate that BG 12 has the potent a to be d st nct ve by reduc ng the entry nto and the act on of nf ammatory ce s on the Centra Nervous System (CNS), as we as potent a y protect ng CNS ce s from ox dat ve stress and death by act vat on of the Nrf 2 pathway.

BG 12 rece ved Fast Track des gnat on from the U.S. Food and Drug Adm n strat on (FDA) n 2008. In add t on to DEFINE, another Phase 3 RRMS c n ca tr a , CONFIRM, s current y underway. Th s study s eva uat ng BG 12 and an act ve reference comparator, g at ramer acetate, aga nst p acebo on c n ca re apse, magnet c resonance mag ng (MRI) measures of MS, progress on of d sab ty, and safety. Resu ts from CONFIRM are expected n the second ha f of 2011.

About the DEFINE Trial

DEFINE (**D**eterm nat on of the **E**ff cacy and safety of ora **F**umarate **IN** r**E** aps ng rem tt ng MS) was a g oba , random zed, doub e b nd, p acebo contro ed, dose compar son study to determ ne the eff cacy and safety of BG 12 n more than 1,200 peop e w th RRMS. The study eva uated two doses of BG 12: 240 mg tw ce a day and 240 mg three t mes a day. The pr mary object ve was to determ ne f BG 12 s effect ve n reduc ng the proport on of re aps ng pat ents at two years. Secondary endpo nts nc uded reduct on n the number of new or new y en arg ng T2 hyper ntense es ons and new Gd+ es ons as measured by MRI, reduct on n annua zed re apse rate, and reduct on of d sab ty progress on as measured by EDSS. Add t ona endpo nts nc uded the safety and to erab ty of BG 12.

About Biogen Idec

B ogen Idec uses cutt ng edge sc ence to d scover, deve op, manufacture, and market therapeut c products for the treatment of ser ous d seases w th a focus on neuro og ca d sorders. Founded n 1978, B ogen Idec s the wor d s o dest ndependent b otechno ogy company. Pat ents wor dw de bene t from ts ead ng mu t p e sc eros s therap es, and the company generates more than $4 b on n annua revenues. For product abe ng, press re eases and add t ona nformat on

about the company, please visit www.biogenidec.com [4].

Safe Harbor

This press release includes forward-looking statements, including statements about the development and commercialization of BG-12 in MS. These forward-looking statements may be accompanied by such words as "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "intend," "may," "plan," "will" and other words and terms of similar meaning. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in such statements, including meeting endpoints in clinical trials, obtaining regulatory approval, the occurrence of adverse safety events, product competition, the availability of reimbursement for our products, adverse market and economic conditions, problems with our manufacturing processes and our reliance on third parties, failure to comply with government regulation and possible adverse impact of changes in such regulation, our ability to protect our intellectual property rights and the cost of doing so, and the other risks and uncertainties that are described in the Risk Factors section of our most recent annual or quarterly report and in other reports we have filed with the SEC. These statements are based on our current beliefs and expectations and speak only as of the date of this press release. We do not undertake any obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements.

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