

# Countdown to the 10th Anniversary Scrip Awards

The countdown to the 10th annual Scrip Awards, to be held on 3 December at London's Lancaster Hotel, has now begun in earnest following the recent shortlist announcement. In the last remaining week until the awards ceremony, we will be showcasing the finalists from each of the categories.

## Management Team of the Year

Scrip's Management Team of the Year Award will honor the achievements of management teams whether they are from the top tier of management at a pharma or biotech company or a team responsible for specific operations or projects within a company. The shortlist is:

### AbbVie's executive leadership team

Under this seven-strong team, AbbVie has enjoyed a successful inaugural year as an independent company following its separation from Abbott, meeting or exceeding all its goals. Sales in 2013 totaled \$18.8bn, driven by its substantial growth of existing products including top-seller Humira, which enabled the company to deliver a total shareholder return of 60%. Significant resources were devoted to advancing expanding the pipeline which now has 10 products at Phase III or registration including for hepatitis C.

### AstraZeneca's business development operations team

Against a background of challenge and change, AstraZeneca's business development operations team executed multiple strategically important and high-quality transactions in the qualifying period. The ten-strong team oversaw six major deals that strengthened the company's priority therapeutic areas, including CV/metabolism, respiratory, inflammation, autoimmune and oncology: the acquisitions of Pearl Therapeutics, Omthera Pharmaceuticals, Amplimmune and Bristol-Myers Squibb's interest in their diabetes alliance, plus licensing deals with Merck and Synairgen.

### Horizon Discovery's management team

This six-strong team has overseen a vintage year for Horizon Discovery Group. It completed a successful IPO in less than 11 weeks from initiation to listing on AIM with a market capitalization of £120.5m, in March, and raised £68.6m placed at the top of its pricing range in a significantly oversubscribed offering, well above the original target of £25m. Horizon also acquired US firm CombinatoRx establishing its US headquarters in the heart of its East Coast customer base.

### PPD's site intelligence and activation management team

This team was created in 2013 to have a singular focus on effective clinical trial start ups and provide a competitive advantage to PPD in this area. Its greatest success to date was the completion of a major change in management effort without significant loss of employees or their engagement, and achieving customer-facing operational objectives. During the qualifying year, PPD observed a nearly 30% reduction in site activation cycle times.

### Prosensa's management team

Prosensa's management showed its quality by successfully navigating a year of triumph and disaster. In just six weeks the team drove through a trailblazing listing on NASDAQ, the first IPO of a European biotech company in 10 years, and then faced the set-back of unexpectedly negative results for its Phase III trial of drisapersen. Having regained the rights to the product from partner GlaxoSmithKline it has now forged a regulatory path forward with the FDA.

### Merck KGaA / Merck Serono's regional clinical operations team

This team is an example to others in making bold yet necessary decisions in the face of difficulties. With setbacks for new drug candidates, impending pipeline decline and flat growth, Merck decided on a major restructuring and to pursue an R&D turnaround. The team arrived at an innovative model not yet tried by industry peers to drive functional excellence, ensure compliance, improve capabilities and improve efficiency, and is an example of embracing risk, and challenging the status quo.

## Best New Drug

Scrip's Best New Drug Award recognises excellence in pharmaceutical development. Launching innovative new products is the most important function of the industry, and a successful new drug launch marks the culmination of years of risky and expensive R&D. The shortlist is:

### Roche's Gazyva/Gazyvaro (obinutuzumab)

Roche's Gazyva is the first and only type II glycoengineered anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody and was the first drug with Breakthrough Therapy Designation to be approved by the FDA, when it was licensed for use in the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia and launched in November 2013. In its Phase III head-to-head CLL11 study, Gazyva showed superiority over standard treatment MabThera, allowing patients to live a year longer without their disease worsening.

### Roche's Kadcyca (trastuzumab emtansine)

Kadcyca is an innovative targeted breast cancer drug that represents a new way of treating advanced HER2-positive breast cancer. The first-of-its-kind antibody-drug conjugate consists of a HER2-targeted antibody (the active ingredient of Herceptin) linked with a chemotherapy, DM1, to give a double blockade attack on the cancer cells, by seeking out the cancer cells and stopping their growth signals, and by releasing a toxic payload to destroy them from within.

### Genzyme's Lemtrada (alemtuzumab)

Lemtrada, an anti-CD52 humanized monoclonal antibody that acts to reset the immune system, is the first monotherapy for multiple sclerosis to show improved efficacy on relapse rates and disability accumulation against an active comparator, high dose beta interferon 1a. With its efficacy profile, yearly administration schedule that improves compliance, and durable treatment effect, Lemtrada has the potential to change the way multiple sclerosis is treated.

### Gilead's Sovaldi (sofosbuvir)

The first approval of Sovaldi, an oral nucleotide analog inhibitor of the HCV NS5B polymerase enzyme, in the US in late 2013 marked the beginning of a new era in hepatitis C treatment. In clinical studies, Sovaldi in combination with other agents achieved very high cure rates while shortening the duration of treatment to as little as 12 weeks and reducing or completely eliminating the need for interferon injections, depending on the viral genotype.



### Iroko Pharmaceuticals' Zorvolex (diclofenac) capsules

By altering the absorption properties of diclofenac through Iroko's proprietary SoluMatrix fine particle technology, Zorvolex was developed to align with the FDA and other professional organizations that recommend that NSAIDs be used at the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration due to safety concerns. The product meets a need for an NSAID option that can provide acute pain relief with lower overall systemic exposure to the drug.

To reserve your table for the awards ceremony, contact:

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