



Press release

GLSV invests in Santaris Pharma A/S

Munich/Zug, 15 March 2006 – *Global Life Science Ventures (GLSV)* today announced an investment in Santaris Pharma A/S in a Series B financing round totalling €40 million, as part of a syndicate led by ABN AMRO Capital Life Science and also including BankInvest, Novo Ventures, LD Pensions, Vækstfonden, SPEF Ventures, InnovationsKapital and others. As part of the financing arrangement, Dr. Holger Reithinger from GLSV will join the Board of Directors of Santaris Pharma.

Santaris Pharma, based in Hørsholm, Denmark, is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing next generation RNA-silencing drugs for the treatment of cancer and metabolic diseases. The company, which was created in May 2003 through the merger of Cureon A/S and Pantheco A/S, owns the exclusive worldwide rights to the use of locked-nucleic acids (LNA) in pharmaceuticals. Santaris Pharma is using LNA to make novel, highly potent and stable RNA Antagonists. Such drugs have the potential to transform the field of RNA-targeted therapeutics, making specific and effective gene silencing a reality in human medicine. If this potential is realised, even in part, it should be possible to design new drugs to treat a wide variety of human diseases by switching off the expression of harmful genes.

The proceeds of the financing will be used to bring the company's portfolio of RNA Antagonist drug candidates through early clinical safety and efficacy studies in oncology and metabolic disorders. The lead drug candidate, SPC 2996, is an RNA Antagonist of Bcl-2, a gene implicated in several cancers, and is currently in an international phase I/II clinical trial in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia. In addition, the funds will enable further development of Santaris Pharma's world leading platform for LNA-based therapeutics, including a recently announced program in LNA-based microRNA antagonists.

Dr. Holger Reithinger, Principal at Global Life Science Ventures, commented: *"We are impressed by the versatility and broad applicability of the proprietary LNA platform. Preclinical data on the first drug candidates suggest a very desirable drug profile, possibly leading to effective gene silencing. The quality of the data was recently confirmed when the FDA approved the SPC 2996 IND dossier without further inquiry. We are looking forward to working together with Santaris' management and building up an important player in this field."*

Hanns-Peter Wiese, Partner at Global Life Science Ventures, remarked: *"This investment, which is our first in Scandinavia, adds to a series of recent investments across Europe including in France, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Austria. It*

demonstrates our truly pan-European positioning and dedication to investing in cutting-edge technologies.”

About Global Life Science Ventures:

GLSV is a leading, independent venture capital fund focusing exclusively on the life sciences. With offices in Germany and Switzerland, GLSV is dedicated to supporting early-stage companies originating from universities, scientific institutions or industry, but also invests in selected later-stage companies, including buy-outs. The group currently advises and manages funds totalling more than €200 million. GLSV has now financed 30 innovative life science companies in Europe and the US, twelve of which have completed an exit through IPO, trade sale or M&A. Since 1996, GLSV has built up a broadly diversified portfolio of companies in pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, medical devices, and biotechnology.

Global Life Science Ventures

Industry-born team – Proven track record – Global perspective

Germany

GLSV GmbH
Von-der-Tann-Str. 3
D – 80539 München
Tel. +49 (0)89 288 151 0
Fax +49 (0)89 288 151 30

www.glsv-vc.com
mailbox@glsv-vc.com

Switzerland

GLSV AG
Postplatz 1, P.O. 626
CH – 6301 Zug
Tel. +41 (0)41 727 19 40
Fax +41 (0)41 727 19 45

For additional information, please contact:

Rochat & Partners

Christophe Lamps or Jonathan Leighton
Tel. +41 22 718 37 46
Fax +41 22 786 54 58
E-mail: clamps@rochat-pr.ch
jonathan@rochat-pr.ch

For information on Santaris Pharma, please contact:

Santaris Pharma A/S

Dr Keith McCullagh
CEO
Tel. +45 4517 9819
E-mail: km@santaris.com