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ROVI announces the marketing agreement of Neparvis® in Spain

Madrid, 22th November 2016 – Laboratorios Farmacéuticos Rovi, S.A. (ROVI or the “Company” hereafter) announces that is signed an agreement with Novartis Farmacéutica, S.A. to market Neparvis® (sacubitril/valsartan) in Spain, that corresponds to Entresto® of Novartis.

Under this marketing agreement, ROVI will take care of the promotion and distribution in the Spanish territory of Neparvis®, a medicine indicated for the treatment of adult patients with symptomatic chronic heart failure and reduced ejection fraction (the proportion of blood leaving the heart). It is a tablet that is taken twice a day with a unique mechanism of action that reduces the workload of the failed heart.

The two active ingredients of Neparvis®, sacubitril and valsartan, act in different ways. The sacubitril blocks the degradation of the natriuretic peptides that are produced by the body. The natriuretic peptides make that sodium and water pass to the urine, thus reducing heart’s workload. The natriuretic peptides also reduce blood pressure and protect the heart from the development of fibrosis (scar tissues) that are produced in the heart failure. The valsartan is an «antagonist of the angiotensin II receptors», what means that blocks the action of a hormone called angiotensin II. The effects of the angiotensin II can be harmful in patients with heart failure. By blocking the receptors that angiotensin II usually binds to, the valsartan interrupts the adverse effects of this hormone on the heart, and also reduces the blood pressure, allowing blood vessels to widen.

The heart failure is a debilitating and potentially fatal clinical syndrome, in which the heart can't pump enough blood to the rest of the body because the muscles of the heart become too weak or too rigid to work properly. As a result, patients face a high risk of death, repeated hospitalisations, and symptoms such as difficulty breathing, tiredness, and retention of liquids that affect significantly their quality of life. Despite that millions of people live with heart failure, most people don't recognise symptoms, which means that they have been misdiagnosed, or that the symptoms are attributed wrongly to aging.

ROVI expects to begin marketing Neparvis® in the first quarter of 2017, under the co-marketing agreement terms with Entresto®, during a period of 10 years that will start from the date of marketing.

According to data from IMS Health, during the last twelve months up to September of 2016 (TAM September of 2016), the market of heart failure of reduced ejection fraction (where is included Neparvis®) means in Spain a consumption of approximately 2 million units of ACE (angiotensin converting enzyme) inhibitors and approximately 280.000 patients suffer from this disease annually.

Juan López-Belmonte Encina, Chief Executive Officer of ROVI, commented: "we are very excited about the potential of Neparvis® that has shown to reduce the rate of deaths due to cardiovascular disease and hospital admissions related to heart failure, a disease that presents a higher risk of death and worst quality of life than any other chronic disease. This new agreement of ROVI follows its permanent objective to improve patients' quality of life. Additionally, this is a product of high strategic value and it will contribute to give us projection in the coming years".

About ROVI

ROVI is a fully integrated Spanish specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the research, development, in-licensing, manufacturing and marketing of small molecule and specialty biologic drugs. The Company has a diversified portfolio of products that it markets in Spain through its specialized sales force, calling on specialist physicians, hospitals and pharmacies. ROVI's portfolio of 30 principal marketed products is currently anchored by the internally-developed, second generation low molecular weight heparin,

Bemiparin. ROVI's research and development pipeline is focused primarily on the expansion of applications, indications and alternative mechanisms of action for the heparin-derived products and other glycosaminoglycans and on the development of new controlled release mechanisms based on ISM® technology, with the aim of obtaining new pharmaceutical products that enable the regular administration of formulations which are administered daily in chronic and prolonged treatments. ROVI manufactures the active biological ingredient (Bemiparin) for its principal proprietary products and for injectable pharmaceutical products developed by its in-house research team, and utilizes its state-of-the-art filling and packaging capabilities to provide a broad array of toll manufacturing services to leading international pharmaceutical companies, primarily in the area of pre-filled syringes. In addition, ROVI provides contract manufacturing and packaging services of solid oral pharmaceutical dosage forms, using the most enhanced technology, Roller Compaction. Additional information about ROVI is available on the company's website: www.rovi.es