

## **ASX/Media Release**

### **Genepharm Adds Blockbuster Cholesterol Drug Pravastatin to Registration Pipeline**

*Sixth largest PBS drug with annual sales over \$128m to come off patent in July 2006*

**26 April 2005, Melbourne:** Generic pharmaceutical company Genepharm Australasia Limited (ASX:GAA) has filed for registration of a generic brand of the blockbuster cholesterol-reducing drug Pravastatin (Pravachol), to sell when the originator drug's patent expires in July 2006.

Almost 2 million annual prescriptions are written for Pravastatin for a cost of \$128 million. This makes Pravastatin the sixth largest drug in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

Along with earlier submissions for Simvastatin (Zocor) and Sertraline (Zoloft), Genepharm now has submissions for the top 3 blockbuster patent expiries whose combined annual volume of 10 million prescriptions and cost of \$600 million accounts for almost 10% of the total PBS value.

Genepharm expects to market, distribute and sell Pravastatin immediately after the originator brand Pravachol comes off patent. Pravastatin is prescribed for high cholesterol and coronary heart disease.

"Genepharm is the only listed exclusive generic pharmaceutical company that will target virtually every blockbuster drug as patents rapidly expire," said Mr Dennis Bastas, CEO and managing director of Genepharm.

"The company now has 12 drugs in the TGA registration pipeline. Over the next two years we'll have 40-50 drug candidates including all 6 of the top 20 PBS drugs to have patent expiries by 2008. Pharmacy sales will begin in the next financial year.

"Genepharm has been purposely structured to supply premium quality generic pharmaceuticals at low cost. We are not a subsidiary and we don't have a myriad of licence agreements that will limit our profitability. We are nimble and aggressive in what will be a competitive market," said Mr Bastas.

#### **Inquiries:**

**Dennis Bastas**  
**Genepharm Australasia**  
**03 9699 2300**

**Rudi Michelson**  
**Monsoon Communications**  
**03 9620 3333**

#### About Genepharm:

Genepharm Australasia (ASX:GAA) is a specialist generic pharmaceutical company developing, distributing and marketing a premium range of generic pharmaceuticals in Australia and New Zealand. The company has begun registration of 40-50 products in the next three years, securing distribution partners and building a strong marketing capability. Generic pharmaceuticals are expected to more than double to an estimated \$2billion in dispensed value by 2008. Genepharm Australasia listed on the ASX in June 2004.