

## ASX/Media Release

# **Genepharm boosts generic drug range to 95 per cent** ***Three leading generic drugs to hit pharmacy shelves in September***

**14 June 2007, Melbourne:** Genepharm Australasia Ltd (ASX: GAA) has lifted its coverage of generic pharmaceuticals available in Australian pharmacies to a prodigious 95 per cent with the registration of three, of the top 10, PBS-dispensed generic drug molecules – Omeprazole, Perindopril and Meloxicam.

The three TGA-approved medicines sourced from leading global manufacturers are expected to boost Genepharm's sales by more than 10 per cent, according to CEO Mr Dennis Bastas.

"These generics will all be available on the PBS as Genepharm-branded generic drugs by 1st September 2007 and our expectations are that each drug will achieve over 10 per cent market share within the first year," Mr Bastas said.

Genepharm's coverage of the existing generic pharmaceuticals market now extends to approximately 95 per cent of generic dispensed medicines by value to pharmacy. The three drugs are all newly patent expired and are a part of the company's product development focus to target major new drug launches as they come off patent. Further new generic drug launches are expected over the next six months which include two leading drugs that will complete Genepharm's coverage of the top 20 patent-expired PBS medicines.

Omeprazole is a first generation molecule used for the long-term treatment of gastroesophageal reflux, duodenal gastric ulcer and gastric-related disease. The PBS-listed drug had dispensed sales of about \$170 million in the year to June 2006 and is the second biggest generic seller in Australia. It is only overshadowed by Australia's number one generic drug—the cholesterol lowering drug Simvastatin, also a major product in the Genepharm range.

Perindopril is a second-generation (ACE inhibitor) therapy used to treat patients with high blood pressure and/or heart failure. The product is listed on the PBS and widely used in the Australian market. In the financial year to June 2006 the molecule recorded dispensed sales of \$80 million through pharmacies and hospitals.

Meloxicam is a new-generation treatment (selective COX-2 inhibitor) for patients with osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. The drug, which has been a popular alternative to the failed Celebrex, enjoyed PBS dispensed sales of \$55 million in the financial year to June 2006.

Genepharm Australasia (GAA) is Australia's fastest growing generic pharmaceutical supplier which develops, markets and distributes a range of 65 generic pharmaceuticals, including many of Australia's highest-value PBS pharmaceuticals.

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About Genepharm:

Genepharm Australasia (ASX:GAA) is a growth-oriented pharmaceuticals company with a particular focus on generics. Genepharm markets, sells and distributes a range of pharmaceutical products ranging from blockbuster prescription drugs to cosmeceuticals. Genepharm services pharmacies, hospitals, medical centres and wholesalers. Genepharm is the second largest Australian generic pharmaceuticals company and the only dedicated generic pharmaceuticals company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange. The company was established in 2003 and listed on the ASX in 2004. For more info: [www.genepharm.com.au](http://www.genepharm.com.au)