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Exclusive agreement with the Menarini Group, Berlin Chemie and Vectans Pharma for Sitavig® in Italy and Austria.

Menarini, Berlin Chemie and Vectans Pharma have signed an exclusive licensing agreement for the commercialization of Sitavig®50mg (Acyclovir Lauriad®), in Italy and Austria.

Sitavig® is the first approved one-per-episode acyclovir, indicated for the treatment of recurrent herpes labialis (cold sores) in adults with frequent episodes.

Cold sores – also called fever blisters – is a common and recurring condition that affects about 20% of the population. It is caused by the herpes simplex virus and the outbreaks are often triggered by various factors, as sunshine exposure, tiredness, stress, or menstrual periods, and often preceded by prodromal (warning) signs. During outbreaks, the sores are contagious from the first moment of tingling and can spread from person to person by close contact, such as kissing. The duration of an episode of herpes is 7 to 14 days.

The new therapeutic approach uses an innovative delivery system based on a mucoadhesive buccal tablet (Lauriad® technology). This ensures an early and extended release, for at least 16 hours of a high concentration of the active substance at the site of the infection. Given the concentrations reached in a day at the time and at the site of viral replication, a single tablet is enough for treatment. The targeted approach reduces the risk of drug interactions and systemic effects, improving greatly patient's compliance.

## **About Vectans Pharma:**

Vectans Pharma is a French pharmaceutical company with an international reach, specialized in the development of muco-adhesive drugs, and offering new therapeutic perspectives to the patients. Thanks to its innovative platform, Lauriad®, our company ensures the development of new drugs and, with its international partners, the commercialization of Sitavig® and Loramyc® worldwide. Vectans Pharma delivers life-changing treatments, respectful of both humans and the environment, that improve patient access and experience around the world.

For more information about Vectans Pharma, please visit <a href="https://www.vectanspharma.com/">https://www.vectanspharma.com/</a>

## **About the Menarini Group:**

The Menarini Group is a leading international pharmaceutical and diagnostics company, with a turnover of over \$4 billion and over 17,000 employees. Menarini is focused on therapeutic areas with

high unmet needs with products for cardiology, oncology, pneumology, gastroenterology, infectious diseases, diabetology, inflammation, and analgesia. With 18 production sites and 9 Research and Development centers, Menarini's products are available in 140 countries worldwide.

For further information, please visit www.menarini.com.

## **About Berlin Chemie:**

For over 100 years, Berlin-Chemie has stood for innovative research and production of newly developed as well as proven pharmaceutical products. Committed to health, its goal is to introduce new drugs to help ill patients and improve their quality of life.

As part of the global Menarini Group, the leading Italian pharmaceutical company, Berlin-Chemie is responsible for the pharmaceutical markets in Germany, Eastern Europe and the CIS region.

For more information, please visit https://www.berlin-chemie.de/