



Alkermes Completes Patient Enrollment for Phase 1/2 Study of ALKS 29 for the Treatment of Alcohol Dependence

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CAMBRIDGE, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--March 6, 2007--Alkermes, Inc. (Nasdaq: ALKS) today announced the completion of patient enrollment in a phase 1/2 clinical study of ALKS 29, the company's undisclosed oral compound for the treatment of alcohol dependence. The multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial is designed to assess the safety and efficacy of ALKS 29 in approximately 150 subjects with alcohol dependence. Alkermes expects to provide top-line results from this study in the first half of calendar 2007.

"Addiction is an underserved disease area where a variety of treatments are needed that can improve outcomes for patients," stated Elliot Ehrich, Chief Medical Officer of Alkermes. "ALKS 29 represents an important opportunity to bring forward a new medication for patients struggling with alcohol dependence, and the completion of enrollment in this clinical trial represents an important step forward in establishing our addiction portfolio."

About Alcohol Dependence

Alcohol dependence is a serious and chronic disease that affects multiple regions of the brain, providing rationale for the use of medication with psychosocial support as part of an integrated treatment plan. Underlying neurological and genetic factors, as well as environmental factors, play a role in alcohol dependence;(1) therefore, there is a need for a variety of treatment options that can be tailored to best suit patients' needs. Psychosocial support, such as counseling or group therapy, is the traditional approach for treating alcohol dependence; however, experts in the field increasingly recommend and support a treatment approach that includes a combination of medication and psychosocial support.(2),(3)

Of the more than 18 million Americans who abuse or are dependent on alcohol,(4) approximately 2.2 million seek treatment for their alcohol problems.(5) More than 75% of these patients relapse back to drinking within the first year of beginning treatment using currently available treatment approaches.(6) Alcohol abuse and dependency are an economic burden to society that cost approximately \$185 billion annually in the U.S.(7)

About Alkermes

Alkermes, Inc. is a biotechnology company that develops innovative medicines designed to yield better therapeutic outcomes and improve the lives of patients with serious disease. Alkermes currently has two commercial products: RISPERDAL® CONSTA® ((risperidone) long-acting injection), the first and only long-acting atypical antipsychotic medication approved for use in schizophrenia, and marketed worldwide by Janssen-Cilag (Janssen), a wholly owned division of Johnson & Johnson; and VIVITROL® (naltrexone for extended-release injectable suspension) the first and only once-monthly injectable medication approved for the treatment of alcohol dependence and marketed in the U.S. primarily by Cephalon, Inc. Alkermes' pipeline includes extended-release injectable, pulmonary, and oral products for the treatment of prevalent, chronic diseases such as central nervous system disorders, addiction and diabetes. Alkermes' headquarters are in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and it operates research and manufacturing facilities in Massachusetts and Ohio.

Certain statements set forth above may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including, but not limited to statements about Alkermes' addiction portfolio, including its development activities for ALKS 29. Although the company believes that such statements are based on reasonable assumptions within the bounds of its knowledge of its business and operations, the forward-looking statements are neither promises nor guarantees and the company's business is subject to significant risk and uncertainties and there can be no assurance that its actual results will not differ materially from its expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, among others: whether the clinical trial for ALKS 29 will be completed on time or at all; potential changes in cost, scope and duration of the clinical trial; whether ALKS 29 will demonstrate sufficient efficacy and safety; and decisions by the FDA regarding the company's product candidates. For further information with respect to factors that could cause the company's actual results to differ materially from expectations, reference is made to the reports the company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The company disclaims any intention or responsibility for updating forward-looking statements made in this release.

VIVITROL® is a registered trademark of Cephalon, Inc.; RISPERDAL® CONSTA® is a registered trademark of Johnson & Johnson Corporation.

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(2) Saitz R. Unhealthy Alcohol Use. *New England Journal of Medicine*; 2005; 352:596-607.

(3) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, Helping Patients Who Drink too Much: A Clinician's Guide, 2005.

(4) Grant BF, Dawson DA, Stinson FS, Chou SP, Dufour MC, Pickering RP. The 12-Month Prevalence and Trends in DSM-IV Alcohol Abuse and Dependence: United States, 1991-1992 and 2001-2002. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*; 2004; 74:223-234.

(5) SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies. Substance Dependence, Abuse and Treatment Tables; 2003.

(6) Daley, DC and Marlatt GA. Relapse prevention. In: Lowinson JH, Ruiz P, Millman RB, Langrod JG, eds. *Substance Abuse: A Comprehensive Textbook*. 4th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005:772-785.

(7) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Updating Estimates of the Economic Costs of Alcohol and Abuse in the United States: Estimates, Update Methods, and Data; 2000.

CONTACT: Alkermes, Inc.
Rebecca Peterson, 617-583-6378
Vice President, Corporate Communications

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