



Contact: Kathryn Kempf
B&Y Communications
(973) 746-8183

Compass Healthcare Communications Announces Relaunch of Infergen[®] Web Site

PRINCETON, N.J., Aug. 10, 2007 – Valeant Pharmaceuticals North America and Compass Healthcare Communications today announced the launch of a new Website for Infergen[®] (interferon alfacon-1) – www.Infergen.com.

Infergen, or consensus interferon, is a bio-optimized, selective and highly potent type 1 interferon alpha. It is indicated as a monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients suffering from chronic hepatitis C viral infections with compensated liver disease. Infergen is the only interferon with data in the label regarding use in patients following relapse or non-response to certain previous treatments.

“Compass created the Infergen website to help educate patients and healthcare providers on a new alternative to the current ‘watch and wait’ approach after initial interferon treatment fails,” said Sami Shihabi, Director, Hepatology Marketing, for Valeant. “The site offers treatment information and patient counseling tools for the healthcare professional, customized information for hep-c patients that is segmented by where they are in the treatment continuum, and will facilitate enrollment into our patient support program, Infergen[®] Aspire[™].”

“We are excited to work with Infergen to offer hope of a second chance for a cure for patients who have relapsed or for whom initial interferon therapy was unsuccessful, as well as to assist the physicians, nurses and caregivers who support these patients,” commented Peter H. Nalen, President and CEO of Compass.

The site can be accessed at www.infergen.com.

About Compass Healthcare Communications

Compass is a leading independent, full-service online marketing agency exclusively supporting brands in the healthcare industry. Compass maximizes the marketing power of the Internet by designing, developing and measuring integrated online marketing programs that engage, educate and

motivate each audience segment – patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals. More information about Compass is available at www.compasshc.com.

About Valeant

Valeant Pharmaceuticals North America is a publicly traded, research-based specialty pharmaceutical company that develops, manufactures and markets pharmaceutical products, primarily in the areas of neurology, infectious disease and dermatology. It is based in Aliso Viejo, California.

INFERGEN® (Interferon alfacon-1) is indicated for the treatment of chronic HCV infection in patients 18 years of age or older with compensated liver disease who have anti-HCV serum antibodies and/or the presence of HCV RNA. Other causes of hepatitis, such as viral hepatitis B or autoimmune hepatitis, should be ruled out prior to initiation of therapy with INFERGEN. The most commonly reported adverse events during initial and subsequent treatment were headache, fatigue, fever, myalgia, rigors, body pain, arthralgia, and nausea.

Important Safety Information:

Alpha interferons, including Interferon alfacon-1, cause or aggravate fatal or life-threatening neuropsychiatric, autoimmune, ischemic, and infectious disorders.

Patients should be monitored closely with periodic clinical and laboratory evaluations. Patients with persistently severe or worsening symptoms of these conditions should be withdrawn from therapy. In many but not all cases, these disorders resolve after stopping Interferon alfacon-1 therapy.

See CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS and ADVERSE REACTIONS in the Full Prescribing Information.

INFERGEN is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to alpha interferons or to any component of the product, in patients with decompensated hepatic disease and autoimmune hepatitis. Development of or exacerbation of autoimmune disorders (e.g. autoimmune thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis) have been reported in patients receiving alpha interferon therapies, including INFERGEN.

Treatment with INFERGEN should be administered under the guidance of a qualified physician, and may lead to moderate-to-severe adverse experiences requiring dose reduction, temporary dose cessation, or discontinuation of further therapy.

Severe psychiatric adverse events may manifest in patients receiving therapy with alpha interferons, including INFERGEN. Depression, suicidal ideation, suicide attempt, and suicide may occur. Other prominent psychiatric adverse events may also occur, including psychosis, aggressive behavior, nervousness, anxiety, emotional lability, abnormal thinking, agitation, apathy and relapse of drug addiction. INFERGEN should be used with extreme caution in patients who report a history of depression. Physicians should monitor all patients for evidence of depression and other psychiatric symptoms. In severe cases, therapy should be stopped immediately and psychiatric intervention instituted.

Bone Marrow Toxicity: Alpha interferons suppress bone marrow function and may result in severe cytopenias including very rare events of aplastic anemia. It is advised that complete blood counts be obtained pretreatment and monitored routinely during therapy. Alpha interferon therapy should be discontinued in patients who develop severe decreases in neutrophil (<0.5 x 10⁹/L) or platelet counts (<50 x 10⁹/L).

Hypertension, tachycardia, palpitation, and tachyarrhythmias have been reported in patients treated with INFERGEN. INFERGEN should be administered with caution to patients with preexisting cardiac disease. Supraventricular arrhythmias, chest pain, and myocardial infarction have been associated with alpha interferon therapies.

Pneumonia and interstitial pneumonitis, some resulting in respiratory failure and/or patient deaths, have been induced or aggravated by alpha interferon therapy, including INFERGEN. Patients who develop persistent or unexplained pulmonary infiltrates or pulmonary function impairment should discontinue treatment with INFERGEN.

Chronic hepatitis C patients with cirrhosis may be at risk of hepatic decompensation when treated with alpha interferons, including INFERGEN. During treatment, patients' clinical status and hepatic function should be closely monitored, and INFERGEN treatment should be immediately discontinued if symptoms of hepatic decompensation, such as jaundice, ascites, coagulopathy, or decreased serum albumin, are observed.

Ophthalmologic Disorders: Decrease or loss of vision, retinopathy including macular edema, retinal artery or vein thrombosis, retinal hemorrhages and cotton wool spots; optic neuritis, and papilledema are induced or aggravated by treatment with

INFERGEN or other alpha interferons. All patients should receive an eye examination at baseline. Patients with preexisting ophthalmologic disorders (e.g., diabetic or hypertensive retinopathy) should receive periodic ophthalmologic exams during interferon alpha treatment. INFERGEN therapy should be discontinued in patients who develop new or worsening ophthalmologic disorders.

Ischemic and hemorrhagic cerebrovascular events including hemorrhagic stroke have been observed in patients being treated with INFERGEN. In addition, transient ischemic attack has been reported in young patients being treated with INFERGEN without other reported risk factors.

INFERGEN should be discontinued immediately and appropriate medical treatment instituted if hypersensitivity reactions occur. INFERGEN should be administered with caution to patients with a history of endocrine disorders and should be discontinued immediately in patients who develop signs and symptoms of colitis. In addition, INFERGEN should be suspended in patients with signs and symptoms suggestive of pancreatitis and discontinued in patients diagnosed with pancreatitis.

The most common adverse events reported for INFERGEN during clinical studies were headache (82%), fatigue (69%), fever (61%), myalgia (58%), rigors (57%), body pain (54%), arthralgia (51%), nausea (40%), insomnia (39%), pharyngitis (34%), nervousness (31%), infection upper respiratory (31%), diarrhea (29%), depression (26%), anorexia (24%), injection site erythema (23%), granulocytopenia (23%), dizziness (22%), cough (22%), dyspepsia (21%), thrombocytopenia (19%), anxiety (19%), sinusitis (17%), influenza-like symptoms (15%) and leucopenia (15%).

For U.S. residents only. The products discussed herein may have different product labeling in different countries. Please see **Important Safety Information** (including **Boxed Warning**) as well as the [Full Prescribing Information](#) and the **INFERGEN Medication Guide**.

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