

Commencement of a multi-center, randomized, controlled clinical study of Arthrosamid® for knee osteoarthritis

June 15, 2019: Contura is pleased to announce that in May 2019 it commenced a multi-center, randomized, controlled, double-blinded clinical study of Arthrosamid in patients with knee osteoarthritis. The study will seek to enrol more than two hundred patients at four specialist treatment centers. It will compare the reduction in pain achieved after one year following a single injection of Arthrosamid with the reduction in pain achieved with a major brand of hyaluronic acid, a common treatment for osteoarthritis of the knee.

Commenting on the study, Patrick Banks, Chief Executive of Contura said: *"The commencement of this study is the culmination of several years of hard work by Contura to develop an effective and long-lasting treatment for knee osteoarthritis. Research work commenced in horses, leading to the launch of Arthramid Vet, the company's treatment for lameness in horses. This was followed by the treatment of more than one hundred patients in an observational proof-of-concept study, the results of which were reported in 2018¹ and a retrospective case series analysis of the safety of the product that was reported in 2019². This current study now seeks to compare Arthrosamid results with those achieved by alternative products for the same indication."*

About Arthrosamid

Arthrosamid is a polyacrylamide hydrogel developed by Contura as a long-lasting intra-articular injection for the treatment of osteoarthritis in humans. Development of Arthrosamid commenced after the generation of impressive clinical data with Arthramid Vet, a related product of the company, in the treatment of lameness in horses. Arthrosamid becomes embedded in the synovial membrane, providing increased cushioning and other therapeutic benefits to patients with knee osteoarthritis. Patients benefit from both pain relief and improved mobility.

About Osteoarthritis of the Knee

Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis, characterized by pain and physical disability. More than 10% of people over the age of 55 suffer from symptomatic osteoarthritis, primarily involving the knees. Due to the pivotal role of the knee in basic mobility, knee osteoarthritis is associated with significant impairments and limitations in basic activities of daily living, such as walking and moving around, self-care and participation in activities, all contributing to a reduced quality of life. There is a drought of available effective treatments for knee osteoarthritis today. Even the widely used hyaluronic acids are accepted to have limited efficacy and work for limited duration.

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About Contura

Contura is headquartered in London and has its manufacturing facility in Copenhagen, Denmark. It specialises in the distribution and sale of healthcare products, both pharmaceuticals and medical devices, focused primarily in women's health. Its lead products are Bulkamid[®], Aquamid[®], Regurin[®] XL and Cystistat[®]. It also has a number of ongoing development programmes focused upon additional uses of its proprietary hydrogel technology, one of which is Arthrosamid[®] for the treatment of osteoarthritis in the knee. Contura has an established sales and marketing infrastructure in the leading European and worldwide markets, either through its own sales force or through distribution partners. It has its own offices in the UK, Denmark, Germany, France and Italy, currently employing around 45 staff worldwide.

References

1. Henriksen et al. Intra-articular 2.5% polyacrylamide hydrogel for the treatment of knee osteoarthritis: an observational proof-of-concept cohort study. *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology* 2018.
2. Overgaard et al. Safety of intra-articular polyacrylamide hydrogel for the treatment of knee osteoarthritis symptoms: a retrospective case series. *Clinical Orthopedics Advanced Research Journal: COARJ-100001*, Issue 1, 2019.

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