

November 12, 2014



## **Ligand Partner GlaxoSmithKline Announces EU Regulatory Submission for Severe Aplastic Anemia Indication for Revolade™ (eltrombopag)**

SAN DIEGO-- **Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (NASDAQ: LGND)** announced that its partner GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) plc reported the submission to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) of a variation to the Marketing Authorization for Revolade™ (eltrombopag), seeking an additional indication for the treatment of adult patients with severe aplastic anemia (SAA) who have had an insufficient response to immunosuppressive therapy (IST).

SAA is a rare disorder in which the bone marrow fails to make enough new blood cells. There are currently no approved therapies available in the European Union (EU) for patients with SAA. Of those patients unresponsive to initial IST, approximately 40% die from infection or bleeding within five years of their diagnosis.

The EMA submission is based on the results of a pivotal open-label phase II study (ELT112523) and two supporting phase II studies (ELT116826 and ELT116643) by the National Institute of Health (NIH) evaluating eltrombopag in patients with SAA.

### **About eltrombopag**

On August 26, 2014, eltrombopag—marketed as Promacta™ in the USA and as Revolade in Europe and other countries across the world—was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for once-daily use in patients with SAA who have had an insufficient response to IST. Eltrombopag is not approved or licensed anywhere else in the world for use in SAA.

In addition, eltrombopag is approved in more than 95 countries worldwide for the treatment of thrombocytopenia (low blood platelet counts) in patients with chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) and in 43 countries worldwide for the treatment of thrombocytopenia in patients with chronic hepatitis C to allow them to initiate and maintain interferon-based therapy.

For the full US Prescribing Information for Promacta, including Boxed Warning, visit <https://www.gsksource.com/gskprm/htdocs/documents/PROMACTA-PI-MG-COMBINED.PDF>. For the full EU Patient Information Leaflet or Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) for Revolade please visit <http://health.gsk.com/>.

Promacta and Revolade are registered trademarks of the GSK group of companies.

### **About GSK**

One of the world's leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies – is committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer. For further information please visit [www.gsk.com](http://www.gsk.com).

## **About Ligand Pharmaceuticals**

Ligand is a biopharmaceutical company with a business model that is based upon the concept of developing or acquiring royalty revenue generating assets and coupling them to a lean corporate cost structure. Ligand's goal is to produce a bottom line that supports a sustainably profitable business. By diversifying our portfolio of assets across numerous technology types, therapeutic areas, drug targets and industry partners, we offer investors an opportunity to invest in the increasingly complicated and unpredictable pharmaceutical industry. In comparison to its peers, we believe Ligand has assembled one of the largest and most diversified asset portfolios in the industry with the potential to generate revenue in the future. These therapies address the unmet medical needs of patients for a broad spectrum of diseases including diabetes, hepatitis, muscle wasting, Alzheimer's disease, dyslipidemia, anemia, asthma and osteoporosis. Ligand's Captisol platform technology is a patent protected, chemically modified cyclodextrin with a structure designed to optimize the solubility and stability of drugs. Ligand has established multiple alliances with the world's leading pharmaceutical companies including GlaxoSmithKline, Onyx Pharmaceuticals (a subsidiary of Amgen Inc.), Merck, Pfizer, Baxter International, Eli Lilly & Co. and Spectrum Pharmaceuticals. Please visit [www.captisol.com](http://www.captisol.com) for more information on Captisol. For more information on Ligand, please visit [www.ligand.com](http://www.ligand.com). Follow Ligand on Twitter @Ligand\_LGND.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

This news release contains forward-looking statements by Ligand that involve risks and uncertainties and reflect Ligand's judgment as of the date of this release. These forward-looking statements include comments regarding eltrombopag, data analysis and evaluation of eltrombopag, utility or potential benefits to patients, the potential commercial market for eltrombopag and plans for continued development and further studies of eltrombopag. Actual events or results may differ from Ligand's expectations. For example, there can be no assurance that other trials or evaluations of eltrombopag will be favorable or that they will confirm results of previous studies, that data evaluation will be completed or demonstrate any hypothesis or endpoint, that eltrombopag will provide utility or benefits to certain patients, that any presentations will be favorably received, that eltrombopag will be useful, that marketing applications will be filed or, if filed, approved, or that clinical or commercial development of eltrombopag will be initiated, completed or successful or that our rights to eltrombopag will not be successfully challenged. The failure to meet expectations with respect to any of the foregoing matters may reduce Ligand's stock price. Additional information concerning these and other risk factors affecting Ligand can be found in prior press releases available at [www.ligand.com](http://www.ligand.com) as well as in public periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, available at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Ligand disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements beyond the date of this press release. This caution is made under the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

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