

Press Release



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Renopharm Ltd. and Hemoteq AG to Develop Jointly a Drug-Eluting Stent Based on a New Novel Nitric Oxide donor technology (NO-DES)

Nazareth, Israel and Wuerselen, Germany - The biotechnology company Renopharm Ltd. and the medical technology company Hemoteq AG announced today a cooperative agreement to develop and market a "next generation" drug-eluting stent. This joint venture is based on a new drug candidate developed by Renopharm that uses the advantageous of Nitric Oxide technology platform, as well as Hemoteqs many years of experience developing innovative coated stents.

Michael Hoffmann, CEO of Hemoteq, commented:

"We believe Renopharms nitric oxide-donating technology has the potential to generate promising new approaches for a broad range of cardiovascular diseases, a number of which currently have no effective treatment. Our existing collaboration with Renopharm has produced very encouraging results and we are pleased to now have exclusive access to Renopharm nitric oxide-donation technology in all cardiovascular indications to broaden our investigation of this important area."

Stents are implantable vascular supports (scaffolding devices) inserted after the dilation of blood vessels that have been narrowed by arteriosclerosis in order to keep these vessels open. They support the wall of the arteries and thereby reduce the risk of the blood vessel closing again. With conventional stents, cell growth develops again within the stents in up to 30% of all patients who have received them. This is referred to as restenosis, a condition that often requires patients to be subjected to another intervention.

Drug-eluting stents of the first generation have been approved recently, whereby cytostatic agents help to reduce the risk of restenosis.

Peter Assaf, CEO of Renopharm, commented: *"Hemoteqs decision to sign this major new agreement is a significant endorsement of our nitric oxide-donating technology, which presents a wide array of drug discovery possibilities throughout the field of cardiovascular disorders. We have been impressed by Hemoteqs collaborative spirit, which has allowed the two companies to work together in an efficient and focused manner. We are looking forward to building on this relationship*

through our new agreement and to developing important new medical devices for cardiovascular disorders and CNS disorders.”

We are very pleased to push ahead together the development of drug-eluting stents of the next generation. This cooperation also shows the various therapeutic possibilities that will result from our highly specific nitric oxide technology,” says Dr. Peter Assaf, CEO of Renopharm.

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