

Applied Pharma Research s.a. (APR) and Novartis Pharma AG have signed a global license agreement, following a successful clinical trials programme, for the use of APR's quick release diclofenac delivery system.

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Applied Pharma Research s.a. (APR) has entered a global (except USA and Canada) and exclusive Licence Agreement with Novartis Pharma AG for the further development and marketing of a modified, immediate release formulation of Diclofenac Potassium. The 50 mg powder was originally developed by APR using its own proprietary Drug Delivery Technology.

A new patented formulation of the NSAID diclofenac potassium, 50 mg powder for oral solution (sachets) has been developed by APR (Balerna, Switzerland) using its own proprietary and patented oral Drug Delivery System. The aim is to speed up the onset of analgesic action and improve the clinical efficacy of quick release diclofenac-K formulations for the short-term treatment of acute pain.

Thanks to APR's technology, which creates the optimal pH conditions for quick absorption of diclofenac in the stomach, the formulation has an advantageous pharmacokinetic profile. This fast absorption, and reduced contact with the gastric mucosa, has also been proven to have benefits in relation to gastric tolerability.

Based on the preliminary results, the product has been licensed exclusively (worldwide, except US and Canada) to Novartis Pharma AG (Basel, Switzerland), a leader in the antiinflammatories-analgesics area.

APR Applied Pharma Research s.a. is a privately owned, pure R&D company with registered offices in Switzerland. It is focused in the research & development of innovative and patented drug delivery systems as well as innovative pharmaceutical products primarily for oral and topical administration. APR products and technologies are licensed to third parties for distribution and marketing activities. R&D activities are carried out directly or under contract. APR has signed licensing agreements with pharmaceutical companies worldwide and its sales are almost totally achieved abroad. Interview Contact: Paolo Galfetti, Licensing Director, Telephone: +41.91.6957020, Email: paolo.galfetti@apr.ch, Website: www.apr.ch