



Personalised medicine to treat rheumatoid arthritis – now or never? UCB opens the debate at the British Society for Rheumatology Annual Meeting

Slough, UK, 21 April 2016: UCB, a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines for people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of the central nervous system is putting the spotlight on biomarkers in the creation of bespoke treatments for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) at the British Society for Rheumatology Annual Meeting, which takes place in Glasgow, Scotland.¹

UCB's Innovation Session at the pre-eminent RA medical gathering in the UK is entitled "Biomarkers: Rich Promise or Eternal Frustration?" will be presented by Professor Iain McInnes, Professor Experimental Medicine University of Glasgow. The event takes place on Tuesday, 26 April at 10.30am at Rheumatology 2016 at the SECC Glasgow.¹

Professor McInnes will take the audience through the use of biomarkers in the management of RA; demonstrate the different available modalities in RA and illustrate how biomarkers could influence treatment strategies in the future.

Dr Julian Maitland, UCB's Medical Director of Immunology said: "At UCB, we remain steadfastly committed to rheumatology and to providing treatments for patients with severe chronic conditions. The Innovation Session at this year's BSR meeting highlights our commitment to ongoing scientific research in immunology and is aimed at stimulating leading-edge scientific debate."



Rheumatology 2016
26-28 April 2016 | SECC Glasgow, UK

The BSR annual meeting, Rheumatology 2016, is the pre-eminent educational and networking event for the UK's rheumatologist community. Last year's event attracted more than 2,100 experts from 43 countries.²

Rheumatic diseases affect hundreds of millions of people around the world and are the most common cause of severe long-term pain and physical disability. The burden of rheumatic diseases on people and society is expected to increase dramatically over the next decade, largely due to an increasingly ageing population and lifestyle changes throughout the world.³

The pain and disability caused by rheumatic disease can have an impact on emotional well-being and mental health. Rheumatic diseases not only affect the people suffering from them but also their families who bear significant burden in terms of high financial costs, time and personal commitment to ensure relatives receive the necessary care and treatment.³

The serious impact of rheumatic disease is the reason UCB continues its commitment to research in this disease area and providing value to patients living with these conditions.

References:

1. PowerPoint presentation by Professor McInnes
2. Elsevier conferences: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/rheumatology2016/275048/>. Accessed April 2016
3. World Health Organisation: Burden of Musculoskeletal Conditions Anthony D Wolf and Bruce Pfleger. <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/81/9/Woolf.pdf> Accessed April 2016.

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About UCB

UCB, Brussels, Belgium (www.ucb.com) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of the central nervous system. With more than 7,700 people in approximately 40 countries, the company generated revenue of € 3.9 billion in 2015. UCB is listed on Euronext Brussels (symbol: UCB).

Forward looking statements

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Moreover, sales may be impacted by international and domestic trends toward managed care and health care cost containment and the reimbursement policies imposed by third-party payers as well as legislation affecting biopharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement.