



PRESS RELEASE

ABSTRACT ON CNS 7056 HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS ONE OF THE BEST ABSTRACTS BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS (ASA)

- Abstract to be presented at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, USA at 8-10 a.m. on 19 October 2009
- 12 out of 1975 abstracts have been selected

Aachen (Germany), 5 October 2009 – The biopharmaceutical company PAION AG (ISIN DE000A0B65S3; Frankfurt Stock Exchange, Prime Standard: PA8) today announces that the abstract “A Phase I SAD Study Evaluating the Safety, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of CNS 7056” has been chosen for an oral presentation at the Best Abstracts session of the 2009 ASA Annual Meeting. The ASA committee has evaluated the subcommittees' ratings of the top 400 abstracts out of more than 1975 submitted. PAION's submission was selected as one of the 12 that had “outstanding scientific rigor and importance as well as broad appeal”.

“We are proud that a prestigious scientific organization like the ASA recognized the value of the work being done by all our cooperation partners as well as PAION. This honor is also a very encouraging recognition for our innovative short acting anesthetic/sedative CNS 7056, which has shown fast clinical progress and excellent results in ongoing trials” commented Dr. Wolfgang Söhngen, PAION's CEO and added: *“The scientific acceptance shows that the CeNeS acquisition was the right decision and is starting to pay off.”*

The Best Abstract Award recognizes and encourages outstanding innovative research. The oral presentation will be held at the “Best Abstracts of the Meeting: Anesthesiology Editors' Picks” Special Session of the 2009 ASA Annual Meeting at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, USA at 8-10 a.m. EDT on 19 October 2009. In addition, the abstract will be published in the “Celebration of Research” booklet which will be distributed at the meeting. The full length scientific publication is planned for the April 2010 issue of Anesthesiology.

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About CNS 7056

CNS 7056 is a new short-acting sedative and general anesthetic that acts on GABA_A receptors. CNS 7056 is a water-soluble, rapid and short-acting GABA_A receptor modulator interacting with the benzodiazepine site. The clinical proof of concept study, reported in January 2009, showed that, after intravenous administration, CNS 7056 rapidly induces sedation. Importantly the sedative effects rapidly disappear after cessation of administration. The rapid offset of effect of the compound is due to its metabolism by esterase enzymes that are widely distributed throughout the body. Therefore, it is anticipated that CNS

7056 can be clinically developed as a sedative agent for day case procedures, the induction and maintenance of anesthesia and ICU sedation. PAION initiated partnering discussions in parallel to the ongoing Phase II in order to accelerate the further development of CNS 7056 for territories outside Japan, where the compound is partnered to Ono Pharmaceuticals.

About PAION

PAION is a biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Aachen, Germany. Since the acquisition of CeNeS Pharmaceuticals, which was completed in June 2008, the company has a second site in Cambridge, UK. The company is specialized in developing and commercializing innovative drugs for the hospital-based treatment of central nervous system (CNS) disorders and thrombotic/cardiovascular diseases, indications for which there is a substantial unmet medical need. PAION has a "Search & Develop" business model, which is based on its core expertise in drug development. Where appropriate, particularly during the late stages of the clinical development, PAION seeks to collaborate with experienced partners.

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