

News Release

Lonza Group Ltd
Muenchensteinerstrasse 38
CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland
www.lonza.com

Lonza and Opsona enter into manufacturing agreement

Basel, Switzerland, 27 February 2009 – Lonza and Opsona entered into an agreement for the production of the monoclonal antibody OPN-305 developed by Opsona. Under this agreement Lonza will provide process development and cGMP manufacturing services for preclinical and Phase 1 studies using Lonza's GS Gene Expression System™. Financial details of the agreement were not disclosed.

OPN-305 is being developed by Opsona for phase 1 clinical studies planned for late 2010. OPN-305 is a fully humanised antibody, and positive pre-clinical data has been generated in multiple models of inflammatory and autoimmune diseases.

“Lonza is pleased to enter into this agreement with Opsona, thus supporting a promising pipeline of an emerging biotech company”, comments Dr. Stephan Kutzer, Head of Lonza Biopharmaceuticals.

About Lonza

Lonza is one of the world's leading suppliers to the pharmaceutical, healthcare and life science industries. Its products and services span its customers' needs from research to final product manufacture. Lonza is the global leader in the production and support of active pharmaceutical ingredients both chemically as well as biotechnologically. Biopharmaceuticals are one of the key growth drivers of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Lonza has strong capabilities in large and small molecules, peptides, amino acids and niche bioproducts which play an important role in the development of novel medicines and healthcare products. Lonza is a leader in cell-based research, endotoxin detection and cell therapy manufacturing. Lonza is also a leading provider of value chemical and biotech ingredients to the nutrition, hygiene, preservation, agro and personal care markets.

Lonza is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland and is listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange. In 2008, Lonza had sales of CHF 2.94 billion. Further information can be found at www.lonza.com.

About Opsona Therapeutics

Opsona is a drug development company, focused on novel therapeutic and preventative approaches to autoimmune and inflammatory diseases. The company was founded in 2004 with three of Trinity College Dublin's respected Immunologists. The company is specifically interested in drugs which modulate the immune system and its signalling, specifically Toll-Like Receptors (TLR). Opsona has a pipeline of therapeutics in advanced pre-clinical development which modulate the immune system, including biologics and small molecules. The company has signed some significant partnering and collaborative deals, such as with Wyeth (USA). The company is based in Dublin and also has laboratories in Lausanne, Switzerland.

During February 2009, Opsona announced the completion of an €18m fundraising supported by Novartis Venture Fund, Fountain Healthcare Partners, Inventages Venture Capital and Seroba Kernel. The company has also recently announced a collaborative research agreement with CSL (Australia) surrounding novel vaccine adjuvant technologies.

www.opsona.com

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For further Information:

Head Corporate Communications	Media Relations	Investor Relations
Michael Frizberg	Dominik Werner	Alexandre Pasini
Tel +41 61 316 8624	Tel +41 61 316 8798	Tel +41 61 316 8835
Fax +41 61 316 9624	Fax +41 61 316 9798	Fax +41 61 316 9835
michael.frizberg@lonza.com	dominik.werner@lonza.com	alexandre.pasini@lonza.com