

## Cerbios-Pharma SA and Lipidor AB strengthen partnership

Cerbios-Pharma SA ([www.cerbios.ch](http://www.cerbios.ch)) is pleased to announce that it has become a shareholder in Lipidor AB ([www.lipidor.se](http://www.lipidor.se)), an action that further strengthens the existing partnership between the two companies regarding the AKVANO® technology, a new versatile delivery system to enable innovative topical formulations.

Cerbios has almost 20 years of experience working with highly potent active pharmaceutical ingredients (HPAI) in dermatologic therapeutics and initiated the alliance with Lipidor back in 2012 (see [News 03/2012](#)). The intention was to offer both clinical development and commercial supply of AKVANO to existing and potential partners, as well as to provide innovative drug products with a superior clinical profile.

*"We decided to become a Lipidor shareholder in part due to the relevant clinical results obtained combining Cerbios' HPAI Calcipotriol with Lipidor's AKVANO delivery system in the treatment of psoriasis (see [News 04/2013](#)) and also because of the excellent collaboration we have experienced with Lipidor's management team. Our strategic objective is to differentiate Cerbios from its competitors in the API manufacturing sector through investment in new technologies that offer innovative products engineered to enhance product performance while improving product profiles across different therapeutic areas," confirms Dr. Gabriel Haering, Cerbios CEO. "We will be very flexible regarding drug substances to be incorporated in the AKVANO formulation. If the API is not already manufactured by Cerbios (company pipeline or contract manufacturing) we will be happy to utilize customer provided compounds or source them from approved suppliers. Several concrete discussions are ongoing regarding new AKVANO projects which could result in clinical trials being conducted during the second half of 2014."*

*"It is a great pleasure to welcome Cerbios as a shareholder of Lipidor. Our successful cooperation will deepen and we see many opportunities for joint development and commercialisation around AKVANO," said Dr. Anders Carlsson, Lipidor CEO. "Cerbios will be an important strategic partner for Lipidor and the AKVANO technology going forward."*

The AKVANO® technology represents a completely new dosage form that creates a lipid layer on the skin surface for effective delivery of drugs and skin care treatment. AKVANO formulations offer significant advantages over many currently available treatments and deliver benefits in four key areas:

- **Effective drug delivery** achieved through highly efficient physicochemical interaction with the skin barrier.
- **Lipid-based approach** enables skin barrier reinforcement and many other possibilities to optimize topical performance.
- **Preferred by patients** due to ease of application, fast drying, non-greasy formula and pleasant sensation on the skin.
- **Favourable product development conditions** that streamline development and manufacturing of both novel and reformulated products.



**Anders Carlsson, CEO of Lipidor (left) and Gabriel Haering, CEO of Cerbios**

## About Cerbios-Pharma SA

Cerbios is a privately held company located in Lugano, Switzerland, that specializes in the development and manufacture of both chemical and biological APIs for its partners world-wide. APIs made by Cerbios include small molecules (Chemical Division) and large molecules and probiotics (Biological Division). Exclusive, third-party manufacturing services are offered by the Chemical Division for HPAs and by the Biological Division for recombinant proteins or monoclonal antibodies.

Cerbios provides full CMC support to its world-wide partners, including the supply of cGMP clinical batches, registration/validation material and commercially manufactured APIs. Paramount to this is the ability to supply all of the technical documentation and support necessary for a successful registration. Cerbios' commercial products are marketed primarily in Europe, USA, Japan and India.

## About Lipidor AB

Lipidor AB is a Swedish drug delivery company established in 2009. The Company is focused on the development and commercialization of its AKVANO<sup>®</sup> technology, a new proprietary class of topical medication that offers "lipid layer" product opportunities across dermatology, wound & burn care and skin care markets. In August 2013 Lipidor announced positive results from a Phase I/IIa study carried out to investigate the efficacy and tolerability of its AKVANO<sup>®</sup>/Calcipotriol spray formulation for the treatment of psoriasis vulgaris, the most common form of psoriasis. Research and development is conducted at Karolinska Institutet and Stockholm University.

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