

## **UroGene Acquires Exclusive Besipirdine Rights From Aventis**

EVRY, France, – January 7, 2004

UroGene S.A. announced today that the company has signed an exclusive development and commercialization agreement with Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. for Besipirdine, that UroGene will develop for the treatment of Over Active Bladder (OAB).

Besipirdine was previously under evaluation by Aventis up to phase III for Alzheimer's disease, involving the administration of the compound to over 1500 patients. UroGene recently demonstrated the potential for the compound in OAB as a new C-fiber inhibitor with an original mechanism of action. UroGene will pursue development starting from phase II clinical trials in OAB patients.

With a prevalence of 16%, and only 1.8 % of patients being treated, OAB market potential is evaluated at around \$1.2 billion and expected to reach \$4.2 billions by 2009. Current treatments are not satisfactory for 50 % of patients due to inefficiency or secondary effects.

“UroGene intends to become a leading provider of products for the urological field,” said Christian Grenier, CEO of UroGene. “This major in-licensing deal with Aventis provides UroGene with a novel, first-in-class drug that could offer superior efficacy treatment for OAB patients. This also enables us to broaden our urological portfolio in a promising indication with a clear unmet medical need. This will further strengthen the historical relationship between Aventis and UroGene, recently highlighted by the acquisition of Chrysalon, UroGene's chemical department which is a spin-off from Aventis”.

Financial terms of the agreement are not disclosed.

### **About UroGene**

UroGene is a drug discovery and development company targeting innovative therapies for urological disorders.

To efficiently progress in building its clinical pipeline, the company's business model is based on a combination of innovative internal research programs and acquisition of in-licensing compounds at various stages of development in urology.

The primary focus of UroGene's drug research and development programs is prostate and bladder cancer for which there is a considerable need for new and better treatments. By accessing human prostate and bladder samples from its clinical network, UroGene's scientists have discovered and validated innovative drug targets dedicated to find new cures for these urological carcinomas. The company is currently developing four internal projects at the preclinical level. For more information please visit our web site at

[www.urogene.com](http://www.urogene.com).

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