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# European Commission Extends Approval for Janssen's DARZALEX®▼(daratumumab) to Include Multiple Myeloma Patients Who Have Received at Least One Prior Therapy

*First-in-class CD38-directed monoclonal antibody now approved for use in combination with two standard of care regimens* 

BEERSE, BELGIUM, 28 April, 2017 – Janssen-Cilag International NV ("Janssen") today announced that the European Commission (EC) has granted approval to DARZALEX<sup>®</sup> ▼ (daratumumab) for use in combination with lenalidomide and dexamethasone, or bortezomib (VELCADE<sup>®</sup>) and dexamethasone, for the treatment of adult patients with multiple myeloma (MM) who have received at least one prior therapy.

The EC's decision was based on data from the Phase 3 POLLUX (MMY3003) study, presented in the Presidential session at EHA 2016 and <u>published</u> in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, in October 2016<sup>1</sup>; and Phase 3 CASTOR (MMY3004) study, presented in the plenary session at ASCO 2016 and also <u>published</u> in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in August 2016.<sup>2</sup> The addition of daratumumab significantly reduced the risk of disease progression or death, by 63% in POLLUX and 61% in CASTOR, when combined with standard of care regimens (p<0.001 in both studies).<sup>1,2</sup>

The safety profile of daratumumab in combination with standard of care regimens was consistent with daratumumab monotherapy studies and with that for the standard of care regimens. In combination with lenalidomide and dexamethasone (POLLUX), the most common adverse events of grade 3 or 4 during treatment were neutropenia (51.9%), thrombocytopenia (12.7%), and anaemia (12.4%).<sup>1</sup> Daratumumab-associated infusion-related reactions occurred in 47.7% of the patients and were mostly of grade 1 or 2.<sup>1</sup> In

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combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone (CASTOR) three of the most common grade 3 or 4 adverse events reported were thrombocytopenia (45.3%), anaemia (14.4%), and neutropenia (12.8%).<sup>2</sup> Infusion-related reactions that were associated with daratumumab treatment were reported in 45.3% of the patients; these reactions were mostly grade 1 or 2 (grade 3 in 8.6% of patients), and in 98.2% of these patients, they occurred during the first infusion.<sup>2</sup>

"Data from both the CASTOR and POLLUX studies demonstrated improved progressionfree survival and a reduction in disease progression or death compared to standard of care," said Torben Plesner, M.D., Vejle Hospital, Vejle, Denmark, a daratumumab clinical trial investigator. "Together, these results show daratumumab in combination with either a proteasome inhibitor or an immunomodulatory agent has the potential to provide clinical benefit to patients after one or more lines of therapy."

"This approval is an important step for people living with multiple myeloma across our region and offers some patients a new treatment option. We are encouraged by the data we have seen for daratumumab to date and will continue to investigate its potential," said Dr Catherine Taylor, Haematology Therapeutic Area Lead, Janssen Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA).

The initial Marketing Authorisation was granted in <u>May 2016</u> for daratumumab as monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed and refractory multiple myeloma, whose prior therapy included a proteasome inhibitor and an immunomodulatory agent and who have demonstrated disease progression on the last therapy.<sup>3</sup> This Authorisation was marked as conditional based on Janssen providing additional data from the MMY3003 (POLLUX) and MMY3004 (CASTOR) studies.<sup>4</sup> With the provision of these results, the EC has considered the Specific Obligations associated with the conditional Marketing Authorisation to have been fulfilled, allowing the switch from conditional to full approval.<sup>5</sup>

#### #ENDS#

## About Multiple Myeloma

Multiple myeloma (MM) is an incurable blood cancer that starts in the bone marrow and is characterised by an excessive proliferation of plasma cells.<sup>6</sup> MM is the second most common form of blood cancer, with around 39,000 new cases worldwide in 2012.<sup>7</sup> MM most commonly affects people over the age of 65 and is more common in men than in women.<sup>8</sup> The most recent five-year survival data for 2000-2007 show that across Europe,



up to half of newly diagnosed patients do not reach five-year survival. <sup>9</sup> Almost 29% of patients with MM will die within one year of diagnosis.<sup>10</sup> Although treatment may result in remission, unfortunately, patients will most likely relapse as there is currently no cure. While some patients with MM have no symptoms at all, most patients are diagnosed due to symptoms that can include bone problems, low blood counts, calcium elevation, kidney problems or infections.<sup>8</sup> Patients who relapse after treatment with standard therapies, including PIs and immunomodulatory agents, have poor prognoses and few treatment options available.<sup>11</sup>

## About Daratumumab

Daratumumab is a first-in-class biologic targeting CD38, a surface protein that is highly expressed across multiple myeloma cells, regardless of disease stage.<sup>12-14</sup> Daratumumab induces rapid tumour cell death through apoptosis (programmed cell death)<sup>4,15</sup> and multiple immune-mediated mechanisms of action, including complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC), antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) and antibody-dependent cellular phagocytosis (ADCP).<sup>4,16,17</sup> Daratumumab has also demonstrated immunomodulatory effects that contribute to tumour cell death via a decrease in immune suppressive cells including T-regs, B-regs and myeloid-derived suppressor cells.<sup>4,18</sup> Daratumumab is being evaluated in a comprehensive clinical development programme that includes five Phase 3 studies across a range of treatment settings in multiple myeloma. Additional studies are ongoing or planned to assess its potential in other malignant and pre-malignant diseases in which CD38 is expressed. For more information, please see <u>www.clinicaltrials.gov</u>.

For further information on daratumumab, please see the Summary of Product Characteristics at

http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/medicines/human/medicines/004 077/human\_med\_001979.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac058001d124.<sup>5</sup>

In <u>August 2012</u>, Janssen Biotech, Inc. and Genmab A/S entered a worldwide agreement, which granted Janssen an exclusive license to develop, manufacture and commercialise daratumumab.

## **About the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies**

At the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson, we are working to create a world without disease. Transforming lives by finding new and better ways to prevent, intercept, treat and cure disease inspires us. We bring together the best minds and pursue the most promising science. We are Janssen. We collaborate with the world for the health



of everyone in it. Learn more at <u>www.janssen.com/emea</u>. Follow us at <u>www.twitter.com/janssenEMEA</u>.

## **Cautions Concerning Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 regarding potential benefits and treatment options related to DARZALEX<sup>®</sup> (daratumumab). The reader is cautioned not to rely on these forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations of future events. If underlying assumptions prove inaccurate or known or unknown risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results could vary materially from the expectations and projections of Janssen-Cilag International NV, any of the other Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies and/or Johnson & Johnson. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: challenges and uncertainties inherent in product research and development, including the uncertainty of clinical success and of obtaining regulatory approvals; uncertainty of commercial success; manufacturing difficulties and delays; competition, including technological advances, new products and patents attained by competitors; challenges to patents; product efficacy or safety concerns resulting in product recalls or regulatory action; changes in behavior and spending patterns or financial distress of purchasers of health care products and services; changes to applicable laws and regulations, including global health care reforms; and trends toward health care cost containment. A further list and descriptions of these risks, uncertainties and other factors can be found in Johnson & Johnson's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 1, 2017, including in the sections captioned "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Item 1A. Risk Factors," and the company's subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Copies of these filings are available online at <u>www.sec.gov</u>, www.jnj.com or on request from Johnson & Johnson. None of the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies or Johnson & Johnson undertakes to update any forward-looking statement as a result of new information or future events or developments.

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