



Monday, May 11, 2009

## **ANGIOTECH AND BOSTON SCIENTIFIC WELCOME JOURNAL ARTICLE NOTING IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DRUG-ELUTING STENT BRANDS**

**Vancouver, BC, May 11, 2009** – Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP) today announced its corporate partner, Boston Scientific Corporation, has welcomed the publication of an article in the current edition of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC) reviewing data on more than 19,000 patients from the Swedish national registry who were evaluated for restenosis, or the re-narrowing of arteries after percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). The article reported that patients who received a TAXUS® Liberté® Paclitaxel-Eluting Stent had numerically lower incidences of repeat procedures to treat restenosis at two years as compared to patients treated with 'olimus-based drug-eluting stents (DES), including Cordis' Cypher® Stent and Medtronic's Endeavor® Stent. In the patients with diabetes, the TAXUS Liberté Stent demonstrated a statistically significant lower restenosis rate compared to the Endeavor Stent, which had more than two times the risk of repeat procedures.

The Swedish Coronary Angiography and Angioplasty Registry holds data on all patients undergoing PCI in Sweden. The objective of this independent study was to evaluate restenosis rates of drug-eluting stents in patients with and without diabetes in a real-world setting. The JACC article reported that both the TAXUS Liberté Stent and Boston Scientific's first-generation DES -- the TAXUS® Express® Stent -- were the only stents in the study showing no increased risk of restenosis for patients with diabetes as compared to those without diabetes. Both the Cypher Stent and Endeavor Stent showed significant increased risk of restenosis in patients with diabetes. In addition, the study showed that the TAXUS Liberté Stent had an approximately 23 percent lower restenosis rate at two years compared to the prior-generation TAXUS Express Stent. The authors concluded that "There seem to be important differences between different brands of DES."<sup>(1)</sup>

“The results of this study are noteworthy for TAXUS Liberté, which compared favorably in rates of repeat procedures to both ‘olimus stents,” said Donald S. Baim, M.D., Chief Medical and Scientific Officer of Boston Scientific. “The findings presented in the article are consistent with our own clinical trial observations, including recently published ARRIVE and ATLAS data, and may reflect the different mechanism of action for paclitaxel compared to the ‘olimus agents used in the other drug-eluting stents. The newer and thinner-strut TAXUS Liberté Stent performed better than the TAXUS Express Stent in reducing restenosis.”

The Swedish registry study included four DES brands: TAXUS Liberté, TAXUS Express, Cypher and Endeavor. In total, the registry included 35,478 DES implants during 22,962 procedures in 19,004 patients, with 1,807 restenoses reported over a mean 29-month follow-up period. For the entire study population, the repeat revascularization rate per stent was 3.5 percent after one year and 4.9 percent after two years. Overall, the adjusted risk of restenosis was 1.23 times higher in patients with diabetes than in patients without diabetes. In patients with diabetes, restenosis was higher in the non-TAXUS Stents. The sirolimus-eluting Cypher Stent and the zotarolimus-eluting Endeavor Stent had higher restenosis rates in patients with diabetes compared with those in patients without diabetes (1.25 times and 1.77 times, respectively).

TAXUS Stents have been evaluated by the industry's most extensive randomized, controlled clinical trial program, with follow-up to five years in some cases. These trial results have been supplemented by data on more than 35,000 patients enrolled in post-approval registries. To date, approximately 11 million Boston Scientific stents have been implanted globally, making them the world's most frequently used stents.

The TAXUS Liberté Paclitaxel-Eluting Coronary Stent System received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval in October 2008, and received European CE Mark approval for use in patients with diabetes in December 2007. In the U.S., the TAXUS Stents are not specifically indicated for use in patients with diabetes.

(1) J Am Coll Cardiol 2009;53:1660-7

### **Forward Looking Statements**

Statements contained in this press release that are not based on historical fact, including without limitation statements containing the words "believes," "may," "plans," "will," "estimates," "continues," "anticipates," "intends," "expects" and similar expressions, constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws. All such statements are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of applicable securities legislation. Forward-looking statements may involve, but are not limited to, comments with respect to our objectives and priorities for 2009 and beyond, our strategies or future actions, our targets, expectations for our financial condition and the results of, or outlook for, our operations, research, development, product and drug development. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, events or developments to be materially different from any future results, events or developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Many such risks, uncertainties and other factors are taken into account as part of our assumptions underlying these forward-looking statements and include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions, both nationally and in the regions in which we operate; market demand; technological changes that could impact our existing products or our ability to develop and commercialize future products; competition; existing governmental regulations and changes in, or the failure to comply with, governmental regulations; adverse results or unexpected delays in pre-clinical and clinical product development processes; adverse findings related to the safety and/or efficacy of our products or products sold by our partners; decisions, and the timing of decisions, made by health regulatory agencies regarding approval of our technology and products; the requirement for substantial funding to conduct research and development and to expand manufacturing and commercialization activities or consummate acquisitions; and any other factors that may affect performance. In addition, our business is subject to certain operating risks that may cause the actual results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements in this press release to differ materially from our actual results. These operating risks include: our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel; our ability to successfully complete pre-clinical and clinical development of our products; changes in business strategy or development plans; our failure to obtain patent protection for discoveries; loss of patent protection resulting from third party challenges to our patents; commercialization limitations imposed by patents owned or controlled by third parties; our ability to obtain rights to technology from licensors; liability for patent claims and other claims asserted against us; our ability to obtain and enforce timely patent and other intellectual property protection for our technology and products; the ability to enter into, and to maintain, corporate alliances relating to the development and commercialization of our technology and products; market acceptance of our technology and products; our ability to successfully manufacture, market and sell our products; the continued availability of capital to finance our activities; and any other factors referenced in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and applicable Canadian regulatory authorities. For a more thorough discussion of the risks associated with our business, see the "Risk Factors" section in our annual report for the year ended December 31, 2008 filed with the SEC on Form 10-K, and our quarterly report for the three months ended March 31, 2009 filed with the SEC on Form 10-Q.

**Given these uncertainties, assumptions and risk factors, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we disclaim any obligation to update any such factors or to publicly announce the result of any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this press release to reflect future results, events or developments.**

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**About Angiotech Pharmaceuticals**

Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a global specialty pharmaceutical and medical device company with over 1,500 dedicated employees. Angiotech discovers, develops and markets innovative treatment solutions for diseases or complications associated with medical device implants, surgical interventions and acute injury. To find out more about Angiotech (NASDAQ: ANPI, TSX: ANP), please visit our website at [www.angiotech.com](http://www.angiotech.com).

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