

Amerisourcebergen Corporation Logo

AmerisourceBergen Selected Exclusive Physician Distributor and Reimbursement Support for New Biotech Drug Launch

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VALLEY FORGE, Pa.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 31, 2003--

Specialty Group Crafts Support Program For Biogen's Launch of

AMEVIVE(R)(alefacept)

AmerisourceBergen Corporation (NYSE:ABC), the largest pharmaceutical services company focused solely on the pharmaceutical supply channel, today announced that its Specialty Group has been selected as the physician distributor and reimbursement support provider for the launch of AMEVIVE(R) (alefacept), a recently approved drug from Biogen, Inc. for the treatment of moderate-to-severe chronic plaque psoriasis.

AMEVIVE will be provided to patients primarily through dermatologists that specialize in psoriasis and other skin diseases. The new treatment is administered in the physician's office by injection and requires weekly blood monitoring. To ensure patient safety and appropriate administration of AMEVIVE, Biogen built an integrated service model to help facilitate reimbursement, provide patient support, and manage product distribution.

In winning the business, AmerisourceBergen Specialty Group created a streamlined, physician-oriented solution for Biogen. The Group will provide patient reimbursement support by coordinating patient insurance benefits; manage just-in-time delivery of AMEVIVE to physicians for treatment; and provide information technology resources to support sales activities with a dedicated ordering and reporting portal.

"We are very pleased that Biogen is using our physician distribution and reimbursement expertise to help launch this exciting new drug," said Steven Collis, Senior Vice President and President AmerisourceBergen Specialty Group. "By leveraging across our portfolio of specialty services, we can deliver customized, integrated solutions that assist manufacturers in efficiently bringing new pharmaceuticals to market."

"We have worked together with AmerisourceBergen's specialty team to develop a responsive and customized supply model to support the launch of AMEVIVE," said Chris Dillon, Biogen's Director of Strategic Product Support. "This unique approach allows us to establish and strengthen our relationship with this physician community, while at the same time supporting our needs for management and distribution of AMEVIVE in the channel."

Psoriasis is a T-cell mediated inflammatory skin disease that can cause considerable discomfort. It is a disease for which there is no cure, affecting people of all ages. According to the American Academy of Dermatology, psoriasis affects three to five million people in the United States. Although individuals with mild psoriasis can often control their disease with topical agents, more than one million patients worldwide require ultraviolet or systemic immunosuppressive therapy. According to the National Psoriasis Foundation, the disease impacts a person's psychological well-being and social functioning, as well as their physical functioning.

About AmerisourceBergen

AmerisourceBergen (NYSE:ABC) is the largest pharmaceutical services company in the United States dedicated solely to the pharmaceutical supply chain. It is a leading distributor of pharmaceutical products and services to the hospital systems/acute care market, physicians, alternate care and mail order facilities, independent community pharmacies, and regional chain pharmacies. The Company is also a leader in the institutional pharmacy marketplace. With more than \$40 billion in annualized operating revenue, AmerisourceBergen is headquartered in Valley Forge, PA, and employs more than 13,000 people serving over 25,000 customers. For more information go to www.amerisourcebergen.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release may contain certain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Actual results may vary materially from the expectations contained in the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include statements addressing future financial and operating results of AmerisourceBergen and the benefits and other aspects of the 2001 merger between AmeriSource Health Corporation and Bergen Brunswig Corporation.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in any forward-looking statements: the risk that the businesses of AmeriSource and Bergen Brunswig will not be integrated successfully; failure to obtain and retain expected synergies; and other economic, business, competitive and/or regulatory factors affecting the business of AmerisourceBergen generally.

More detailed information about these factors is set forth in AmerisourceBergen's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2002.

AmerisourceBergen is under no obligation to (and expressly disclaims any such obligation to) update or alter any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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