company announcement

Novo Nordisk announces positive results for phase 2 trial with oral semaglutide in people with type 2 diabetes

Bagsværd, Denmark, 20 February 2015 – Novo Nordisk today announced that it has successfully completed the phase 2 trial for OG217SC; an oral formulation of the long-acting GLP-1 analogue semaglutide, investigating dose range, escalation, efficacy and safety of once-daily oral semaglutide compared with oral placebo or once-weekly subcutaneously administered semaglutide in around 600 people with type 2 diabetes treated for 26 weeks.

From a mean baseline HbA_{1c} of 7.9%, people treated with oral semaglutide in five different doses ranging from 2.5 mg to 40 mg achieved dose-dependent improvements in HbA_{1c} of 0.7% to 1.9% after 26 weeks. By comparison, people treated with a dose of 1 mg subcutaneous semaglutide or placebo achieved improvements of 1.9% and 0.3% respectively. Confirming the primary end-point of the trial, all doses of oral semaglutide were statistically significantly superior to placebo.

Furthermore, from a mean baseline weight of 92 kg, people treated with subcutaneous semaglutide experienced a weight loss of around 6.5 kg, which was comparable to the weight loss experienced by the people treated with the highest doses of oral semaglutide. People treated with placebo experienced a weight loss of just over 1 kg.

In the trial, semaglutide appeared to have a safe and well-tolerated profile. The most common adverse events were related to the gastrointestinal system, primarily nausea and vomiting, and diminished over time. The gastrointestinal adverse events appeared to be dose-dependent and were more prevalent for the highest doses of oral semaglutide compared to subcutaneous semaglutide. No other apparent differences between the treatment groups were observed with respect to overall adverse events and standard safety parameters.

"We are very pleased with the results of this trial confirming the potential of semaglutide to treat type 2 diabetes, both as a once-weekly subcutaneous injection and as a once-daily tablet", said Mads Krogsgaard Thomsen, executive vice president and chief science officer of Novo Nordisk. "This clinical proof of concept marks an important milestone for oral peptide therapy within the field of diabetes".

Novo Nordisk A/S
Investor Relations

Novo Allé
2880 Bagsværd
Denmark

Telephone:
+45 4444 8888

Internet:
www.novonordisk.com
CVR no:
24 25 67 90

Based on these results, Novo Nordisk will initiate consultations with regulatory authorities subsequent to which a decision of whether to progress OG217SC into phase 3 development will be made.

About semaglutide and OG217SC

Semaglutide is a long-acting human GLP-1 analogue that stimulates insulin and suppresses glucagon secretion in a glucose-dependent manner. The molecule is in development for once-weekly subcutaneous use and for once-daily oral administration for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. The oral formulation, OG217SC, is provided in a tablet formulation with an absorption-enhancing excipient, SNAC. SNAC is an absorption-enhancing excipient included in the Eligen® Carrier Concept. The Eligen® technology is licenced from Emisphere Technologies, Inc.

Novo Nordisk is a global healthcare company with more than 90 years of innovation and leadership in diabetes care. The company also has leading positions within haemophilia care, growth hormone therapy and hormone replacement therapy. Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk employs approximately 41,500 employees in 75 countries, and markets its products in more than 180 countries. Novo Nordisk's B shares are listed on Nasdaq Copenhagen (Novo-B). Its ADRs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NVO). For more information, visit novonordisk.com, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube

Further information

Media:

Mike Rulis	+45 3079 3573	mike@novonordisk.com

Investors:

Kasper Roseeuw Poulsen	+45 3079 4303	krop@novonordisk.com
Jannick Lindegaard Denholt	+45 3079 8519	jlis@novonordisk.com
Daniel Bohsen	+45 3079 6376	dabo@novonordisk.com
Melanie Raouzeos	+45 3075 3479	mrz@novonordisk.com
Frank Daniel Mersebach (US)	+1 609 235 8567	fdni@novonordisk.com