

News Release

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Keeping Horses Agile

Multi-Dose Vial of Reliable Product Adds Convenience to Equine Joint Disease Therapy

SHAWNEE, Kan. (April 21, 2006) — As one of the most common causes of lameness in sport horses, equine joint disease causes much concern among equine owners and veterinarians. Legend[®] (hyaluronate sodium), the only FDA-approved intravenous equine joint therapy, is now offering reliable joint therapy treatment in a more convenient, multi-dose vial option.

Legend Multi Dose is a 20 mL vial of the treatment, which is equivalent to five doses, making it easier and more convenient to transport. Produced by Bayer Animal Health, Legend helps stop acute joint damage before it becomes chronic.

Hyaluronic acid (HA) is a normal component of joint fluid and cartilage and serves many functions, one of which is to act as a lubricant to the soft tissue structures of the joint and decrease inflammation. Legend is pure hyaluronic acid (HA), the same polysaccharide present in normal joint fluid.

Joint inflammation is often initiated by repeated trauma or stress to the joint, experienced during everyday use, athletic training, or performance. Symptoms of the condition include lameness, swelling, and heat, which usually result from inflammation of the protective membrane and joint capsule.

Stopping acute damage in the joints before it becomes chronic is key when treating equine joint disease. Because the disease is progressive, it must be treated early.

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If left untreated, enzymes released into the joint cavity erode the cartilage and can potentially lead to osteoarthritis, or degenerative joint disease.

Legend Multi Dose contains benzyl alcohol as a preservative and can only be given intravenously. The intravenous administration does not require joint preparation, benefits multiple joint sites, and saves administration time.

Legend is not to be used in horses intended for food.

About Bayer Animal Health

Bayer HealthCare's Animal Health Division is the maker of K9 Advantix™, a triple-protection mosquito, tick, and flea control product for dogs, and of Advantage® flea control for dogs and cats. The division is a worldwide leader in parasite control and prescription pharmaceuticals for dogs, cats, horses, and cattle. North American operations for the Animal Health Division are headquartered in Shawnee, Kan. Bayer Animal Health is a division of Bayer HealthCare, one of the world's leading companies in the healthcare and medical products industry.

Forward-looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer Group management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development, or performance of the company, and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in our public reports filed with the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including our Form 20-F). The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.

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