



Södertälje, Sweden, January 25, 1999

**SALES OF PRILOSEC® (LOSEC®) IN THE U.S. UP 35 PERCENT  
IN 1998**

Total sales of Prilosec (Losec) in the U.S. during the fourth quarter of 1998 amounted to USD 850 (1997: 655) m., an increase of 30 percent.

Total sales of Prilosec during the period January - December 1998 amounted to USD 3,015 (2,240) m., an increase of 35 percent, corresponding to approximately SEK 23,900 (17,100) m. Total prescriptions rose by approximately 30 percent during the first eleven months.

**Contact persons:**

Mikael Widell, Press Officer, PR & Information, Astra AB, +46 8 553 264 28

Michael Olsson, Manager, Investor Relations, Astra AB, +46 8 553 259 52

Jörgen Winroth, Investor Relations U.S., Astra AB, +1 609 896 4148