

# News Release from AstraZeneca

Södertälje, Sweden, April 21, 1999

## **ASTRA AB AND ASTRA PHARMACEUTICALS, L.P. (APLP) FILE LAWSUIT AGAINST CHEMINOR DRUGS, LTD AND REDDY CHEMINOR INC.**

Astra AB and Astra Pharmaceuticals, L.P. (APLP) filed a lawsuit yesterday in New Jersey against Cheminor Drugs, Ltd. and Reddy Cheminor Inc. for patent infringement.

The lawsuit is a result of an Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) filed by Reddy Cheminor Inc. with the FDA concerning its intent to market a generic omeprazole product in the US. The antisecretory drug omeprazole is marketed in the US by APLP under the brand name Prilosec<sup>®</sup> and is marketed internationally by Astra as Losec<sup>®</sup>.

The basis of Astra's and APLP's complaint is that the action by Reddy Cheminor infringes upon several patents relating to Prilosec<sup>®</sup>, which provide protection to the year 2014. Those patents include coverage for the basic substance omeprazole, as well as for formulations and for methods for using Prilosec<sup>®</sup>.

Astra and APLP intend to fully enforce its patent rights and are steadfast in their belief that all of the patents are valid.

Further Enquiries:

### Media:

Mikael Widell, tel +46 8 553 264 28  
+46 70 311 99 60

Chris Major, tel +44 171 304 5028  
Rachel Bloom, tel +1 302 886 7858

### Investor Relations:

Michael Olsson, tel +46 8 553 259 52  
Jörgen Winroth, tel +1 609 896 4148

Elizabeth Sutton, tel +44 171 304 5101  
Ed Seage, tel +1 302 886 4065