

News Release from AstraZeneca

Södertälje, Sweden, May 28, 1999

CLOSE OF ASTRAZENECA MERGER OFFERS - ACCEPTANCES RECEIVED FROM SHAREHOLDERS REPRESENTING OVER 99.6% OF THE SHARES IN ASTRA

AstraZeneca announces that by 21st May 1999, the closing date of the Merger Offers, it has received acceptances from Astra shareholders representing in total 99.6 per cent of Astra's shares and 99.7 per cent of the voting rights attaching to Astra's shares.

1,545,714 new AstraZeneca shares will be issued to those Astra shareholders who have accepted the Merger Offers by 21 May 1999.

As previously announced, the compulsory acquisition procedure has been initiated to acquire for cash the outstanding shares held by Astra shareholders.

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