

**Press release, May 9, 2007**

## **Orexo receives European patent approval for OX 17**

*Orexo has been informed by the European patent authority that Orexo's patent for the combination concept for the treatment of GERD – gastroesophageal reflux disease – has been granted and will be published on May 30, 2007. The patent is a formulation patent protecting combinations of H<sub>2</sub>-receptor blockers and proton pump inhibitors (PPI). The patent has previously been approved in China, Australia and New Zealand, and patent is pending in the North-American market.*

The OX 17 product candidate targets the treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), a disease caused by recurrent acid reflux. OX 17 quickly and effectively impedes the stomach's production of hydrochloric acid, an essential step for effective symptom relief in patients suffering from reflux disease. The competitive advantage of OX 17 is the fast, effective and sustained inhibition of gastric acid production.

"This is strategically a very important patent for Orexo. The commercial potential, market size, OX 17's unique profile combined with the strength in a broad patent, is of great value for us during negotiations with potential development and commercialization partners. Our ambition is to out-license OX 17 during 2007", says Zsolt Lavotha, President and CEO Orexo AB.

The clinical Phase III program for OX 17 is ongoing. Patents are previously approved in China, Australia and New Zealand, and patent is pending in the North-American market.

*For more information, please contact:*

Zsolt Lavotha, President & CEO, Tel: +46 (0)18-780 88 12, e-mail: [zsolt.lavotha@orexo.se](mailto:zsolt.lavotha@orexo.se)

Claes Wenthzel, Executive Vice President and CFO, Orexo AB

+46 (0)18 780 88 44, +46 (0)708-62 01 22, e-mail: [claes.wenthzel@orexo.se](mailto:claes.wenthzel@orexo.se)

**TO THE EDITORS****About Orexo**

Orexo is a pharmaceutical company that focuses on developing new pharmaceutical drugs within areas currently subject to considerable clinical needs. Orexo's products are based on existing pharmaceuticals and the company's patented drug-delivery technologies. Orexo applies its broad expertise in medicine and pharmacy to the further development of existing pharmaceutical substances. By combining well-documented compounds with its own patented drug-delivery methods and its unique expertise in dry formulations (for example, tablets), Orexo is able to develop new patented pharmaceuticals.

At present, the company has two products on the market, three projects in late clinical phase - one of which has been out-licensed in the US, Europe and Japan and submitted for registration in Europe - and two projects in the pharmaceutical formulation phase. Orexo has an active intellectual property rights strategy and an extensive patent portfolio to protect its products and technologies.

Orexo is listed on the OMX Nordic List Mid Cap (ticker: ORX).

[www.orexo.com](http://www.orexo.com)

**About drug delivery**

The science of drug delivery can be summarized as the process of ensuring that the active substance in a pharmaceutical product is optimally delivered to the site of action. The demand for drug-delivery products is increasing rapidly due to the fact that these new pharmaceuticals can for example offer shorter time to onset of effect or improved safety profiles.

Many pharmaceutical products on the market today have shortcomings - for example, they are slow-acting, have side effects, must be administered frequently or perhaps can only be injected. This is why demand for technologies that can make already existing products more efficient is increasing rapidly. In 2004, industry sources estimated that sales of pharmaceutical products that utilize drug-delivery methods exceeded USD 79 billion, a figure that is expected to grow to USD 117 billion by 2009 (Datamonitor 2004).