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Lupin partners with Celnova to commercialise orphan drug NaMuscla in Argentina and Colombia

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Celnova will be the exclusive distributor of NaMuscla in Argentina and Colombia



Mumbai-based global pharma major Lupin has announced that its subsidiary Lupin Atlantis Holdings SA has entered into a distribution agreement with Celnova Pharma for Lupin's orphan drug NaMuscla (mexiletine). Celnova will commercialise NaMuscla in Argentina and Colombia, for the symptomatic treatment of myotonia in adults with non-dystrophic myotonic (NDM) disorders. NaMuscla is the first and only licensed product in Europe for this indication.

NDM disorders are a group of rare, inherited neuromuscular disorders, characterised by the inability to relax muscles due to voluntary contraction resulting in myotonia or muscle stiffness. NaMuscla reduces myotonia symptoms in people with NDM, resulting in a significant improvement in quality of life and other functional and clinical outcomes for patients. NaMuscla, which has been designated orphan drug status in Europe and US, received EU marketing authorisation in December 2018.

As per the agreement, Celnova will be the exclusive distributor of NaMuscla in Argentina and Colombia, and drive the registration, importation, storage, and sales. Celnova will leverage its regional expertise in managing patient-centric initiatives, particularly in the area of rare diseases, to ensure patients have access to this treatment. Lupin will manufacture and supply the finished products to Celnova.

"This is a significant step for Lupin as we introduce NaMuscla in two of our key Latin American markets. This is aligned to our commitment of meeting the needs of NDM patients by creating tailor-made solutions for each market, working with health authorities, healthcare providers, patient advocacy groups to help patients suffering from myotonia diseases," said Dr Fabrice Egros, President – Corporate Development and Growth Markets, Lupin.

"This collaboration addresses a significant unmet need for those living with non-dystrophic myotonic disorders, offering an innovative treatment option that can greatly improve quality of life," said Juan Marrone, CEO, Celnova.