



**Press Release - For Immediate Publication**

**Alexion, Global Leader in Rare Diseases, Inaugurates New EMEA Headquarters in Zurich**

**- Company Announces Fellowship Program with the University of Zurich -**

**Zurich, Switzerland – 19 November, 2015** – Alexion Pharma GmbH today officially inaugurated its new EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) Regional Headquarters in Zurich. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from the business communities as well as members of the local life science cluster and political representatives.

Alexion has built its EMEA presence over the past 8 years, and now has operations in more than 30 countries in this region dedicating to fulfilling its mission to serve patients with devastating and rare diseases. Several of Alexion's key global functions are based at the EMEA headquarters in Zurich, which include Business Operations, Marketing, Clinical Operations, Regulatory Affairs and Medical Affairs as well as Legal, Finance, Compliance, Human Resources and Information Technology functions. The Company also made a recent investment in the EMEA region with the opening of a new research and development center in Paris earlier in 2015.

Carsten Thiel, Executive Vice President & Chief Commercial Officer of Alexion stated: "Alexion has a unique mission that focuses on delivering medical breakthroughs for patients with life-threatening rare diseases who have no effective treatment options. Our employees at the new EMEA Headquarters in Zurich play a critical role in our global growth as we continue to serve more patients with devastating and ultra-rare diseases."

As Alexion establishes its presence in Zurich, the Company is also pleased to announce the Alexion Bioinformatics Fellowship Program, which seeks to support the graduate research of a student who is pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Zurich. The fields in scope for this program include bioinformatics, data sciences, genomics, applied mathematics, simulation, and modeling as applied to the understanding of rare-diseases. The Fellow benefits from a four-year annual stipend for tuition and fees and the opportunity for summer practicums at Alexion research centers in Paris, Boston, and New Haven, Connecticut.

Christophe Bourdon, Senior Vice President and head of Alexion EMEA, commented: "Today's inauguration of our new EMEA headquarters highlights our continued commitment to Switzerland and we look forward to continuing to build our team of talented employees and to becoming an active member of the local community in Zurich. We are proud to partner with the University of Zurich on the Alexion Bioinformatics Fellowship Program and hope that its recipient will achieve high levels of success in his or her future academic and professional career while making fundamental contributions to the understanding of rare diseases."

Carmen Walker Späh, Government councillor and Head of the Department for Economic Affairs of the Canton of Zurich: "I wish Alexion and its employees a warm welcome to Zurich. The relocation of Alexion to Zurich speaks in favour of the attractiveness of our region as a business, research and innovation location, and signifies a further strengthening of the life sciences cluster. I am pleased that the efforts of the canton to strengthen this promising industry are having an impact."

As part of establishing its EMEA headquarters in Zurich, Alexion is also pleased to become a corporate sponsor of the Swiss Science Center Technorama in support of its mission to encourage the younger generation to be interested in life sciences.

### **About Alexion**

Alexion is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and delivering life-transforming therapies for patients with devastating and rare disorders. Alexion developed and commercializes Soliris® (eculizumab), the first and only approved complement inhibitor to treat patients with paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH) and atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS), two life-threatening ultra-rare disorders. As the global leader in complement inhibition, Alexion is strengthening and broadening its portfolio of complement inhibitors, including evaluating potential indications for eculizumab in additional severe and ultra-rare disorders. Alexion's metabolic franchise includes two highly innovative enzyme replacement therapies for patients with life-threatening and ultra-rare disorders, Strensiq® (asfotase alfa) to treat patients with hypophosphatasia (HPP) and Kanuma™ (sebelipase alfa) to treat patients with lysosomal acid lipase deficiency (LAL-D). In addition, Alexion is advancing the most robust rare disease pipeline in the biotech industry, with highly innovative product candidates in multiple therapeutic areas. Further information about Alexion can be found at: [www.alexionpharma.eu](http://www.alexionpharma.eu).

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