



July 2006

**HELSINN** **N** **NEWS**

## **THE OUTCOME OF HELSINN'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE EULAR 2006 CONGRESS, Amsterdam 21-24 June 2006 WITH ORIGINAL NIMESULIDE AND OXAPROZIN**

The EULAR 2006 Congress was recently held in Amsterdam with an estimated attendance of about 11'000 worldwide delegates.

On such an important occasion, Helsinn consolidated its presence through the sponsoring of an exhibition stand and several scientific activities.

As in the last few years, this space was shared with CSC Pharmaceuticals, which is Helsinn's licensing partner for Original Nimesulide and oxaprozin in Austria and Eastern European countries.





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During the days of the exhibition, the stand became a reference point for all Original Nimesulide licensees as well as a meeting point for all of CSC's invited doctors.

The stand's new layout together with the logo created on the occasion of the 2005 Nimesulide 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was aimed at transmitting the message that nimesulide through its experience and innovation continues to be a "smart choice" for doctors and patients. In this respect, such new evidences were brought to the attention of attendees by means of a novel Medical Information Area, which was present at the stand for the first time this year. This new medical approach was completed by a series of ad-hoc Meet The Expert sessions which were held during the breaks of the official program in the two central days of the congress, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.



These sessions represented a unique occasion to convey in an informal atmosphere key scientific messages on Helsinn's anti-inflammatory products nimesulide and oxaprozin.

In particular, professor Kim Rainsford, Sheffield Hallam University, UK, editor in

chief of the recent book on nimesulide 'Nimesulide: Actions and Uses' provided a comprehensive overview on the balanced efficacy and safety profile of the drug, supported by 20 years of pharmacological and clinical evidences.



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Mauro Bianchi, Professor of Pharmacology at Milan University, Italy, reviewed the key clinical data on the efficacy of nimesulide in the symptomatic treatment of OA and the



latest available evidence on the activity of the drug on pain mediators as well as confirmation on the fast onset of its analgesic action even in comparison to other NSAIDs.

With the intervention of professor Huskisson, Consultant Rheumatologist in London, UK, the debate entered into a more practical phase with the discussion of clinical cases in OA and Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), showing how nimesulide and oxaprozin best fit into the treatment of the pain and inflammation which characterize these conditions.

The sessions, which saw the participation of a fast growing number of attendees over the two days, concluded with the talk of professor Dallegri from the University of Genoa Medical School, Italy, who provided interesting new evidence on the unique pharmacological profile of oxaprozin, focusing on its ability to reduce both the



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generation of chemokines and the survival of activated human monocytes which both play a key role in the RA inflammatory pathways.

Two other key scientific activities were the presentations, within the EULAR official scientific session, of the poster by M. Bianchi et al. "Effects of nimesulide on pain and on synovial fluid concentrations of substance P, interleukin-6 and interleukin-8 in patients with knee osteoarthritis: comparison with celecoxib", and of the poster by F. Dallegri et al. "The propionic acid derivative oxaprozin affects differentiation, maturation, survival and function of human monocyte-derived dendritic cells", which both attracted great interest in the EULAR attendees.