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SpePharm AG Wins Case against Eisai

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Eisai Inc. purported to give notice of its intent to terminate SpePharm AG's exclusive licensed rights for SALAGEN



SpePharm AG, a subsidiary of Norgine B.V., announced that the United States District Court for the District of Delaware ruled on 4th September 2019 in favour of SpePharm in its proceeding against Eisai Inc., upholding SpePharm's licensed rights for SALAGEN® (pilocarpine hydrochloride) through April 2026. Judge Richard Andrews upheld SpePharm's position, finding that

SpePharm properly exercised its option to extend its license agreement in 49 countries.

Eisai Inc. purported to give notice of its intent to terminate SpePharm AG's exclusive licensed rights for SALAGEN, a drug used to treat dry mouth caused by radiation therapy for head and neck cancer and to treat dry mouth and dry eyes in individuals with Sjögren's syndrome, and had entered into an agreement to sell global rights to SALAGEN to Advanz Pharma Corp. The Court's decision confirms that SpePharm retains its rights in 49 countries in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States through April 2026.

Speaking on behalf of SpePharm, Peter Stein (CEO of Norgine) said, "We are gratified that the Court speedily agreed with SpePharm's position and upheld SpePharm's rights to continue commercialising SALAGEN for the benefit of patients. We are disappointed that we had to resort to legal action against Eisai, however, SpePharm will vigorously defend its rights through all appropriate means."