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AstraZeneca sells hypertension drugs for $350M to Atnahs

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Sale of Inderal, Tenormin, Tenoretic, Zestril and Zestoretic to Atnahs Pharma supports AstraZenecaâ??s strategy of focusing on pipeline of new medicines



AstraZeneca has agreed to sell the global commercial rights to *Inderal* (propranolol), *Tenormin* (atenolol), *Tenoretic* (atenolol, chlorthalidone fixed-dose combination), *Zestril* (lisinopril) and *Zestoretic* (lisinopril, hydrochlorothiazide fixed-dose combination) to UK based Atnahs Pharma (Atnahs).

The agreement excludes the rights in the US and India, which were previously divested, and in Japan, which will be retained by AstraZeneca. The medicines, used primarily to treat hypertension, have lost their patent protection globally.

Ruud Dobber, Executive Vice President, BioPharmaceuticals, said: “These are important established medicines, and the divestment to Atnahs ensures they will continue to be available to patients. This transaction supports our strategy to realise value from our portfolio of non-core mature brands, enabling further investment in new medicines.”

AstraZeneca will continue to manufacture and supply *Inderal*, *Tenormin*, *Tenoretic*, *Zestril* and *Zestoretic* to Atnahs during a transition period.

Financial considerations

Atnahs will make an upfront payment of $350m to AstraZeneca. AstraZeneca may also receive future sales-contingent payments of up to $40m between 2020 and 2022. Income arising from the upfront and future payments will be reported in AstraZeneca’s financial statements within Other Operating Income & Expense.

In 2018, *Inderal, Tenormin, Tenoretic, Zestril and Zestoretic* generated annual sales of $132m in the markets covered by this agreement. The divestment is expected to complete in the first quarter of 2020, subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory clearances.