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Evotec Starts Phase II Clinical Studies in Treatment-Resistant Depression

Hamburg, Germany – 1 July 2010: Evotec AG (Frankfurt Stock Exchange: EVT, TecDAX) today announced the start of the proof-of-concept Phase II study in treatment-resistant depression with its NR2B subtype selective NMDA receptor antagonist EVT 101. This clinical development is part of an alliance between Evotec and Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY).

The proof-of-concept Phase II study with EVT 101, which is being conducted in the United States, has the main objective of studying the safety and tolerability of EVT 101 while also exploring the efficacy of this intervention. Approximately 100 patients suffering from treatment-resistant depression will participate in it. Treatment-resistance of patients will be confirmed in a 6-week prospective antidepressant treatment phase preceding the actual 4-week double-blind treatment.

Treatment-resistance to antidepressant drugs is observed in up to 30% of depressed patients. NMDA receptor antagonists represent an alternative mechanism that has the potential to improve depression in patients resistant to conventional antidepressants.

Dr Werner Lanthaler, Chief Executive Officer of Evotec AG, commented: "The clinical development of EVT 101 is addressing an area of significant unmet medical need, and this development represents a big market opportunity. We are happy to have Roche, as a recognised pioneer for novel solutions in the CNS area, for this development with us."

ABOUT NMDA RECEPTORS IN TREATMENT-RESISTANT DEPRESSION

NMDA receptors are involved in the pathology of depression. NR2B-selective antagonists bind preferentially to the activated form of the NMDA receptor containing the NR2B subunit and allosterically modulate, in an activity-dependent manner, channel activity by inhibiting channel opening probability. They show advantages over non-selective NMDA antagonists due to greater separation of efficacy from side effects. The non-selective NMDA receptor blocker ketamine and an NR2B-selective NMDA antagonist have shown in exploratory clinical trials the potential to provide clinical benefit for patients with treatment-resistant depression. However, both molecules, for which proof of concept has been shown before, require parenteral administration, hence an orally active therapeutic option is needed. EVT 101 is an orally available compound which is well tolerated at dose levels considered to reach CNS levels which go along a high NMDA receptor occupancy. In a Phase I fMRI study performed with EVT 101 pharmacodynamic effects were seen at exposures similar to those planned for the ongoing proof of concept study.

ABOUT EVOTEC & ROCHE ALLIANCE

Evotec has entered an alliance with Roche for Phase II clinical development of EVT 101 in patients with treatment-resistant depression. The potential value of this transaction exceeds USD 300 million. Evotec is responsible for conducting Phase II studies for EVT 101, a compound originally discovered by Roche and developed from discovery stages through clinical studies by Evotec. Within this alliance, Evotec has conducted the first Phase I safety and tolerability study for EVT 103, a next generation compound to EVT 101. Roche fully funds these development programmes.

ABOUT EVOTEC AG

Evotec is a leader in the discovery and development of novel small molecule drugs with operational sites in Europe and Asia. The Company has built substantial drug discovery expertise and an industrialised platform that can drive new innovative small molecule compounds into the clinic. In addition, Evotec has built a deep internal knowledge base in the treatment of diseases related to neuroscience, pain, oncology and inflammation. Leveraging these skills and expertise the Company intends to develop best-in-class differentiated therapeutics and deliver superior science-driven discovery alliances with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Evotec has long-term discovery alliances with partners including Boehringer Ingelheim, CHDI, Genentech, Novartis, Ono Pharmaceutical and Roche. Evotec has product candidates in clinical development and a series of preclinical compounds and development partnerships, including for example a strategic alliance with Roche for the EVT 100 compound family, subtype selective NMDA receptor antagonists for use in treatment-resistant depression. For additional information please go to www.evotec.com.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS — *Information set forth in this press release contains forward-looking statements, which involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our 2010 financial outlook and our expected financial results in future quarters, our ability to deliver on our liquidity guidance, our belief that we are on course to profitability in 2012, our expectations and assumptions concerning regulatory, clinical and business strategies, the progress of our clinical development programmes and timing of the commencement and results of our clinical trials, strategic collaborations and management's plans, objectives and strategies. These statements are neither promises nor guarantees, but are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, and which could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements. In particular, the risks and uncertainties include, among other things: risks that product candidates may fail in the clinic or may not be successfully marketed or manufactured; the risk that we will not achieve the anticipated benefits of our collaborations, partnerships and acquisitions in the timeframes expected, or at all; risks relating to our ability to advance the development of product candidates currently in the pipeline or in clinical trials; our inability to further identify, develop and achieve commercial success for new products and technologies; the risk that competing products may be more successful; our inability to interest potential partners in our technologies and products; our inability to achieve commercial success for our products and technologies; our inability to protect our intellectual property and the cost of enforcing or defending our intellectual property rights; our failure to comply with regulations relating to our products and product candidates, including FDA requirements; the risk that the FDA may interpret the results of our studies differently than we have; the risk that clinical trials may not result in marketable products; the risk that we may be unable to successfully secure regulatory approval of and market our drug candidates; and risks of new, changing and competitive technologies and regulations in the U.S. and internationally. The list of risks above is not exhaustive. Our most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and other documents filed with, or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission, contain additional factors that could impact our businesses and financial performance. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.*