

News Release

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# **Evotec and Boehringer Ingelheim Enter into Target Discovery Collaboration in Alzheimer's Disease**

**Hamburg, Germany | Oxford, UK –** Evotec AG (Frankfurt Stock Exchange: EVT) today announced a multi-year collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim to jointly identify novel targets as potential points of intervention in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease (AD). The collaboration will also involve the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology in Vienna (IMP).

Evotec scientists together with the IMP will apply their proprietary and well validated disease models to identify novel AD targets. Based on these models, Boehringer Ingelheim will select and further validate target candidates for its in-house drug discovery programme with the goal of developing innovative novel therapeutics. Financial details of this collaboration are not disclosed.

The contract also includes an option for Evotec to support Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) in the target validation process. If BI exercises this option, Evotec is eligible for milestone payments of up to EUR 20 million plus royalties.

"Over the past years, Evotec has built significant expertise in the field of Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases, and our innovative discovery tools and approaches have successfully been proven together with renowned industry partners. We are delighted that this collaboration expands our ongoing successful partnership with Boehringer Ingelheim into another area of our strength," said Jörn Aldag, President and Chief Executive Officer of Evotec.

#### About the Alzheimer's disease market

The Alzheimer's disease (AD) market is one of the fastest growing CNS markets. Aided by a growing elderly population, the introduction of the first drug approved for moderate-to-severe AD, 'memantine', has led to a compound annual growth rate in global revenues of over 35% between 2001 – 2004, to \$3.8 billion in 2006. AD patients are growing in number, but treatment options remain limited in both quantity and quality. Today only four drugs are approved for the treatment of AD and there is still no treatment available that can actively slow the progression or cure AD. Cholinesterase inhibitors and the NMDA receptor antagonist 'memantine' provide only moderate and temporary symptomatic benefits and the drugs are typically only effective for up to three years before losing their therapeutic use. In addition, around 60% of AD patients do not respond to first-line therapy and all current treatments are associated with side effects. In summary, current treatments are far from perfect and clear opportunities exist for novel alternatives.



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#### **About Evotec AG**

Evotec is a leader in the discovery and development of novel small molecule drugs. Both through its own discovery programmes and through research collaborations, the Company is generating the highest quality research results to its partners in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

In proprietary projects, Evotec specialises in finding new treatments for diseases of the Central Nervous System. Evotec has three programmes in clinical development: EVT 201, a partial positive allosteric modulator (pPAM) of the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor complex for the treatment of insomnia, EVT 101, a subtype selective NMDA receptor antagonist for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and/or pain, and EVT 302, a MAO-B inhibitor in development for smoking cessation.

In research collaborations, Evotec has established itself as the partner of choice for pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies worldwide. The Company provides innovative and often integrated solutions from drug target to clinic through an unmatched range of capabilities, including early stage assay development and screening through to medicinal chemistry and drug manufacturing.

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