

THE PHARMACEUTICAL ALLIANCE



MERCK SHARP & DOHME



22 September 2008

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Pharmaceutical Alliance would like to announce a change in the membership of the group.

The Alliance is delighted to announce that sanofi-aventis has joined The Pharmaceutical Alliance and we are very excited to have them as part of the collaboration. We are looking forward to a long and fruitful partnership and their active involvement with our work; in particular the expertise and ideas they will bring to our current project around helping primary care in their work to prevent the progression of diabetes.

"Sanofi-aventis is proud to be part of The Pharmaceutical Alliance; a small group of pharmaceutical companies committed to improving health outcomes and the quality use of medicines for the benefit of patients.

Sanofi-aventis has a long and established history in the areas of cardiovascular and metabolic disease and is a natural fit with the Alliance. Our expertise in the field of diabetes in particular is especially valuable to the goal of the Alliance in ensuring patients are diagnosed and treated appropriately to manage this increasing epidemic in Australia.

Sanofi-aventis looks forward to working as part of The Pharmaceutical Alliance and its many established partners in improving the quality use of medicines."

Jez Moulding

Managing Director, sanofi-aventis Australia & New Zealand

GlaxoSmithKline has decided to leave the Alliance and continue their work in Quality Use of Medicines from a company perspective reflecting their product portfolio. The Alliance would like to extend our appreciation of GSK's valuable contribution over the last 12 years and wish them all the best with their future work in QUM.

"GlaxoSmithKline has valued its long-standing membership of The Pharmaceutical Alliance and the Alliance's ability to input into key areas of medicine policy around issues such as Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) and its recent diabetes project; both areas of continuing interest to GSK.

GSK has appreciated the opportunities provided to interact with senior government decision makers via the alliance and its reputation within Canberra.

However as the industry evolves and responds to a changing external environment GSK has taken the decision that on issues such as QUM it will take more of a company perspective reflecting the nature of its product portfolio.

GSK congratulates sanofi-aventis on joining TPA and wishes it all success into the future."

Alex Gosman

Director – Government and Corporate Affairs, GlaxoSmithKline Australia

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The Pharmaceutical Alliance remains as committed as ever to being an active contributor to the delivery of better health outcomes through the incorporation into our healthcare system of evidence based practice and the quality use of medicines.

"We are delighted to have sanofi-aventis join us at a very exciting time. The Pharmaceutical Alliance has built some very solid foundations over the last 13 years, with some innovative projects and constructive collaboration with a wide range of healthcare stakeholders.

Our latest work in the area of diabetes is getting a very positive response and we are looking forward to progressing this with those groups we have been working with already and now also our new partner sanofi-aventis.

We are very pleased that sanofi-aventis has recognised the value of the work we do in the Alliance and look forward to their active and valuable input and involvement."

Jeremy Morgan

Managing Director, Eli Lilly Australia & New Zealand

Chair, The Pharmaceutical Alliance

Eli Lilly, Merck Sharp & Dohme, sanofi-aventis

The Pharmaceutical Alliance was established in 1995 to provide a collaborative and innovative approach to Quality Use of Medicines (QUM). The Alliance is proactive in contributing to the delivery of better health outcomes and has initiated and been involved in a number of major projects to trial, demonstrate and evaluate potential improvements to the Australian Healthcare system.

These projects share the core characteristics of The Pharmaceutical Alliance's approach to success: collaboration, innovation and long-term commitment.

"The Pharmaceutical Alliance is the innovator of the pharmaceutical industry in Australia. Whenever there are new ideas to collaborate around medicines, The Pharmaceutical Alliance is there"

Dr John Aloizos AM,
GP Brisbane and Chair of Quality In Practice Pty Ltd (QIP)

The Pharmaceutical Alliance is a collaboration of Eli Lilly, Merck Sharp & Dohme and sanofi-aventis

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