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EUFLEXXA™ IS THE FIRST NON-AVIAN HYALURONIC ACID AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.

Ferring Pharmaceuticals (Suffern, NY), recently launched Euflexxa™, a highly purified injectable hyaluronic acid (HA) for painful osteoarthritis of the knee. Euflexxa is the first and only non-avian-derived HA approved in the U.S. (approved December 3, 2004); Ferring acquired Euflexxa in July, 2005 and it became available to the public on November 8, 2005. Euflexxa is similar to HA in healthy human synovial fluid and free of chemical cross-linking, which may lower the risk for adverse reactions (1-6). Euflexxa is derived from a bacterial fermentation process, not an avian source (chicken or rooster combs), thus eliminating the risk for related allergic reactions (1,2). Euflexxa is a bioengineered, non-avian-derived product that has been clinically shown to have similar efficacy, but better tolerability than the leading HA product. The advanced manufacturing process results in a product with unsurpassed purity. Euflexxa also has the highest molecular weight available in a non-cross-linked HA.

"It's nice to have another product like this for us to use in our patients. New products take a little time before they are firmly established in many physicians' practices. Euflexxa is established in mine."

-Ronald Rappoport, MD

Clinical Study Shows Euflexxa's Advantages

A prospective, multicenter, double-blind controlled trial comparing Euflexxa and CL-HA* randomized 160 participants to receive Euflexxa and 161 to receive CL-HA in 3 weekly injections. (7) Both groups had statistically significant and comparable improvements of baseline pain scores ($p = 0.0001$) (Euflexxa score = 29.8 mm [-61.6%]) (CL-HA score = 28.8 mm [-54.9%)]). Euflexxa showed a significant advantage over CL-HA in patient satisfaction ($p = 0.03$), the number of patients requiring supplemental simple analgesics ($p = 0.013$), and fewer joint effusions ($p = 0.0015$), . At the end of the study, 63% of Euflexxa participants were symptom free, versus 52% of CL-HA participants ($p = 0.038$). Fifty percent of Euflexxa participants were "very satisfied" versus 37% for the CL-HA group.

Ronald Rappoport, MD, is a Board-Certified rheumatologist and the Medical Director of Phase III Clinical Research at Charlton Memorial Hospital in Fall River, Massachusetts. Dr. Rappoport has treated 30 patients with Euflexxa over the past year. Some of his patients completed the 3-week course of treatment months ago, and results have been positive.

Dr. Rappoport finds handling of the Euflexxa syringe during the injection process is facilitated by the ergonomic design of the syringe . "There is an ease of use with this product due to the unique syringe barrel design. When injecting knees, it's nice to have all the help we can

get to make the process go more easily. This is one of the products that the patients do not complain bitterly about. I find that the way the syringe is shaped—it is an ergonomic design—enables me to inject more kindly."

Dr. Rappoport added, "It's nice to have another product like this for us to use in our patients. New products take a little time before they are firmly established in many physicians' practices. Euflexxa is established in mine." Euflexxa (1% sodium hyaluronate) is the first and only non-avian-derived HA indicated for the treatment of pain due to osteoarthritis of the knee. It is administered in 3 weekly injections and is indicated for patients who have failed to respond adequately to conservative nonpharmacologic therapy and simple analgesics. It is proven to offer drug-free symptom relief from osteoarthritic knee pain over a 12-week period that is as good as the current leading HA therapy, while having fewer side effects and better patient satisfaction.

Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is part of the Ferring Group, a privately owned, international pharmaceutical company.

* Cross-linked hyaluronic acid

For more information concerning Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Inc., call 1-845-770-2657 or fax to 1-845-770-2662; or visit the company's Web site at www.FerringUSA.com.

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