Dilafor announces patent grant in the U.S. for its Phase II development drug tafoxiparin

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN – December 2 , 2016. Dilafor AB, a drug development company focusing on the development of tafoxiparin for obstetric indications, today announced it has been granted a U.S. patent protecting its proprietary compound tafoxiparin.

Tafoxiparin is in clinical development as a new treatment designed to decrease the incidence of protracted labor both after induction of labor and after spontaneous onset of labor. Protracted labor (i.e labor that lasts more than 12 hours) is the main cause of emergency surgical deliveries, such as caesarian section. The condition is often associated with complications for both mother and child. Tafoxiparin has shown in a Phase II clinical trial encouraging evidence that it can decrease the proportion of women with labor more than 12 hours.

The U.S. patent granted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) provides key intellectual property protection in the U.S. for Dilafor's proprietary development compound tafoxiparin until at least April 2033, with the possibility of up to five years' additional patent term extension. In addition to compound protection, claims have also been granted in the U.S. to a manufacturing method as well as to a number of medical uses of tafoxiparin. Patent applications in a broad range of additional territories including Europe, Asia and Latin America, are pending.

Lena Degling Wikingsson, CEO of Dilafor, said: "The grant of this U.S. patent is a major milestone for Dilafor and the result of a focused IP strategy within Dilafor to build a comprehensive patent estate around our lead product. The patent will be an essential IP asset for tafoxiparin and its potential use in treating different important obstetrical indications with high unmet medical need."

Dilafor recently announced the successful completion of a SEK 51 million financing round, which will enable the company to facilitate a Phase IIb dose finding trial with tafoxiparin in Northern Europe, planned to start before the year end 2016. The study will include women with slow progress of labor after a spontaneous onset.

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TO THE EDITORS

About Dilafor AB
Dilafor AB is a Swedish drug development company focusing on the development of tafoxiparin for obstetric indications. The company's primary goal is to decrease the incidence of slow progress of labor both after induction of labor and after spontaneous onset of labor. The main owner of Dilafor is KDev Investments AB, which is jointly owned by Karolinska Development AB (publ) and Rosetta Capital IV. The other main owners are The Foundation for Baltic and European Studies (Östersjöstiftelsen) and Praktikerinvest. For more information, please visit: www.dilafor.com.

About tafoxiparin

Tafoxiparin is a heparan sulphate mimetic, a propriety polysaccharide based drug developed by Dilafor. Women that experience protracted and complicated labor have deficiency in heparan sulphate which is a naturally occurring polysaccharide and plays an important role in labor. Preclinical and clinical data show that tafoxiparin fulfills the role of heparan sulphate and works in conjunction with naturally occurring molecules important in child birth. Slow progress of labor has an incidence of approximately 40% of all pregnant women. It is associated with a number of both long and short term maternal and fetal complications such as emergency caesarean sections, postpartum hemorrhages, vaginal tears, anal ruptures, meconium-stained amniotic fluid and asphyxia. These complications lead to short and long term consequences for the mother and the newborn in addition to substantial health care costs.