

## Press Release

Zug, 30 November 2011

### **PTC Therapeutics signs licensing agreement with Roche for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Programme**

PTC Therapeutics, a portfolio company of HBM BioVentures, announced yesterday the signing of a licensing agreement with Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) to advance development of its Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) programme. Under the terms of the agreement PTC granted Roche exclusive, worldwide rights to its programme, which includes three compounds currently in preclinical development as well as potential back-up compounds. PTC will receive an upfront payment of USD 30 million and is eligible for additional milestone payments of up to USD 460 million plus double-digit royalties on potential sales.

SMA is a genetic neuromuscular disorder that causes muscle weakness and is the leading genetic cause of death in infants and toddlers. One in every 10'000 children born is affected with the disorder, which currently has no effective treatment.

HBM BioVentures has invested USD 29 million in PTC over several rounds of financing and is its second largest shareholder. The company has two product candidates at the clinical stage of development and several preclinical and discovery stage programmes. PTC's most advanced product candidate is Ataluren (PTC124®), which is being evaluated in multiple Phase 2 and 3 clinical trials.

In accordance with HBM BioVentures' valuation principles, the book value of our investment in PTC will not be changed in spite of this positive news.

#### **About PTC Therapeutics**

PTC is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of orally administered small-molecule drugs that target post-transcriptional control processes. Post-transcriptional control processes regulate the rate and timing of protein production and are of central importance to proper cellular function. PTC's internally discovered pipeline addresses multiple therapeutic areas, including rare genetic disorders, oncology and infectious diseases. PTC has developed proprietary technologies that it applies in its drug

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discovery activities and that have served as the basis for collaborations with leading biopharmaceutical companies such as AstraZeneca, Celgene, Genzyme, Merck, Pfizer and Roche. For more information, visit the company's website at [www.ptcbio.com](http://www.ptcbio.com).

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## Profile of HBM BioVentures Ltd

HBM BioVentures invests in the healthcare sector. The Company holds and manages an international portfolio of some twenty five promising companies in the biotechnology/human medicine, medical technology and diagnostics sectors. Many of these companies have their lead products already available on the market, or at an advanced stage of development. The focus of investment is on follow-on financing for existing portfolio companies. These portfolio companies are closely tracked and actively guided on their strategic directions. This is what makes HBM BioVentures an interesting alternative to investing in big pharma and biotech companies. HBM BioVentures has an international shareholder base and is listed on SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker: HBMN).

## Disclaimer

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