

Maelor plc

29 October 2007

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### **MAELOR and HELSINN ANNOUNCE A LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR ALOXI® (PALONOSETRON) IN THE UK**

**LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM AND LUGANO, SWITZERLAND, OCTOBER 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007**  
- **MAELOR PLC** (AIM:MLR), a UK based specialist hospital medicines group and **HELSINN HEALTHCARE SA**, a Swiss pharmaceutical group, announce the signing of an agreement granting MAELOR the exclusive License and Distribution rights for **Aloxi®** (palonosetron hydrochloride) in the UK.

Aloxi® is a patented new generation 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonist, which is differentiated by its strength on initiation and the duration of its activity.

Aloxi® obtained a centralised registration in Europe in 2005, with an indication for the prevention of acute nausea and vomiting associated with highly emetogenic cancer chemotherapy, and the prevention of nausea and vomiting associated with moderately emetogenic cancer chemotherapy.

Aloxi® is successfully marketed in 40 countries, with annual sales in 2006 of \$323M worldwide, according to IMS figures.

Under the terms of the agreement MAELOR have also acquired the rights to an oral formulation and an extended indication for the management of post operative nausea and vomiting, which are in development.

***“We are delighted to sign this new agreement with MAELOR and look forward to initiating a successful co-operation for Aloxi® in the UK”, said Dr. Riccardo Braglia, CEO of HELSINN HEALTHCARE SA. “MAELOR have demonstrated their ability to grow products in the specialist hospital medicines market, while the patients and the medical community in the UK will enjoy the benefits of an innovative antiemetic like Aloxi®”***

***“HELSINN HEALTHCARE have done a first class job of developing Aloxi® and we are delighted to become their UK partner for this product”, said Mr. Tim Wright, CEO of MAELOR. “We have made clear our strategy of building the MAELOR group through the acquisition and organic growth of specialist hospital medicines. The licensing of Aloxi® is another example of our commitment and delivery against this strategy. Aloxi® is an excellent fit in our growing portfolio and we look forward to driving its growth both with the current and future indications or formulations.”***

- Ends -

### **About Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting (CINV)**

CINV is estimated to potentially affect 85% of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy and can result in a delay or discontinuation of chemotherapy treatments. The supportive care area is becoming of paramount importance to help patients deal with adverse events of anti-cancer therapies. With good supportive care drugs, cancer patients are able to tolerate the anti-cancer treatment to a greater extent, improving the chances of completing their treatment course successfully and with a better quality of life.

### **About Aloxi®**

**Aloxi®** is a selective 5-HT<sub>3</sub>-receptor antagonist, developed for the prevention of CINV, with a long half-life of 40 hours and at least 30 times higher receptor binding affinity than currently available compounds. Since its availability in USA in September 2003, there have been over 6.9 million successful uses of **Aloxi®**. The product has shown to be effective in preventing both acute and delayed CINV in patients receiving emetogenic chemotherapies. For more information about this product please visit our website: [www.aloxi.com](http://www.aloxi.com).

### **About HELSINN HEALTHCARE**

HELSINN HEALTHCARE SA is a privately owned pharmaceutical group with headquarters in Switzerland and is the worldwide licensor of **Aloxi®**. HELSINN's core business is the licensing of pharmaceuticals in niche therapeutic areas. The company's business strategy is to in-license early-stage new chemical entities and complete their development from the performance of pre-clinical/clinical studies and CMC development to the attainment of market approvals in strategic markets (U.S. and Europe). HELSINN's products are eventually out-licensed to its marketing partners for distribution. The active pharmaceutical ingredients and the finished dosage forms are manufactured at HELSINN's cGMP facilities and supplied worldwide to its customers. For more information about HELSINN, please visit [www.helsinn.com](http://www.helsinn.com).

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### **About MAELOR**

Maelor plc (AIM:MLR) is a fast growing specialist hospital medicines group, which is traded on the Alternative Investment Market ("AIM"). The strategy of the Group is to grow by combining the acquisition of products and companies with the dynamic

development and marketing of these assets. With a focus in the specialist hospital sector, Maelor leverages its expertise in both pharmaceuticals and medical devices to drive growth.

Based in the UK, Maelor commercialises its portfolio in the UK directly. Maelor also operates internationally through a strong network of distributors. Currently focused in the areas of critical care, neurology and oncology, some of Maelor's leading brands include:

Critical Care: Volpex® (plasma substitute), Cryogesic® / Dermogesic™ (cryo-analgesic), Haemopressin® (oesophageal varices), ISOplex® (isotonic plasma substitute)

Neurology: Mysoline® (primidone), a product currently used to treat Epilepsy and which Maelor are developing for management of Essential Tremor, a distressing condition affecting an estimated 1 in 25 over 40 year olds for which primidone is one of only two recommended treatments.

Oncology: Cryogesic®, 5 FU (oral chemotherapeutic) and most recently, Aloxi® (chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting)

Products which are outside of the Group's core hospital focus or are in early stage of research are out-licensed, including the successful OptiFlo™ Catheter Maintenance Solutions, a trademark of C.R. Bard Inc or an affiliate (to Bard Limited) and Micelle Lidocaine, an early stage product for interstitial cystitis (to Plethora Solutions Limited). To find out more about Maelor go to [www.maelor.plc.uk](http://www.maelor.plc.uk).

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