



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BioArctic Neuroscience and Eisai Enter Into Exclusive Licensing Agreement with Novel Antibody Treatment for Alzheimer's Disease**

*The antibody targets the neurotoxin believed to cause Alzheimer's disease*

**Stockholm, Sweden, and Tokyo, Japan, December 3rd 2007.** The Swedish biopharmaceutical company BioArctic Neuroscience AB and the Japanese pharmaceutical company Eisai Co. Ltd., today announced that they have signed an exclusive licence agreement for BAN2401, a novel humanized monoclonal antibody, which is being developed as a next-generation treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

Under the terms of the agreement, Eisai obtains the global rights to study, develop, manufacture and market BAN2401 for the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease. BioArctic retains the rights to market the antibody in the Nordic countries.

"We are very pleased with this collaboration with Eisai, which is the world-leading pharmaceutical company within research around Alzheimer's Disease. Since we work with a totally new concept for the treatment of this severe disease, we want to have a strong and long-lasting relationship with a partner that is fully committed to take this exciting project all the way to the market", said Pär Gellerfors, CEO of BioArctic Neuroscience.

BAN2401 is the result of a strategic research alliance between BioArctic and Eisai initiated in 2005, to identify a potential immunotherapy for Alzheimer's Disease. The research is based on the Arctic mutation of amyloid  $\beta$ -peptide ( $A\beta$ ), discovered by Prof. Lars Lannfelt at Uppsala University. In Alzheimer's Disease, the  $A\beta$  is accumulated in the brain as senile plaques which contain aggregated insoluble  $A\beta$  fibrils. Recent studies reveal that the toxic species causing the disease are the precursor forms to the plaques, the soluble aggregates called  $A\beta$  protofibrils. BAN2401 is a humanized monoclonal antibody which selectively recognizes  $A\beta$  protofibrils. The antibody is currently in pre-clinical development, and BioArctic and Eisai aim to develop a novel treatment for Alzheimer's Disease using this antibody.

**For more information, please contact:**

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