Novartis presents data to advance understanding of the role of IL-17A and reinforce Cosentyx® leadership in spondyloarthritis

- 26 abstracts on Cosentyx® (secukinumab) in ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and psoriatic arthritis (PsA) will be presented at the Annual European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR 2018)

- Breadth of data covers updates on radiographic progression, quality of life and real-world evidence of patient satisfaction with Cosentyx – including 9 abstracts on AS, putting Novartis at the forefront of driving scientific understanding of this debilitating disease

- Cosentyx specifically inhibits IL-17A, a cornerstone cytokine involved in the development of AS and PsA. To date, Cosentyx has been prescribed to more than 150,000 patients worldwide.

Basel, June 13, 2018 – Novartis will attend the Annual European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR 2018) with 26 accepted abstracts reinforcing the roles of Cosentyx® (secukinumab) and IL-17A, cornerstone cytokine in the development of ankylosing spondylitis (AS) and psoriatic arthritis (PsA). EULAR 2018 will be taking place June 13-16, in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

“For patients living with PsA and AS it is crucial to have therapy options that could help slow down the disease and maintain mobility,” said Professor Robert Landewé, Professor of Rheumatology, Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. “The strong data flow on IL-17A at EULAR enhances scientific understanding and advances knowledge on how to best manage these progressive and painful diseases.”

“I would like to thank the patients who participated in our trials as well as the investigators and sites who worked with us to run the studies being presented at EULAR 2018,” said Eric Hughes, Global Development Unit Head, Immunology, Hepatology and Dermatology. “Collaboration is a key component in driving scientific understanding of spondyloarthritis forward, broadening treatment options for clinicians and, ultimately, improving patient outcomes.”

Abstracts accepted at EULAR 2018 include new radiographic progression data in AS and PsA, as well as real-world evidence of patient satisfaction with Cosentyx.

Inhibition of radiographic progression in PsA
FUTURE 5 radiographic data show Cosentyx inhibits progression of psoriatic arthritis (PsA) out to Week 24. Radiographic progression in PsA may lead to mobility loss, and even to disability, a major patient concern. (Abstract: Van der Heijde D et al., Subcutaneous secukinumab inhibits radiographic progression in psoriatic arthritis: analysis by prior anti-TNF therapy and concomitant methotrexate use.) Link

No radiographic progression in AS
Data from MEASURE 1 show almost 80% of ankylosing spondylitis (AS) patients on Cosentyx have no radiographic progression of the spine at 4 years.

(Please provide a citation or link for this information.)

**Patient satisfaction with Cosentyx in AS**

Real-world evidence shows that over 90% of AS patients who were treated with Cosentyx for 3 months or more were satisfied with their overall symptom improvement and most patients (74%) indicated overall symptom improvement to be better with Cosentyx compared to their previous treatment. (Abstract: Magrey M et al. Treatment experience and satisfaction in ankylosing spondylitis patients treated with secukinumab: results from a US web-based survey.)

**Sustainable efficacy and safety with Cosentyx through 4 years in AS**

Data from MEASURE 2 study demonstrate Cosentyx provides sustained improvement in signs and symptoms of AS through 4 years with a consistent and favorable safety profile.

(Please provide a citation or link for this information.)

**About Cosentyx (secukinumab)**

Cosentyx is the first fully-human biologic that specifically inhibits IL-17A, a cornerstone cytokine involved in the inflammation and development of AS, PsA and psoriasis. IL-17A is produced by various cells from both the innate immune system (which can be triggered by mechanical stress) and the adaptive immune system. By acting directly on IL-17A, Cosentyx inhibits the disease irrespective of the source of IL-17A.

These data add to a growing body of evidence showing the unique position of Cosentyx with long-lasting efficacy and a proven safety profile to treat AS, PsA and moderate-to-severe psoriasis. To date, Cosentyx has been prescribed to more than 150,000 patients worldwide.

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quality or manufacturing issues; potential or actual data security and data privacy breaches, or disruptions of our information technology systems, and other risks and factors referred to in Novartis AG's current Form 20-F on file with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Novartis is providing the information in this press release as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this press release as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

About Novartis
Novartis provides innovative healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and societies. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis offers a diversified portfolio to best meet these needs: innovative medicines, cost-saving generic and biosimilar pharmaceuticals and eye care. Novartis has leading positions globally in each of these areas. In 2017, the Group achieved net sales of USD 49.1 billion, while R&D throughout the Group amounted to approximately USD 9.0 billion. Novartis Group companies employ approximately 124,000 full-time-equivalent associates. Novartis products are sold in approximately 155 countries around the world. For more information, please visit http://www.novartis.com.

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