

Paris, March 9 , 2004

Dear Madam, Dear Sir :

Please find attached a press release concerning the publication of results for two initial Phase III studies which were announced today at the *American College of Cardiology* congress. These studies were intended to show the therapeutic interest of Acomplia™ (rimonabant) in cardiovascular risk factor management of overweight or obese patients and smokers.

These initial Phase III results confirm and clarify the data already collected in Phase II and can be resumed as follows:

1. Acomplia™ is an efficacious treatment in assisting with smoking cessation without patients noting an increase in their weight
2. Acomplia™ is an efficacious treatment of obesity or excess weight associated with cardiovascular risk factors
3. Acomplia™ improves lipid and glucose profiles for obese patients presenting a dyslipidemia or glucose metabolism anomaly
4. These clinical and biological improvements shown in both studies were obtained with some moderate and transitory undesirable side effects, mainly gastrointestinal.

These encouraging results make it possible to envisage a novel pharmacological approach in cardiovascular risk factor management of obese patients and/or smokers.

In accordance with article 7 of COB regulation n°2002.04, this press release was transmitted to “Autorité des Marchés Financiers” before its release.

CONFERENCE CALL

On this occasion, a **conference call** for financial analysts, institutional investors and journalists will be held on **Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at 4:00 p.m.** (Paris time). This conference will be in English.

In order to participate in the conference call, the following numbers are to be dialed 10 minutes before it starts :

France :	00 33 (0) 1 70 70 81 98	code : 567944
United Kingdom :	00 44 (0) 207 984 75 82	code : 567944
USA :	00 1 718 354 11 58	code : 567944

A recorded version of the conference will be available the same day through Wednesday March 17th, 2004 by dialing :

France :	00 33 (0) 1 70 70 82 10	code : 567944#
United Kingdom :	00 44 (0) 207 784 10 24	code : 567944#
USA :	00 1 718 354 11 12	code : 567944#

A live audio webcast of this conference will be available at our internet site (www.sanofi-synthelabo.com) and a recorded version will be available through Wednesday, March 17th, 2004.