



## **Vivendy Therapeutics Ltd. Raises CHF 17mio in Series A Round of Financing**

**Basel and Munich, January 14, 2008** - BioMedInvest AG I, LSP Life Sciences Partners and TVM Capital today announced the closing of a CHF 17.0 million Series A round of Vivendy Therapeutics Ltd., a bio-pharmaceutical company located in Basel, Switzerland.

Vivendy Therapeutics Ltd. is a pharmaceutical start up company that is developing an enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) for *Morbus Morquio* (Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS) IVA), a rare lysosomal storage disease. Since it is a rare disease, it applies to orphan-drug-status criteria in the United States, Europe and Japan. The new CEO, Dr. Roland Toder states: *"With no drug therapy available, Morquio patients and their families experience prolonged and significant suffering. The ERT provides Morquio patients with the enzyme they are naturally lacking and therefore represents the first true therapy for this rare disease. We are pleased that we were able to attract such world class investors to our company at this important time in our development. We are confident that with their support, we will build on our promising preclinical results to advance the clinical development program of an enzyme replacement therapy for Morquio."*

Today, there is no therapy for MPS IVA in place, therefore the development of Morbus Morquio ERT addresses unmet medical needs with a high chance of success due to the fact that Vivendy Therapeutics is applying the established strategy of ERT with the Morquio specific enzyme. Dr. Christoph Heinzen, Founder and Technical Director of Vivendy Therapeutics said: *"We developed a specific recombinant human enzyme tailored to meet the particular requirements for Morbus Morquio - enhancing the efficacy of the therapy significantly."*

Dr. Gerhard Ries, General Partner at BioMedInvest and member of Vivendy's Board of Directors is excited about Vivendy's ERT project: *"We are delighted to be associated with this impressive team working on such an unbearable disease for which there is no cure. We strongly believe that Vivendy's ERT approach has a high chance of success."*

Dr. Annegret de Baey-Diepolder, Partner at TVM Capital and member of Vivendy's Board of Directors highlights: *"The lean company structure addresses the need for increased capital efficiency in early stage development situations. "*

Dr. Jörg Neerman, Partner at LSP and member of Vivendy's Board of Directors adds *"According to a new regulation within the EU an early access for MPS IVA patients to the new treatment can be provided. This would allow returns on investment earlier and before the total cost of product development has been expended."*

### **About Vivendy Therapeutics Ltd.**

*Vivendy Therapeutics* was founded in March 2006, as a spin-off of *Inotech Biotechnologies AG*. The company's mission is the development of an enzyme replacement therapy (ERT) for *Morbus Morquio* (Mucopolysaccharidosis - MPS IVA), a rare lysosomal storage disease, based on a gene deficiency with an incidence of 1 to 200 000 live births. MPS IVA represents 5% of the lysosomal storage disorders (LSDs).

### **About BioMedInvest AG I**

BioMedInvest is a leading independent European venture capital firm, providing private equity and mezzanine financing to early- to mid-stage healthcare and life-science companies. Since 2003, BioMedInvest has invested in more than 20 highly innovative enterprises four of which have already successfully completed their IPO (Arpida AG, Santhera Pharmaceuticals AG) or have been acquired by leading companies in the industry (GlycArt Biotechnology AG) or by strategic investors (Thommen Medical AG). With more than CHF 210 million in capital under management and a strong team of experienced specialists with broad expertise and extensive scientific and financial networks, BioMedInvest has established itself as one of the leading early-stage healthcare investors in Europe. For additional information please visit: [www.biomedvc.com](http://www.biomedvc.com)

### **About LSP Life Sciences Partners**

LSP (Life Sciences Partners) is a leading independent European venture capital firm, providing private equity financing to early- to mid-stage life-science companies. Since the late 1980s, LSP's management has invested in a large number of highly innovative enterprises, many of which have grown to become leaders of the global life-science industry. For example, LSP was a founding investor in Crucell, DNage, Qiagen, Rhein Biotech and Pharming. With EUR 400 million under management and offices in Amsterdam, Munich and Boston, LSP is one of Europe's largest and most experienced specialist life-science investors. Further information on Life Science Partners is available at [www.lspvc.com](http://www.lspvc.com)

### **About TVM Capital**

TVM Capital, founded in 1983, is one of the first venture capital firms formed in Germany and was an early entrant into the US market in 1986. Since inception, TVM Capital has raised more than € 1.3 billion in six fund generations and has established itself as a leading international technology and life science investment group. TVM Capital funds have made investments in more than 240 technology and life science companies including emerging technology sectors such as energy efficiency, renewable energy generation, energy storage and water treatment. Over the life of the firm, TVM Capital has developed specialized, focused teams and dedicated funds to serve high-growth target markets. The TVM Capital investment strategy is to create global businesses that enjoy worldwide access to science, technology, management talent and capital, and to develop them into significant players in their markets. More than 50 TVM Capital backed companies have gone public on European or US stock exchanges. Today, TVM Capital is actively invested in 70 companies. For more information please visit: [www.tvm-capital.com](http://www.tvm-capital.com)

### **Contact address:**

**Dr. Roland Toder, CEO**

Vivendy Therapeutics Ltd.

Eulerstrasse 55

CH-4003 Basel

Switzerland

T: +49 160 9667 8480

E: [toder@vivendy.ch](mailto:toder@vivendy.ch)

[www.vivendy.ch](http://www.vivendy.ch)

**Disclaimer**

*This press release does not constitute or form part, or all, of any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer to purchase or subscribe for, any securities, nor shall part, or all, of these materials or their distribution from the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract or investment decision in relation to any securities. This press release contains forward-looking statements based on the currently held beliefs and assumptions of the management of Vivendy, which are expressed in good faith and, in their opinion, reasonable. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results, to differ materially from the results, financial condition, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Given these risks, uncertainties and other factors, recipients of this document are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Vivendy disclaims any obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect future events or developments.*