PRESS RELEASE

MERZ NORTH AMERICA’S COMMITMENT TO PODIATRY RECOGNIZED BY AMERICAN PODIATIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (APMA)

Merz North America has been presented with the APMA’s 2014 Executive Director’s Award, in recognition of Merz’s longstanding support of patients and physicians in podiatry.

GREENSBORO, N.C. – BUSINESS WIRE – MARCH 17, 2014 – Merz North America (U.S. affiliate of the global Merz Pharma Group), has been honored with the American Podiatric Medical Association’s prestigious Executive Director’s award. The award was presented during the APMA’s annual House of Delegates meeting on March 15, 2014.

“Merz North America is proud to have served as the partner of choice for podiatrists since the launch of our first Naftin® (naftifine HCl) antifungal product in 1999, and our commitment to the specialty has grown over time along with our product portfolio,” said Greg Besase, Vice President and Head of US Dermatology for Merz North America. “We are honored to receive one of the APMA’s highest honors, and we look forward to continued partnership with APMA as we work to advance the quality of research, education and patient care within podiatric medicine.”

The Executive Director’s Award is presented by the APMA Executive Director during the House of Delegates meeting to an individual, organization, or other entity that has made a significant contribution to the advancement of podiatric medicine and/or the American Podiatric Medical Association. Merz North America was selected to receive the 2014 award based on its support of the APMA’s important educational endeavors, including their Coding Resource Center and Young Physicians’ Program. Merz also is a supporter of APMA’s Educational Foundation, which supports the future of the profession by providing scholarship funding for worthy podiatric medical students each year.

“It is a distinct pleasure to present the 2014 APMA Executive Director’s Award to Merz North America, a valued APMA Corporate Partner,” said Glenn B. Gastwirth, DPM, APMA Executive Director and CEO. “The support Merz provides for the podiatric medical profession is truly extraordinary. We are deeply grateful to Merz for its unwavering commitment to education through its support of continuing education for podiatrists and scholarships for our students.”

About Merz Dermatology

Merz Dermatology is a division of Merz North America, a specialty healthcare company that develops and commercializes treatment solutions in aesthetics, dermatology and neurosciences in the U.S. and Canada. Merz Dermatology is committed to developing high-quality medical products and to providing
outstanding service to physicians in the fields of podiatry and medical dermatology. Merz Dermatology's flagship brand, Naftin® (naftifine HCl), remains the #1 topical antifungal brand prescribed by dermatologists and podiatrists in the U.S.¹ Merz Dermatology is an important contributor to the U.S. dermatology space, offering a well-balanced product portfolio that includes the Naftin® (naftifine HCl) family of products, Onmel™ (itraconazole) and Aluvea™ (Urea 39%) Cream. For additional information about Merz Dermatology, please visit www.merzusa.com.

About the American Podiatric Medical Association
The American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) is the nation's leading professional organization for today's podiatrists. Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (DPMs) are qualified by their education, training, and experience to diagnose and treat conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and structures of the leg. APMA has 53 state component locations across the United States and its territories, with a membership of more than 12,000 podiatrists. All practicing APMA members are licensed by the state in which they practice podiatric medicine. For more information, visit www.apma.org.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION for ONMEL™, INCLUDING BOXED WARNING

**WARNING: CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE, CARDIAC EFFECTS AND DRUG INTERACTIONS**

Do not administer ONMEL™ for the treatment of onychomycosis in patients with evidence of ventricular dysfunction such as congestive heart failure (CHF) or a history of CHF. When itraconazole was administered intravenously to dogs and healthy human volunteers, negative inotropic effects were seen. If signs or symptoms of congestive heart failure occur during administration of ONMEL™, discontinue administration.

Drug Interactions: Co-administration of cisapride, pimozide, quinidine, doxetilide, levacetylmethadol (levomethadyl), felodipine, oral midazolam, nisoldipine, triazolam, lovastatin, simvastatin, ergot alkaloids such as dihydroergotamine, ergometrine (ergonovine), ergotamine and methylergometrine (methylergonovine) or methadone with ONMEL™ is contraindicated. ONMEL™, a potent cytochrome P450 3A4 isoenzyme system (CYP3A4) inhibitor, may increase plasma concentrations of drugs metabolized by this pathway. Serious cardiovascular events, including QT prolongation, torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, cardiac arrest, and/or sudden death have occurred in patients using cisapride, pimozide, levacetylmethadol (levomethadyl), methadone or quinidine concomitantly with itraconazole and/or other CYP3A4 inhibitors.

¹ Symphony Health Solutions – PHAST Data, December 2013
Please see Full Prescribing Information, including Medication Guide for more information.

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