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Santhera Pharmaceuticals AG

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Santhera Announces the Appointment of Barbara A. Heller as Chief Financial Officer

Liestal, Switzerland – May 3, 2005 - Swiss specialty pharma company Santhera Pharmaceuticals announced today the appointment of Barbara A. Heller as Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Heller joins Santhera from Bank Vontobel AG in Zurich, where she served in the Corporate Finance department for more than 8 years.

“I am extremely pleased that Barbara joins us at this dynamic and crucial stage of our corporate development”, explained Dr Klaus Schollmeier, Santhera’s CEO. “Her investment banking, public and private equity markets experience as well as her knowledge of the life science and biotech industry are an ideal basis for her shaping and successfully executing Santhera’s financial strategies. I am very pleased to welcome such an experienced professional to our executive management team. We regard her as the perfect appointee.”

Ms. Heller started her professional career in corporate banking and capital markets at Bank Leu AG in Zurich in 1991, where she was ultimately promoted to “Head of Corporate Finance/Financial Engineering”.

In 1997 Barbara moved to Bank Vontobel AG in Zurich, where she became a member of the senior management team, serving as First Vice President since 2000.

During her tenure at Vontobel, Ms. Heller held positions with major responsibilities in Corporate Finance, Mergers & Acquisitions, Equity Capital Markets and Private Equity Advisory. She acquired and managed several significant biotechnology, finance and information technology initial and secondary public offerings as well as private placement mandates in the U.S., Switzerland, Germany and Austria.

Barbara graduated from University of Zurich with a Masters degree in Economics and Business Administration, with emphasis on Corporate Finance and Econometrics.

Barbara commented on her decision to join Santhera “I have been impressed by the achievements of Santhera and believe its profile and focus makes it a company with a very high potential. I am looking forward to this new challenge and to working with the Board and my new management colleagues to capitalize on the strong opportunities that exist for the Company’s products and programs.”

About Santhera

Privately-held Santhera Pharmaceuticals AG is a drug discovery and development company which was formed in August 2004 through the merger of MyoContract AG and Graffinity Pharmaceuticals AG. The company is focused on the discovery, preclinical as well as clinical development, and commercialization of pharmaceuticals for neuromuscular and metabolic diseases. Through its Graffinity Technology division, Santhera offers access to its proprietary small molecule drug fragment micro-array screening platform. The company, headquartered in Switzerland, has operations in Liestal, Switzerland (near Basel) and in Heidelberg, Germany, as well as a business development office in Boston, MA, USA. Santhera's investors comprise Merlin Biosciences Limited, Oxford Bioscience Partners, NGN Capital, 3i Group plc, Carnegie Asset Management, The Novartis Venture Fund, Varuma AG, GIMV, Clariden Bank, The Dow Chemical Company, Heidelberg Innovation, TechnoStart, tbg, the Swiss Foundation for Research on Muscle Diseases, and private investors.

For further information, please visit www.santhera.com.

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