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Novo Nordisk A/S Successfully Completes Single Dose Phase I Trial Oral Insulin (NN1953) Using Merrion Pharmaceuticals GIPET® Technology.

Dublin, Ireland, 3rd February 2012.

Merrion Pharmaceuticals plc (ESM: MERR), today announces that its partner, Novo Nordisk, successfully completed a single dose Phase I trial with a novel oral insulin (NN1953).

Merrion Pharmaceuticals GIPET Technology was used in the formulation of NN1953.

Following the successful completion of this trial, Novo Nordisk's planning of a multiple dose study is on-going.

The aim of the trial was to investigate the safety, tolerance, pharmacokinetics (exposure of drug) and pharmacodynamics (effect on blood glucose levels) of NN1953.

Under the terms of the license agreement signed in December 2008 Merrion, will receive payments for the first product developed under the agreement to reach the market based on achievement of certain development, regulatory and sales milestones as well as royalties. Certain milestone payments have been received by Merrion.

Merrion's Chief Executive, Mr Jonathan O'Connell said "This is encouraging news and another step towards improving the management options for diabetes. We are delighted with the commitment of Novo Nordisk to the continuing development of Merrion's GIPET technology in this field"

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