

## **Merrion Pharmaceuticals new facility is granted license to manufacture by Irish Medicines Board**

DUBLIN, IRELAND, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2010 - Merrion Pharmaceuticals plc (ESM:MERR), a pharmaceutical development company, today announces that their new state of the art facility in Citywest has been licensed, under the EU Clinical Directive for Investigational medicinal products, by the Irish Medicines Board (IMB).

Merrion acquired the 30,000 sq.ft facility in July 2009. The facility is designed to most efficiently (lowest risk, fastest development) develop new drug products and manufacture for clinical development.

'The granting of this license is another important milestone for Merrion, as it allows us to manufacture for clinical trials, said John Lynch CEO Merrion Pharmaceuticals, we have a great track record of high quality standards in rapidly developing and manufacturing products based on our GIPET® technology. The IMB license for our Citywest facility will allow us to expand the number of products we can develop for ourselves and for partners.'

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**About Merrion:**

Merrion Pharmaceuticals ([www.merrionpharma.com](http://www.merrionpharma.com)) is engaged in the development of oral forms (tablets/capsules) of drugs that have poor absorption and are generally given by injection. Merrion was established in 2003 to commercialize various technologies acquired from Elan Corporation, plc. Merrion Pharmaceutical's patented drug delivery technologies increase bioavailability, by improving absorption in the gastrointestinal tract, of drugs that are otherwise poorly absorbed. This can provide substantial benefit in patient convenience and safety, and might also provide enhanced drug efficacy. Merrion utilizes its technology to develop new oral drugs in two ways; it develops its own proprietary drugs using GIPET® and partners with other pharmaceutical companies in developing oral GIPET formulations of their products. Merrion is listed on the Dublin Stock Exchange under the symbol MERR.