Sandoz launches voriconazole injection, the first generic version of Vfend®

**Princeton, New Jersey, May 30, 2012** – Sandoz today announced the introduction of voriconazole injection, the first generic version of Pfizer’s Vfend®, in the US.

Voriconazole injection is indicated for use in patients 12 years of age and older in the treatment of certain serious fungal infections of the blood and body. ¹

“This launch further expands our portfolio of high-quality medicines and strengthens our leadership in generic injectables,” said Don DeGolyer, President of Sandoz Inc. “As the first to file for voriconazole injection, we are proud to lead the way in making a more affordable version of this important therapy available to patients in the US.”

According to IMS Health, US sales for the branded version of voriconazole injection were approximately USD 65 million for the 12 months ending in March 2012. Sandoz is marketing voriconazole injection in 200 mg vials, the same strength marketed for Vfend®. Sandoz also markets voriconazole in 50 mg and 200 mg strength tablets.

**Disclaimer**

The foregoing release contains forward-looking statements that can be identified by terminology such as “launches,” “introduction,” “launch,” or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential future revenues from voriconazole injection. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. Such forward-looking statements reflect the current views of the Company regarding future events, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that voriconazole injection will achieve any particular levels of revenue in the future. In particular, management’s expectations could be affected by, among other things, unexpected regulatory actions or delays or government regulation generally, including potential FDA approval of additional versions of voriconazole injection; competition in general; government, industry and general public pricing pressures; unexpected patent litigation outcomes; the

¹ For full safety information, please see the voriconazole injection prescribing information, available in the product catalogue at [www.us.sandoz.com](http://www.us.sandoz.com).
impact that the foregoing factors could have on the values attributed to the Novartis Group’s assets and liabilities as recorded in the Group’s consolidated balance sheet, and other risks and factors referred to in Novartis AG’s current Form 20-F on file with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Novartis is providing the information in this press release as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this press release as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

About Sandoz
Sandoz, a Division of the Novartis group, is a global leader in the field of generic pharmaceuticals, offering a wide array of high-quality, affordable products that are no longer protected by valid and enforceable third-party patents. Sandoz has a portfolio of approximately 1000 compounds and sells its products in about 130 countries. Key product groups include cardiovascular medicines, anti-infectives, treatments for central nervous system and alimentary tract disorders, oncology and respiratory therapies, as well as medications for blood and blood forming organ disorders. Sandoz develops, produces and markets these medicines along with pharmaceutical and biotechnological active substances. In addition to strong organic growth in recent years, Sandoz has made a series of acquisitions including Lek (Slovenia), Sabex (Canada), Hexal (Germany), Eon Labs (US), EBEWE Pharma (Austria), and Oriel Therapeutics (US). In 2010, Sandoz employed more than 23,000 people (full-time equivalents) worldwide and achieved net sales of USD 8.5 billion for the full year.

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Vfend® is a registered trademark of Pfizer Inc.