EFIC Grünenthal Grant Winners Present Data from Sponsored Research Projects on Pain, Opening New Avenues toward Better Treatment
--Data Presented at “Pain in Europe V” Congress--

Istanbul, September 18, 2006. Winners of the 2005 and 2004 EFIC Grünenthal Grant (E-G-G) presented results of the funded projects with innovative clinical research toward a better understanding of pain and novel approaches for treating patients suffering from acute and chronic pain. The data were announced at the close of the Fifth Triennial Congress of the EFIC, a conference bringing together over 5000 researchers from across Europe.

The annual EFIC Grünenthal Grant of € 100,000 is awarded in co-operation with EFIC (European Federation of Chapters of the International Association for the Study of Pain) and supports young scientists in carrying out innovative and exploratory clinical pain research projects.

Speaking about the grant, Prof. Serdar Erdine, MD, President of the EFIC and Director, Department of Algology, Istanbul University Faculty of Medicine said, “These grants are exciting because they enable young researchers to move an idea into practice, as opposed to funding research that has already taken place. This makes the grants somewhat unique in the research community and makes them a critical tool for advancing truly innovative projects rapidly.”

“The goal of the E-G-G is to fund research projects that will become stepping stones toward a better understanding of pain and how to treat patients,” Rob Koremans, MD, Member of the Executive Board of Grünenthal GmbH, noted. “Grünenthal is committed to helping increase both early-stage and clinical research that ideally will make an impact for patients who suffer and who have limited or insufficient pain treatment options. We are pleased to be able to support this effort with the EFIC, the most important European organization for the study of pain.”

“Building on results from a large-scale study of whiplash patients where physical treatment was ineffective, the E-G-G has enabled me to investigate if these patients could benefit from psychological intervention,” stated Helge Kasch, M.D., Ph.D., Staff Specialist, Department of Neurology, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark, and 2005 E-G-G recipient. “Without the E-G-G I would not have been able to apply this idea so quickly. The grant helped bridge a critical juncture to implement a novel pain treatment approach in real time.”


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About EFIC
The European Federation of Chapters of the International Association for the Study of Pain (EFIC) is a multidisciplinary professional organization in the field of pain science and medicine, made up of the 29 European chapters of IASP (International Association for the Study of Pain) representing 33 countries. Established in 1993, EFIC's chapters represent close to 18,000 scientists, physicians, nurses, physiotherapists, psychologists and other healthcare professionals across Europe who study pain and treat patients in pain. EFIC's aims are to advance research, education, clinical management and professional practice related to pain, and to serve as an authoritative, scientifically based resource concerning policy issues related to pain and its management.

About Grüenthal
Grüenthal researches, develops and produces high therapeutic value medicines and markets them throughout the world. Grüenthal is an expert in drugs for pain therapy and gynaecology and a leader in the field of intelligent, user-friendly drug delivery technologies. Grüenthal is an independent, family-owned company with a long history of international co-operations. The company was founded in 1946 and has its headquarters in Germany. We supply our markets from seven production sites around the world and have affiliates in 27 countries. Grüenthal employs about 1,900 people in Germany and about 4,700 world-wide. Sales in 2005 amounted to approximately 777 million Euros.

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