

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Sun Pharma launches CEQUA<sup>®</sup>, a novel therapy for Dry Eye Disease in India**

- *First dry eye treatment available in India that is delivered with nanomicellar (NCELL<sup>®</sup>)\* Technology*
- *Unique NCELL<sup>®</sup>\* Technology and formulation provides superior delivery over cyclosporine emulsion 0.05%*
- *Backed by several years of clinical experience in the U.S. and other geographies*

**Mumbai, India, April 25, 2023** - Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited (Reuters: SUN.BO, Bloomb: SUNP IN, NSE: SUNPHARMA, BSE: 524715, "Sun Pharma" and includes its subsidiaries and/or associate companies) today announced that one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries has launched a novel ophthalmology treatment, CEQUA<sup>®</sup>, in India for patients who have Dry Eye Disease (DED) with inflammation, a commonly occurring condition. CEQUA<sup>®</sup> is the first dry eye treatment available in India that is delivered with nanomicellar (NCELL<sup>®</sup>)\* technology.

Kirti Ganorkar, CEO – India Business, Sun Pharma, said, "Current treatment options for Dry Eye Disease have limitations and hence a strong unmet need exists in this space. We are excited to introduce CEQUA<sup>®</sup> as a new treatment option for Dry Eye Disease in India. This is an important milestone for Sun Pharma as we bring one of our key global specialty products to India."

Dr. Rohit Shetty, Vice Chairman of Narayana Nethralaya Eye Institute, commented on the launch, "We are seeing increasing cases of Dry Eye Disease in our practice, which may be caused by increased screen time and other lifestyle changes. Dry Eye Disease certainly needs more treatment options. Global clinical trials have shown that CEQUA<sup>®</sup> provides faster results and is comfortable to most of the patients right from the start of treatment. CEQUA<sup>®</sup> is backed by years of clinical experience in the U.S. and other geographies. It is a welcome addition to our treatment toolkit."

The prevalence of DED in India is higher than the global prevalence and a large regional study pegged India's prevalence at 32%, of which 90% were affected with moderate/severe DED<sup>2</sup>. In the same study, hours of Visual Display Terminal (VDT) usage (television, smartphones, computers, tablets, laptops) or "screen time" significantly correlated with the severity of DED. Another study has projected that the prevalence of DED is likely to increase to 45% in India's urban population by 2030<sup>3</sup>.

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited,  
SUN HOUSE, CTS No. 201 B/1,  
Western Express Highway, Goregaon (E),  
Mumbai 400063, India  
Tel.: (91-22) 4324 4324 Fax.: (91-22) 4324 4343  
CIN: L24230GJ1993PLC019050  
www.sunpharma.com



## **About CEQUA®**

CEQUA® (cyclosporine ophthalmic solution 0.09% w/v) is a calcineurin inhibitor immunomodulator indicated to increase tear production in patients with keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eye). It is a novel clear preservative-free aqueous nanomicellar solution, which improves the penetration of the active ingredient cyclosporine in ocular tissues.

## **About NCELL®\* Technology**

CEQUA® is formulated with an advancement in chronic dry eye treatment – NCELL®\* Technology, a unique delivery system. The technology, includes an exclusive encapsulation that surrounds the active ingredient in CEQUA®, cyclosporine. It allows the cyclosporine to travel through the layers of the tear film and releases it into the ocular tissues where it is needed the most. Once delivered, CEQUA® starts to treat inflammation, the underlying cause of chronic dry eye.

## **About Dry Eye Disease**

Dry Eye Disease (keratoconjunctivitis sicca) or DED is a disease affecting millions of patients around the world. DED, as defined by the National Eye Institute (a division of the U.S. National Institutes of Health), occurs when the quantity and/or quality of tears fails to keep the surface of the eye properly lubricated. The disease causes a scratchy sensation or a feeling that something is in the eye. Other symptoms include stinging or burning, episodes of excess watering following periods of stress, discharge, pain, and redness in the eye. It leads to increased ocular surface inflammation and damage<sup>4</sup>.

\*NCELL® trademark is registered with USPTO

## **References**

<sup>1</sup> Data on file. Cranbury, NJ: Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc. <sup>2</sup> Titiyal JS, Falera RC, Kaur M et al. Prevalence and risk factors of dry eye disease in North India: Ocular surface disease index-based cross-sectional hospital study. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2018 Feb;66(2):207-211. <sup>3</sup> Donthineni PR, Kammari P, Shanbhag SS et al. Incidence, demographics, types and risk factors of dry eye disease in India: Electronic medical records driven big data analytics report I. Ocul Surf. 2019 Apr;17(2):250-256. <sup>4</sup> Craig JP, Nelson JD, Azar DT et al. TFOS DEWS II Report Executive Summary. Ocul Surf. 2017 Oct;15(4):802-812.

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Registered Office : SPARC, Tandalja, Vadodara – 390 012 India.

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Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited,  
SUN HOUSE, CTS No. 201 B/1,  
Western Express Highway, Goregaon (E),  
Mumbai 400063, India  
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CIN: L24230GJ1993PLC019050  
www.sunpharma.com



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**About Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (CIN - L24230GJ1993PLC019050)**

Sun Pharma is the world's fourth-largest specialty generic pharmaceutical company and India's top pharmaceutical company. A vertically integrated business and a skilled team enables it to deliver high-quality products, trusted by customers and patients in over 100 countries across the world, at affordable prices. Its global presence is supported by manufacturing facilities spread across six continents and approved by multiple regulatory agencies, coupled with a multi-cultural workforce comprising over 50 nationalities. Sun Pharma fosters excellence through innovation supported by strong R&D capabilities across multiple R&D centers, with investments of approximately 6% of annual revenues in R&D. For further information, please visit [www.sunpharma.com](http://www.sunpharma.com) and follow us on Twitter @SunPharma\_Live.

**Contacts: Sun Pharma**

**Investors**

Dr. Abhishek Sharma  
Tel +91 22 4324 4324, Xtn 2929  
Tel (D) +91 22 4324 2929  
Mobile +91 98196 86016  
E mail [abhi.sharma@sunpharma.com](mailto:abhi.sharma@sunpharma.com)

**Media**

Gaurav Chugh  
Tel +91 22 4324 4324, Xtn 5373  
Tel (D) +91 22 4324 5373  
Mobile +91 98104 71414  
E mail [gaurav.chugh@sunpharma.com](mailto:gaurav.chugh@sunpharma.com)