

**Martindale Pharma® and Provepharm partner to provide
“Methylthioninium chloride Proveblue solution for injection” to the UK
and Ireland**

***First fully European Pharmacopeia standard methylthioninium chloride
available in the UK and Ireland***

Brentwood, UK & Marseille, France, 28 November 2011: MARTINDALE PHARMA, leaders in the manufacture and supply of specialty pharmaceuticals in the UK and PROVEPHARM, a French start-up specialized in the development of pharmaceutical applications, today announce that they have entered into an exclusive partnership, to supply Provepharm’s injectable medicinal product, **Methylthioninium chloride Proveblue solution for injection** (“Proveblue™”), for the treatment of medicinal and chemical products - induced methaemoglobinaemia in the UK and Ireland.

Under the agreement, Martindale Pharma will be responsible for all commercial activities relating to Proveblue™ in the UK and Ireland. Commercial terms were not disclosed.

Proveblue™ medicinal product, which was developed by Provepharm is the first methylthioninium chloride active substance to meet the European Pharmacopeia standards. Proveblue™ gained its first approval by the European Medicines Agency in June 2011 and represents a significant improvement in quality from current methylthioninium chloride products.

Methaemoglobinaemia is a life-threatening blood disorder characterized by an abnormal amount of methaemoglobin in the blood, leading to an inability to release oxygen to body tissue effectively. The disorder can be inherited or acquired after exposure to certain chemicals or drugs for example anaesthetics, certain antibiotics and nitrites, which are used in the preservation of food.

Proveblue™ medicinal product has enhanced purity in comparison with Martindale’s previous methylthioninium chloride product, which was United States Pharmacopeia (USP) standard only.

Additional benefits of Proveblue™ include a new indication for chemical products-induced methaemoglobinaemia as well as acute symptomatic treatment of medicinal methaemoglobinaemia and the indication to treat children and adolescents (aged 0-17 years old) as well as adults.

Richard de Souza, Chief Executive Officer of Martindale Pharma commented: “We are delighted to be collaborating with Provepharm on Proveblue, with whom we share similar values and goals. This provides a solid platform for the launch and success of Proveblue™ medicinal product in the UK and Ireland.”

Michel Féraud, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Provepharm, commented: “We are delighted to be collaborating with Martindale Pharma which has such a good understanding of the UK and Ireland and we appreciate very much Martindale’s decision to switch to Proveblue™ as a move to enhance quality to patients.”

About Martindale Pharma®

After starting out as a London chemist store owned by William Martindale, Martindale Pharma has remained in business for more than a century and is now firmly established as a leading supplier to the UK's NHS and exports its products to a number of other major pharmaceutical markets.

In May 2010 AAC Capital bought Martindale Pharma from Cardinal Health. AAC Capital continues to develop the business and pursue growth opportunities.

Martindale Pharma manufacture the majority of their products at their own facilities in the UK, in total producing and packing c.50 million doses a year in a range of formats including sterile ampoules/vials, oral solutions, pre-filled syringes, suppositories and ophthalmics.

Martindale Pharma's key business segments are:

- [Specials](#)
- [Critical Care](#)
- [Ophthalmics](#)
- [Hospital Specialty Products](#)
- [Addiction](#)

For further information visit martindalepharma.co.uk

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About Provepharm

Provepharm is a subsidiary of the Provence Technologies Group that is specialized in the development and commercialization of pharmaceutical drug products derived from active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) synthesized and patented by its parent company. Anticipating the pharmaceutical industry's needs, Provepharm started by adopting a strategy of repositioning and rehabilitating known compounds in new indications. This development strategy was designed to cater for the growing demand for APIs that comply with current quality demands.

Provepharm supplies the pharmaceutical industry with pharmaceutical-grade methylene blue and has embarked on studies of its efficacy in indications under development, such as malaria, as well as offering the compound for research into neurodegenerative diseases.

The company is based in Marseille, France and employs 10 people. It has risen funding of around 8 million Euros to date from its founders, business angels and venture capital companies. Provepharm is one of 2,000 firms that have received the OSEO Excellence designation of the French Innovation Promotion Agency OSEO.

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