

# Alliance of Experts Created to Help Raise Awareness of Best Practices in Diabetes Treatment

## Sanofi-aventis U.S. Establishes “Diabetes National Alliance” of Healthcare Professionals to Help Meet Needs of Growing Diabetes Epidemic in U.S.

**Bridgewater, NJ, January 29, 2009** – Sanofi-aventis U.S. announced today the launch of the Diabetes National Alliance to address the growing diabetes epidemic in America and to provide healthcare professionals with information on the standard of care for people living with diabetes. The Diabetes National Alliance is a nationwide initiative designed to raise awareness among primary care professionals about available practices in diabetes treatment and treatment options, including those of sanofi-aventis.

The latest reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that nearly 24 million Americans have diabetes, including an estimated 5.7 million who remain undiagnosed. Of this number, more than 40 percent of patients with diabetes are not in control of their blood glucose, leaving them at an increased risk of developing long-term diabetes-related complications. With more than 230 million people worldwide currently living with diabetes and this number expected to rise to a staggering 350 million within 20 years, it is imperative that treating healthcare providers are educated and informed about effective diabetes care.

“Most patients with diabetes currently utilize primary care physicians, whose specialty is neither diabetes nor endocrinology,” said Dr. Paresh Dandona, director of the Diabetes-Endocrinology Center of WNY at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle Hospital, and Diabetes National Alliance Steering Committee member. “The Diabetes National Alliance provides physicians, diabetes educators and nurses tasked with treating the growing epidemic of diabetes in America with the knowledge and tools aimed at improving patient care.”

The Diabetes National Alliance is a national program led by a multidisciplinary team of leading diabetes experts dedicated to sharing up-to-date information and treatment options with primary care providers through a series of day-long workshops available in local communities across the country. The Diabetes National Alliance workshops will provide primary care physicians and allied healthcare professionals with the opportunity to gain insights from key national experts in the field of diabetes management, featuring an interactive discussion on treatment pathways for patients in the context of guidelines and evidence-based research, as well as practical tips on lifestyle management, including diet and exercise.

“Primary care physicians, diabetes educators and nurses often serve as the principle healthcare providers for people living with diabetes, making it critical to provide these professionals with opportunities in their local area to receive information on effective diabetes care and recognized performance standards,” said Angela Moskow, Vice President of Metabolism Marketing, sanofi-aventis U.S. “The Diabetes National Alliance is the latest initiative to demonstrate sanofi-aventis’ commitment to providing healthcare professionals with information about real world practice options.”

The Diabetes National Alliance will launch in Western New York and be led by Dr. Dandona in nine cities including Buffalo, where the first workshop will be held on January 30, 2009. National diabetes physician experts, certified diabetes educators, nurses and dieticians will be participating in ‘hands on’ workshops with a case-based format to encourage audience participation and stimulate discussion.

For more information on the Diabetes National Alliance, log onto [www.diabetesnationalalliance.com](http://www.diabetesnationalalliance.com).

### **About Diabetes**

Diabetes is a chronic, widespread condition in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, the hormone needed to transport glucose (sugar) from the blood into the cells of the body for energy. More than 230 million people worldwide are living with the disease and this number is expected to rise to a staggering 350 million within 20 years. It is estimated that nearly 24 million Americans have diabetes, including an estimated 5.7 million who remain undiagnosed. At the same time, approximately 40 percent of those diagnosed are not achieving the blood sugar control target of A1C <7 percent recommended by the ADA. The A1C test measures average blood glucose levels over the past two- to three-month period.

## **About sanofi-aventis**

Sanofi-aventis, a leading global pharmaceutical company, discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions to improve the lives of everyone. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (EURONEXT: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY).

## **Forward Looking Statements**

*This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. These statements include financial projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions, statements regarding plans, objectives, intentions and expectations with respect to future events, operations, products and services, and statements regarding future performance. Forward-looking statements are generally identified by the words “expects,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “intends,” “estimates,” “plans” and similar expressions. Although sanofi-aventis’ management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, investors are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of sanofi-aventis, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. These risks and uncertainties include those discussed or identified in the public filings with the SEC and the AMF made by sanofi-aventis, including those listed under “Risk Factors” and “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” in sanofi-aventis’ annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2007. Other than as required by applicable law, sanofi-aventis does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information or statements.*

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