



AMGEN (AMGN) - news has received approval from the FDA to update the label of its white blood cell boosting drug, Neulesta. The drug was previously indicated for patients receiving myelosuppressive chemotherapy associated with a more than **30 to 40 percent risk** of febrile neutropenia. Now Neulasta can be administered to patients receiving myelosuppressive chemotherapy associated with at least a **17 percent risk** of febrile neutropenia. Doctors can now prescribe Neulasta for patients starting with **their first cycle of chemotherapy** if they have a 17 percent risk of developing an infection.

The FDA approval is based on data from a recent study, which found that patients who took Neulesta had fewer infections and fewer hospitalizations.

The good news adds to Amgen's good news in many areas from pipeline drugs, to approved drugs to growth.

EYETECH (EYET): The Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use, the scientific committee of the European Medicines Agency, has issued a positive opinion recommending **approval of Macugen** for the treatment of neovascular age-related macular degeneration. The recommendation serves as a basis for European approval.

The European Commission is expected to issue an authorization decision regarding the marketing of Macugen in European Union countries **by the end of the year**.

This is good news also for OSI (**OSIP**), which declared intention to buy Eyetech.

CUBIST (CBST): The abstract covering efficacy and safety findings from the Phase 3 **CUBICIN** trial for Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia and infective endocarditis (IE) has been accepted as a "late breaker" slide presentation for the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobials and Chemotherapy (ICAAC). As previously announced by ICAAC, this conference has been rescheduled to December 16-19, 2005 in Washington D.C. The CUBICIN presentation will be at 4:30 P.M. ET on Friday December 16, 2005.

Comments : Cubicin is good news for Cubist. The drug, which was approved for skin infection, has shown good results in treating Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia and infective endocarditis (IE). These positive trial results could reflect in an increase in sales of the drug prior to approval of the new indications.

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