

# PRESS RELEASE

**Date: 12 November 2001**

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## **Wilex AG and Bayer Corporation sign license, sublicense and option agreement**

Munich, November 12th, 2001 - Wilex AG today announced that it had entered into a license, sublicense and option agreement with Bayer Corporation's Business Group Diagnostics, Tarrytown, NY to obtain certain rights under Bayer's MN patent portfolio. "MN", (also known as CA IX) is a tumor associated antigen expressed in a large number of cancers, including virtually all renal cell carcinoma.

Through this agreement Wilex receives certain intellectual property rights which protect its G250 antibody. In addition, Bayer has granted to Wilex option rights to develop certain other antibodies targeting the MN antigen as well as certain diagnostic option rights. "This agreement provides an important cornerstone for our growing antibody therapy portfolio. In addition it will enable us to develop diagnostics for the identification of patient sub-populations that may benefit from our Renal Cell Carcinoma therapies" said Prof. Dr. Olaf G. Wilhelm, CEO of Wilex.

WX-G250 is currently being tested in Phase II trials as a stand alone naked antibody as well as in combination with IL-2. WX-G250RIT, a radiolabelled version of G250, aims to deliver tumor-sterilizing radiation directly to renal tumors and is also in Phase II clinical trials. Both drug candidates have received Orphan Drug Designation from the FDA.

Wilex AG is a biopharmaceutical company committed to the discovery, development and commercialization of novel cancer therapies to improve treatment and enhance quality of life for patients. The Company was founded by clinical oncologists who identified prognostic markers that could recognize sub-populations of cancer patients at high risk of developing metastatic disease. Wilex is developing several novel cancer therapies that are tailored to the medical needs of these patient sub-populations.

With more than 7,300 employees worldwide and 2000 sales greater than \$1.8 billion, Bayer Diagnostics ([www.bayerdiag.com](http://www.bayerdiag.com)), based in Tarrytown, New York, USA, is one of the largest diagnostic businesses in the world. The organization supports customers in 100 countries through an extensive portfolio of central, self-testing, nucleic acid and near patient care diagnostics systems and services for use in the assessment and management of health, including the areas of cardiovascular and kidney disease, oncology, virology, women's health and diabetes. Distinguished by its commitment to quality, Bayer Diagnostics is dedicated to surpassing customer expectations from providing state-of-the-art products to offering unparalleled service and support. Bayer Diagnostics is a part of the worldwide Bayer Group, a \$29 billion international health care and chemicals group based in Leverkusen, Germany. Bayer Diagnostics' global headquarters in the United States operates as part of Bayer Corporation of Pittsburgh, a research-based company with major businesses in health care, life sciences and chemicals.

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