

# **ALTEA REPORTS POSITIVE PHASE I RESULTS FOR BASAL INSULIN PATCH**

Altea Therapeutics

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At the 11th annual Drug-Delivery Partnerships Conference held in Las Vegas, NV, Altea Therapeutics announced results from Phase I human studies of its basal insulin transdermal patch that showed efficient, sustained and constant delivery of insulin at therapeutic levels.

In a glucose-clamp study, Altea achieved constant insulin delivery at therapeutic levels over a 12-hour patch application period. The data showed efficient delivery of the applied dose of insulin and demonstrated favourable pharmacodynamics of transdermal insulin delivery when compared with a subcutaneous injection of a long-acting insulin analogue. The findings confirm efficient and constant delivery of basal insulin from the company's PassPort patch. Altea is developing both 12- and 24-hour transdermal patches based on its PassPort system to provide constant 'basal' levels of insulin for people with Type I or Type II diabetes.

These results will help the company to persuade potential customers that basal insulin transdermal patches could become cost-effective alternatives for those who currently use insulin injections to manage their diabetes. Dr Eric Tomlinson, President and CEO of Altea, believes that a higher patient acceptance of a basal insulin transdermal patch over needle injections enables physicians to start subjects on insulin earlier in the management of Type I and Type II diabetes.

Market research conducted by Altea on its transdermal basal insulin product confirms significant market potential for a pain-free, convenient and cost-effective alternative to repeat insulin injections. Approximately 40 to 50 million people with Type II diabetes and 10 million people with Type I diabetes worldwide require insulin therapy. The worldwide market for all forms of insulin was over US\$7 billion in 2005 and is estimated at over US\$11 billion by 2011. The basal insulin is the fastest growing market and generated over US\$2.6 billion in 2005.