

CEREXA'S PPI-0903 RECEIVES FDA FAST TRACK STATUS

Anti-Infective Drug News, March 15, 2006

The FDA has granted fast track designation to Cerexa's next-generation, broad-spectrum, cephalosporin antibiotic, PPI-0903, for the treatment of complicated skin and skin structure infections (cSSSI) caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Cerexa initiated a Phase II trial of PPI-0903 for the treatment of cSSSI in October 2005.

PPI-0903 combines the advantages of an enhanced gram-positive spectrum, including bactericidal anti-MRSA activity, with broad gram-negative activity, while maintaining the favourable safety profile of cephalosporins. Unlike currently-marketed cephalosporins, PPI-0903 has demonstrated bactericidal activity against the most resistant strains of gram-positive bacteria. PPI-0903 has also demonstrated bactericidal activity against penicillin-resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and common gram-negative bacteria.