

For further information: Marta Campos Martínez <u>mcampos@rovi.es</u> Tel: +34 91 244 44 22

## ROVI and the EIB agree to sign a loan to boost research into drug administration and prolonged-release technologies

**Madrid – 21 December, 2017** – Laboratorios Farmacéuticos ROVI, S.A. ("**ROVI**" or the "**Company**") informs that the European Investment Bank (**EIB**) has granted it a loan to support its investments in Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&i), which concentrate on technologies for the administration and prolonged release of drugs, including preclinical and clinical trials, that allow the development of future treatments for cancer and central nervous system diseases.

The loan is for 45,000,000 euros. ROVI may draw down this amount during a period of 24 months as from signature of the contract and the loan will mature in 2029. The loan provides for a three-year grace period and financial conditions (i.e. applicable interest rates, repayment periods, etc.) favourable to ROVI.

For the Company, the EIB loan represents an additional financing channel for its R&D&i projects, for which it likewise uses significant amounts of its own equity.

In the year 2016, ROVI's R&D&i expenditure was 17.5 million euros, 6% up on the preceding year. Likewise, the Company expects average R&D&i expenditure in the period 2017-2019 to be approximately 32 million euros per year.

This financing operation is supported by the European Union under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), within the framework of what is known as the "Juncker Plan".

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The research activities associated to this agreement reinforce ROVI's innovation capacity and help the company to maintain a competitive edge and expand its international presence.

## About ISM<sup>®</sup> technology

ISM<sup>®</sup> is a technology platform for the prolonged release of drugs that has been patented by ROVI, and is based on the *in situ* formation of biodegradable matrices following the administration of a liquid carrier. The product is presented in a kit of two syringes, one of which contains the polymer and the active ingredient in solid state, and the second which contains the solvent needed for reconstitution, which is carried out unseasonably. The ISM<sup>®</sup> technology design leads to a major improvement in the stability of the composition and allows for controlled and reproducible release profiles after subcutaneous or intramuscular administration.

## **About ROVI**

ROVI is a fully-integrated Spanish specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the research, development, in-licensing, manufacturing and marketing of small molecule and specialty biologic drugs. The Company has a diversified portfolio of products that it markets in Spain through its specialized sales force, calling on specialist physicians, hospitals and pharmacies. ROVI's portfolio of 30 principal marketed products is currently anchored by the internally-developed, second-generation low-molecular-weight heparin Bemiparin. ROVI's research and development pipeline is focused primarily on the expansion of applications, indications and alternative mechanisms of action for the heparin-derived products and other glycosaminoglycans and on the development of new controlled release mechanisms based on ISM® technology, with the aim of obtaining new pharmaceutical products that enable the regular administration of formulations which are administered daily in chronic and prolonged treatments. ROVI manufactures the active biological ingredient (Bemiparin) for its principal proprietary products and for injectable pharmaceutical products developed by its in-house research team, and utilizes its state-of-the-art filling and packaging capabilities to provide a broad array of toll manufacturing services to leading international pharmaceutical companies, primarily in

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the area of pre-filled syringes. In addition, ROVI provides contract manufacturing and packaging services of solid oral pharmaceutical dosage forms, using the most enhanced technology, Roller Compaction. Additional information about ROVI is available on the company's website: <u>www.rovi.es</u>

## About the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the "Juncker Plan"

The EIB is the European Union's long-term lending institution and its shareholders are the Member States. The EIB provides long-term financing to viable investment projects, with the aim of furthering EU policy objectives.

The Investment Plan for Europe, known as the "Juncker Plan," is one of the European Commission's top priorities. It centers its efforts on promoting investments that spur job creation and economic growth through a more intelligent use of new and existing financial resources. At the same time, it aims to eliminate investment obstacles, and offer better visibility and technical assistance to EU investment projects.