



ANNOUNCEMENT SUMMARY

- Chinese SFDA rules on regulatory application to market the Plasma Substitute, Volplex®
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PERTH, 1st April 2010. HELICON GROUP LIMITED (ASX: HCG) today announced that the Chinese State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) has rejected the application to market the plasma substitute, Volplex® in China.

The SFDA cited potential quality issues with the raw material gelatine, used in the manufacture of Volplex®.

Volplex® is a sterile solution of chemically-modified gelatine in normal saline. The product is widely used as an intravenous infusion to replace the plasma component of blood lost as a result of trauma or surgery.

Volplex® is licensed from UK based IS Pharmaceuticals Limited (formerly Maelor) and is manufactured in Germany. The product has been available on the market in the United Kingdom for many years.

“The SFDA decision is very disappointing” said Peter Abrahamson, Helicon’s CEO. “It reflects the growing conservatism of this regulatory agency following a number of decisions that had disastrous consequences in China. Recent data from the SFDA indicates that over 60% of applications are being rejected by the SFDA.” he added.

“The SFDA decision is perplexing, given that a similar chemically-modified gelatine is already approved for sale in China, and because Volplex® is approved and sold in highly regulated western markets such as the UK.”

The Company’s advisors in China do not see an avenue for appealing this decision

Future Direction

Helicon has the skin harvesting device ReCELL® registered in China and is progressing this through further regulatory processes.

Helicon is in the process of actively reviewing a number of strategic options outside its present business and will make an announcement in the near future.

About the Helicon Group

Helicon is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange. The Company's present business is to identify and exploit niche market opportunities in the biomedical markets of North Asia, specifically China and to participate in the significant growth that has been projected for these markets over the next 25 years.

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