

disassemble during a cell cycle. Taxotere® promotes their assembly and blocks their disassembly, thereby preventing cancer cells from dividing and resulting in cancer cell death.

Taxotere® had previously been approved in the United States to treat patients with locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer after failure of prior chemotherapy, and patients with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC after failure of prior platinum-based chemotherapy. About one of every three patients treated for NSCLC in the United States today is treated with Taxotere-based therapy. Its most recent FDA approved indication is for its use as first-line therapy in patients with unresectable locally advanced or metastatic non-

The approval of Taxotere® as a first-line treatment of advanced non-small cell lung cancer means that oncologists can now extend to newly diagnosed patients the benefits seen with this agent as second-line therapy.

For more information about Taxotere, visit www.taxotere.com or see full prescribing information including BOXED WARNINGS. For more information about ongoing clinical trials, please call 1-800-RxTrial or visit www.aventisoncology.com.

ABOUT AVENTIS

Aventis is dedicated to improving life by treating and preventing human disease through the discovery and development of innovative prescription drugs for important therapeutic areas as well as human vaccines. In 2001, Aventis generated sales of €17.7 billion (\$15.8 billion), invested €3 billion (\$2.7 billion) in research and development and employed approximately 75,000

TAXOTERE® FOR FIRST-LINE WITH NON-SMALL CELL

Approved for Initial Treatment of Advanced Lung Cancer in More Than Four Years

small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) in combination with cisplatin, who had not received prior chemotherapy. With this FDA approval, Taxotere® is the only agent indicated for use in both first- and second-line treatment of NSCLC. In September 2002, the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products (CPMP) issued a positive recommendation for Taxotere in Europe for the first-line treatment of advanced NSCLC in combination with cisplatin.

The most common severe side effects associated with Taxotere® include low white blood cell count, fatigue, fluid retention and mouth sores. The most common non-severe side effects included hair loss,



neurosensory, cutaneous, nail changes, nausea and diarrhea. These side effects are generally reversible and manageable. A premedication regimen with corticosteroids is recommended in order to prevent or reduce hypersensitivity and fluid retention. Taxotere® is not appropriate therapy for patients with significant liver impairment or a low white blood cell count. Patients 65 years of age or older may experience some side effects more frequently.

people in its core business. Aventis corporate headquarters is in Strasbourg, France.

The company's prescription drugs business is conducted in the U.S. by Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc., which is headquartered in Bridgewater, New Jersey. Aventis Pharmaceuticals was recently named one of the top companies to work for by *Working Mother* magazine. For more information about Aventis in the U.S., please visit: www.aventis-us.com.

Full prescribing information is available by visiting the Aventis Pharmaceuticals U.S. Web site at www.aventis-us.com. Also available at this U.S. Web site are copies of this release or any recent release.