The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
Evaluation of Medicines for Human Use

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PRESS RELEASE
European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products: Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products 16-17 December 2003

The Committee adopted one positive opinion on the initial marketing authorisation application for **Photobarr** (porfimer sodium), from Axcan International Pharma BV, intended for the treatment of high-grade dysplasia in patients with Barrett's oesophagus. EMEA review began on 20 May 2002 and the opinion was adopted on 17 December 2003, with an active review time of 197 days.

Photobarr was designated an orphan medicinal product on 6 March 2002 and is the **fifteenth orphan medicinal product** to receive a positive CPMP opinion.

A summary of the opinion is available on the EMEA web site: http://www.emea.eu.int

This is the last meeting of the 2001-2003 mandate of the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products. The first meeting of the Committee's next mandate will be on 20-22 January 2004, at which time the Committee will hold elections for its chair and vice-chair.

A more detailed CPMP meeting report will be published shortly.

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