

**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Saniona comments on article addressing the potential mechanism of action behind tesofensine's unique weight loss effect**

**Saniona (OMX: SANION), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, announces the recent publication of an article addressing a possible mechanism of action explaining the robust weight loss efficacy of Saniona's proprietary drug tesofensine in preclinical obesity models.**

The scientific paper entitled "Tesofensine, a novel antiobesity drug, silences GABAergic hypothalamic neurons" was published in PLOS One by Claudia I. Perez and coworkers from an acknowledged obesity research group led by Ranier Gutierrez, National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico (<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0300544>). Using a combination of sophisticated in vivo biochemical, histological, molecular, behavioral pharmacological and electrophysiological techniques the authors aimed at addressing the mechanism of action of tesofensine's weight loss effects in the hypothalamus of the rat brain and linking this to tesofensine's robust efficacy as a weight loss drug.

The authors found that tesofensine strongly modulated lateral hypothalamus activity in obese rats and inhibited a subset of GABAergic neurons attenuating their ability to promote feeding behavior. They also concluded that tesofensine induced more weight loss the appetite suppressant effects in obese rats than in lean rats. Moreover, it was shown that tesofensine blocked weight loss tolerance (weight rebound) and prolonged the weight loss induced by the weight loss principle 5-HTP. Tesofensine was evaluated to have a benign adverse effect profile and differentiation to certain other obesity treatments principles tested.

Karin Sandager Nielsen, CSO of Saniona, commented, "These data strongly support the promotion of tesofensine as a novel effective treatment for weight loss in obese people. The experiments demonstrate strong experimental skills and scientific experience of the responsible scientists and their excellence in the field. The techniques used are highly sophisticated and well suited for demonstrating tesofensine's effects at specific neuronal pathway levels and brings us closer to understanding the cellular and network mechanism of action of tesofensine's unique efficacy".

**For more information, please contact**

Thomas Feldthus, CEO, +45 22109957; [thomas.feldthus@saniona.com](mailto:thomas.feldthus@saniona.com)

## **About Saniona**

Saniona (OMX: SANION) is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company leading the way in ion channel modulation for the treatment of epilepsy and other neurological disorders. Saniona's epilepsy pipeline features SAN711, a Phase 2-ready candidate drug targeting absence seizures, SAN2219 for acute repetitive seizures, and SAN2355, addressing refractory focal onset seizures. Beyond epilepsy, Saniona oversees four clinical programs poised for collaboration. Tesofensine, Saniona's most advanced candidate, is progressing towards regulatory approval for obesity in Mexico through a partnership with Medix. Tesomet™ is ready for Phase 2b, targeting rare eating disorders, while SAN903 is ready for Phase 1 for inflammatory bowel disease and SAN2465 is set for preclinical development for major depressive disorder. Saniona has esteemed partners, including Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH, Productos Medix, S.A de S.V, AstronauTx Limited, and Cephagenix ApS. Saniona is based in Copenhagen and listed on Nasdaq Stockholm Main Market. For more information, please visit [www.saniona.com](http://www.saniona.com).

## **Attachments**

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