



# HEALTH AWARENESS

## Hypertension Remains Widespread Health Concern, Americans Have 90 Percent Chance Of Developing High Blood Pressure

(NAPSA)—According to a recent study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, today's middle-aged and elderly Americans have a 90 percent chance of developing hypertension, also known as high blood pressure. Currently up to 50 million Americans have hypertension, whether or not they are receiving treatment; over 40 percent do not have their blood pressure adequately controlled.

Blood pressure has natural rhythms throughout any 24-hour period, and because of a genetically present system, automatically starts increasing in the early morning hours—the time when most people begin the day.

Because of this natural rise in blood pressure, patients diagnosed with high blood pressure can benefit from a medication that provides continuous 24-hour control. Failure to control hypertension may increase the risk of cardiovascular events. According to the Sixth Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC-VI), therapies that provide continuous 24-hour efficacy with a single daily dose are the optimal treatment choice.

Blood pressure can be regulated with a variety of medications that use different methods for lowering blood pressure. One group of drugs, angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, work by interfering with the conversion of the hormone angiotensin I to the artery-constricting angiotensin II. Blocking the production of angiotensin II results in reduced blood pressure.

The ACE inhibitor, ACEON® Tablets (perindopril erbumine), provides steady, 24-hour control without peaks and troughs in the level of medication.

People at risk for hyperten-

---

**Patients diagnosed with high blood pressure can benefit from a medication that provides continuous 24-hour control**

---



sion should speak with their health care providers about the benefits of 24-hour blood pressure control.

Solvay Pharmaceuticals is the marketer of ACEON® (perindopril erbumine) Tablets, an ACE-inhibitor for the treatment of essential hypertension. When used in pregnancy during the second and third trimesters, ACE inhibitors can cause injury and even death to the developing fetus. When pregnancy is detected, ACEON® Tablets should be discontinued as soon as possible. Please see product package insert for full prescribing and safety information.

In controlled clinical trials, ACE inhibitors have an effect on blood pressure that is less in African-American patients than in non-African-Americans. Also, African-American patients receiving ACE-inhibitor monotherapy have been reported to have a higher incidence of angioedema than do non-African-Americans.

Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc., of Marietta, Ga., is a research-based pharmaceutical company, active in the therapeutic areas of cardiology, gastroenterology, mental health and women's health. It is a member of the worldwide Solvay, S.A. group of chemical and pharmaceutical companies, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

For further details, see full prescribing information at <http://www.fda.gov/cder/foi/nda/96/020184ap.pdf>.