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Human Genome Sciences Inc Q4 2008 Earnings Call Transcript

Question-and-Answer Session

Operator

(Operator Instructions) We hear first from Geoff Porges with Bernstein.

Geoff Porges - Bernstein

Thanks very much Tom and Tim, thanks for taking the question. Couple of quick questions, first on ABthrax, the opportunities outside the US, now you've actually started delivering, could you give us a sense of how you are going about it, what sort of reception you're getting and what the lead time might be on potentially seeing some orders in other markets?

And then just a question on LymphoStat, I'm not sure whether Dave is with you, but it would be helpful to have an update on the extension study for LymphoStat-B and how that's going?

H. Thomas Watkins

So, Geoffrey let me ask Jim Davis to comment first on your ABthrax question and then Dave Stump is here and we will have him comment on LymphoStat. Jim.

Jim Davis

Sure, I would be glad to give you an update on ABthrax. Yes, the international market is something we are interested in and we are beginning to explore opportunities there now that we have begun delivery to the Strategic National Stockpile. It's very difficult at this time to really give any estimate of the magnitude or the timing with respect to that and we are interested and we are pursuing it.

Geoff Porges - Bernstein

Thank you.

H. Thomas Watkins

Dave?

Dave Stump

The extension studies are going well, I presume you are talking more about what's happening with our Phase 3 extension studies? Not just the previous Phase 3 extension study. We have patients coming off double-blind, placebo controlled phase, primarily in BLISS-52 where the treatment period is only 52 weeks.

So the subscription has been pretty decent reminiscent to me of what went on in Phase 2. I'll remind you patients had to actually complete the 52 weeks double-blind period in order to be eligible to roll over. So when we actually do come up with numbers we will have to make the adjustments for patients who don't finish.

BLISS-76 we have much less mature data in part because we have the extra 24 week placebo controlled double-blind phase, so they actually go out to 76 weeks, we will only begin having a few patients rolling over for that extension study probably going forward from mid year.

Geoff Porges - Bernstein

Guys, can you just give us a sense of how many patients on the Phase 2 are still on drug now?

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