The Acute Ischemic Stroke Drug Market Will Remain Relatively Flat, Increasing from $460 Million in 2009 to Approximately $610 Million in 2019

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BURLINGTON, Mass., Nov. 9, 2010 /PRNewswire/ -- Decision Resources, one of the world's leading research and advisory firms for pharmaceutical and healthcare issues, finds that the acute ischemic stroke (AIS) drug market will remain relatively flat, increasing from $460 million in 2009 to approximately $610 million in 2019 in the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom and Japan.

The Pharmacor 2010 findings from the topic entitled *Acute Ischemic Stroke* reveal that, in the forecasted absence of new therapies, drug-treatment rates in AIS will grow modestly as the use of recombinant tissue plasminogen activator (rt-PA; Genentech's Activase, other brands) gradually increases, aided by a recently extended treatment window. Rt-PA, the gold standard of pharmacological treatment in AIS, is administered to only a small fraction (less than 4 percent in 2009) of diagnosed patients in the world's major pharmaceutical markets.

"Broadening the use of rt-PA and interventional therapies such as stroke devices, including Concentric Medical's Merci Retrieval System, coupled with continued improvements in stroke systems of care will be crucial steps in the near-term future of stroke treatment," said Decision Resources Analyst Jonathan Searles. "Given the lingering questions among interviewed thought leaders about mid- and late-stage emerging treatments such as Paion/Lundbeck's thrombolytic desmoteplase and D-Pharm's metal ion chelator DP-b99, and in light of the continual attrition of investigational treatments in stroke, we do not forecast the launch of any novel therapies through 2019, although we continue to monitor several new therapies with great interest."

The findings also reveal that the persistent failure of neuroprotectants in clinical trials underscores physicians' growing skepticism about the promise of acute neuroprotection, particularly in monotherapy. Interviewed neurologists indicate that new directions in neurorestor
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