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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Ypsomed prepares for stock exchange listing**

Burgdorf, 28 August 2004, 9:30 a.m. – Burgdorf-based medical technology supplier Ypsomed, the leading independent developer and manufacturer of custom-made injection pens for pharmaceutical and biotech companies, and one of the leading suppliers of pen needles, is planning a listing on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX). After careful examination of a range of options to finance its rapid growth, the company has decided to go ahead with an Initial Public Offering (IPO) on the Swiss Stock Exchange. Further details of the listing should be available in the second week of September.

Further information is available from Daniel Kusio, Head of Investor & Public Relations at Ypsomed Holding AG, Tel. +41 34 424 41 43 or Tel +41 34 424 41 11.

You will find this press release and other documents in electronic form at [www.ypsomed.com](http://www.ypsomed.com).

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### **About Ypsomed**

Operating in the field of medical technology, Ypsomed is the leading independent manufacturer of injection pens for pharmaceutical and biotech companies, as well as one of the leading suppliers of pen needles. Currently enjoying dynamic growth, Ypsomed can draw on over 15 years' experience and is well-known for the consistent high quality, safety and reliability of its products, as well as its proven expertise in the area of diabetes. Thanks to a broad-based technology platform and some 100 patents, Ypsomed is widely regarded as the technology and innovation leader in this industry.

Ypsomed's core business consists of developing and marketing products and services allowing patients to administer their own medication in a safe, simple way. Our custom-made injection pens range from simple disposable pens and pens with variable dosing and an electronic display through to highly complex injectors with multifunctional electronics. We are constantly expanding our core technology in the pen sector, e.g. with auto-injectors or motor-driven pens. Ypsomed also manufactures compatible pen needles with a unique click-on function for both its own and all other widely available pens. As a distributor of pen needles in the major European markets, Ypsomed is in direct contact with patients, doctors and diabetes consultants.

### **Information on market and industry trends**

Innovative devices and systems enabling patients to inject drugs themselves (Medical Selfcare Solutions) are increasingly popular because they make a big contribution to ensuring therapeutic success whilst at the same time improving the patient's quality of life. Injection pens are simple to use, less painful and psychologically better accepted than traditional syringes. Straightforward, user-friendly appliances facilitate correct handling by patients, which in turn results in higher treatment success rates. Injection systems therefore represent a key success factor for pharmaceutical and biotech companies. In an increasingly competitive environment, they also provide companies with an important marketing instrument for differentiating their own drugs from those of their competitors.

Injection therapies are continually being extended to new areas. Diabetes is currently the main application, but other existing uses or likely candidates for injection treatments with devices include anaemia, hepatitis, hormone therapies, infertility, osteoporosis, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, thrombosis and growth disorders. An ageing population also means additional growth in the total market. Moreover, pharmaceutical and biotech companies have numerous substances in their pipelines which will provide promising new treatments (some of which will have unique new modes of action) for serious illnesses, thereby significantly improving the quality of life enjoyed by those concerned. Many of these new drugs are manufactured using biotechnological methods and have to be injected because of their large chemical structure, and demand for custom made injection systems is set to grow.

### **Information about diabetes**

Diabetes Mellitus – more commonly known simply as diabetes – is a chronic disorder of the metabolism which occurs in two forms (type 1 and type 2). Diabetes is treated with various insulins. Ypsomed concentrates on type 2 diabetes, the form that affects around 90% of all diabetes patients. Together with lack of exercise, obesity is one of the main reasons for the increased incidence of diabetes. Experts estimate that occurrence of diabetes is growing at a rate of about 10% a year. The World Health Organization (WHO) predicts there will be some 300 million diabetics worldwide by the year 2025.