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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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### **Ypsomed increases free float to 30%**

**With the placement of 3.2% shares previously held by majority shareholder Willy Michel and BV Holding AG, the free float of Ypsomed Holding AG was increased to 30%. Neither Willy Michel nor BV Holding AG will sell any additional shares for the time being.**

Burgdorf, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2005, 7:30am – As announced on the occasion of the presentation of the semi-annual results 2005/06, majority shareholder Willy Michel and BV Holding AG have selectively placed shares thus increasing the free float of Ypsomed Holding AG to 30%. Willy Michel now holds approximately 68.6% (previously 71.2%) and BV Holding AG now holds 0.9% (previously 1.5%) of the shares.

#### **Majority shareholder Willy Michel to maintain a two-third majority long term**

Willy Michel, majority shareholder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ypsomed Holding AG, made the following statement: "I intend to maintain a two-third majority (66.66%) in Ypsomed Holding AG over the long term, since the company will continue to experience strong sustained growth."

During the first semester 2005/06 the Ypsomed Group increased sales by 22%, whereas sales in its core business with pen systems and pen needles grew by more than 52%. Ypsomed benefited from strong growth in its principal market of diabetes and in particular from the commercial success of Lantus, the leading long-acting insulin analogue produced by its partner Sanofi-Aventis. Ypsomed increased its sales forecast for the 2005/06 business year from the previous 20% to 25% to now 25% to 30%.

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. This press release and further documents are available in electronic form at [www.ypsomed.com](http://www.ypsomed.com).

### **Information about Ypsomed Holding AG**

Operating in the field of medical technology, Ypsomed is the leading independent manufacturer of injection pens for pharmaceutical and biotech companies and also one of the leading suppliers of pen needles. The fast-growing medical technology business with its headquarters in Burgdorf (Switzerland) is backed by over 20 years of experience and has gained a high reputation for the consistently high quality, safety and reliability of its products, as well as its proven expertise in diabetes treatment. Due to a broadly based technology platform and over 150 patent families, Ypsomed is regarded as the technology and innovation leader in this industry. Ypsomed's core business is the development, manufacturing and marketing of products and services which allow patients to administer their own medication in a safe and simple way. The range of custom-made injection pens extends from simple disposable pens and pens with variable dosing and an electronic display through to highly complex injectors with multifunctional electronics. The product range of Ypsomed also encompasses newly developed disposable and re-usable auto-injectors. Ypsomed in addition manufactures compatible pen needles with 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 nurses. The Ypsomed Group consists of Ypsomed AG with subsidiary companies in Germany, France, the Netherlands and Scandinavia, Ypsotec AG in Grenchen and in the Czech Republic and TecPharma Licensing AG in Burgdorf. All main manufacturing is based at three sites in Switzerland, Burgdorf, Solothurn and Grenchen. The Ypsomed Group has over 1000 employees, 940 of which are based in Switzerland.

### **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 large contribution to ensuring therapeutic success whilst at the same time improving the patient's quality of life. Injection pens are simple to use, offer precise dosing and are psychologically better accepted than traditional syringes. Straightforward, user-friendly appliances facilitate correct handling by patients, which in turn results in higher therapeutic 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 therefore 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, 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.