ASTRAZENECA PLC
Form 6-K
February 07, 2003

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For January 2003

Commission File Number: 001-11960

AstraZeneca PLC

15 Stanhope Gate, London W1K 1LN, England

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.____

Form 20-F X Form 40-F __

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): _____

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes __ No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the Registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____

AstraZeneca PLC

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

1. Press release entitled, "AstraZeneca Files sNDA for Seroquel (Quetiapine) in Bipolar Disease", dated 2 January 2003

2. Press release entitled, "AstraZeneca announces FDA requires more time for priority review of Iressa (ZD 1839) US Application - Decision Expected by May 5, 2003" dated 9 January 2003

3. Press release entitled "Disclosure of Notifiable Interest" dated 10 January 2003

4. Press release entitled "Disclosure of Notifiable Interest" dated 14 January 2003

5. Press release entitled "AstraZeneca PLC Fourth Quarter and Full Year Results 2002 Front Half" dated 30 January 2003

6. Press release entitled "AstraZeneca PLC Fourth Quarter and Full Year Results 2002 Back Half" dated 30 January 2003

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AstraZeneca PLC

Date: February 1, 2003

By: /s/ G H R Musker

Name: G H R Musker
Title: Company Secretary & Solicitor

Agenda Item 1

ASTRAZENECA FILES sNDA FOR SEROQUEL(R) (QUETIAPINE) IN BIPOLAR DISEASE

AstraZeneca today announced that it has submitted a Supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for SEROQUEL(R) (quetiapine) for the treatment of acute mania associated with bipolar disorder (manic depressive illness).

The application to the FDA follows the completion of a comprehensive bipolar disorder clinical trial programme undertaken by AstraZeneca to examine the efficacy and tolerability of SEROQUEL in this important disease area. The programme has delivered consistently strong and positive results in both the monotherapy and adjunctive therapy studies, which confirm SEROQUEL to be an ideal first line agent.

The proposed new indication is expected to expand the market for SEROQUEL, which is currently indicated for the treatment of schizophrenia in adults. Analysts estimate that bipolar disorder alone constitutes a multibillion-dollar market. The illness affects an estimated 2.3 million American adults and is ranked as the second leading cause of disability worldwide among the neuro-psychiatric disorders. To date, over 4 million people have been treated with Seroquel worldwide. SEROQUEL is the fastest-growing atypical antipsychotic on the market, with annualised sales that approached $1 billion in Q3 2002.

2 January 2003

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-ENDS -

Agenda Item 2

ASTRAZENECA ANNOUNCES FDA REQUIRES MORE TIME FOR PRIORITY REVIEW OF IRESSA(R)(ZD1839) U.S. APPLICATION- DECISION EXPECTED BY MAY 5, 2003

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has notified AstraZeneca that it requires more time to review information requested of the company during the six month priority review of the new drug application (NDA) for IRESSA(R) (ZD1839/gefitinib). AstraZeneca will work closely with the Agency to complete the review in a prompt and effective manner. The extended user fee goal date is May 5th 2003.

On September 24, 2002 the Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee (ODAC) made a clear recommendation to the FDA supporting the approval of IRESSA(R) (ZD1839/gefitinib). Since that time, AstraZeneca has continued to provide additional information to the FDA as requested by the agency, including extensive safety information on patients involved in clinical trials, the expanded access programme (compassionate use) and clinical use in Japan where the drug is approved.

At the urging of patients and physicians, and with the support of the FDA, AstraZeneca continues to provide an extensive compassionate use programme for the drug during the review period. In the past two years, almost 20,000 patients in the U.S. have received IRESSA(R) through this programme.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, which accounted for approximately 155,000 deaths in 2002. Non-small cell lung cancer is the most common form of lung cancer, accounting for 80 per cent of all lung cancer cases. IRESSA(R) is being considered for use in the most advanced of these patients, who have progressed despite multiple other treatments. Currently no treatment option exists for these patients.

9 January 2003

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Notes to editors:

For more information on AstraZeneca please visit www.astrazeneca.com
This press release contains forward-looking statements with respect to AstraZeneca's business. By their nature, forward-looking statements and forecasts involve risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future. There are a number of factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially. For a discussion of those risks and uncertainties, please see the company's Annual Report/Form 20-F for 2001.

IRESSA(R) is a trademark of the AstraZeneca group of companies.

-Ends-

Agenda Item 3

COMPANIES ACT 1985 SECTION 198
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN VOTING SHARES IN PUBLIC COMPANIES

ON 9 JANUARY 2003 WE WERE INFORMED BY THE CAPITAL GROUP COMPANIES, INC., A REGISTERED INVESTMENT MANAGER IN THE U.S., THAT ON 7 JANUARY 2003 ITS INTEREST IN THE USD0.25 ORDINARY SHARES OF ASTRAZENECA PLC HAD DECREASED TO 208,550,628 SHARES (12.13 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED ORDINARY CAPITAL) FROM THE PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED LEVEL OF 214,373,635 SHARES (12.42 PER CENT). THE REASON FOR THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS THAT, WITHIN THE SAID HOLDING OF 12.13 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED ORDINARY CAPITAL OF ASTRAZENECA PLC, CAPITAL GUARDIAN TRUST COMPANY, AN AFFILIATE OF THE CAPITAL GROUP COMPANIES, INC., HAS DECREASED ITS INTEREST IN THESE SHARES TO 85,393,793 SHARES (4.97 PER CENT) FROM 86,567,127 SHARES (5.02 PER CENT).

G H R MUSKER
COMPANY SECRETARY
10 JANUARY 2003

Agenda Item 4

COMPANIES ACT 1985 SECTION 198
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN VOTING SHARES IN PUBLIC COMPANIES

ON 14 JANUARY 2003 WE WERE INFORMED BY THE CAPITAL GROUP COMPANIES, INC., A REGISTERED INVESTMENT MANAGER IN THE U.S., THAT ON 10 JANUARY 2003 ITS INTEREST IN THE USD0.25 ORDINARY SHARES OF ASTRAZENECA PLC HAD DECREASED TO 204,812,653 SHARES (11.92 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED ORDINARY CAPITAL) FROM THE PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED LEVEL OF 208,550,628 SHARES (12.13 PER CENT).

G H R MUSKER
COMPANY SECRETARY
14 JANUARY 2003

Agenda Item 5

AstraZeneca PLC
Fourth Quarter and Full Year Results 2002

"Earnings per Share ahead of target, benefiting from strong sales growth of Nexium(TM), Seroquel(TM), and Symbicort(TM)."

Financial Highlights (before Exceptional Items)

Group	4th Quarter	4th Quarter	Constant	Full Year	Full Year
(Continuing operations*)	2002	2001*	Currency	2002	2001*
	$m	$m	%	$m	$m
Sales**	4,901	4,366	+10	17,841	16,222
Operating Profit	1,074	1,090	-2	4,356	4,156
Profit before Tax	1,081	1,102	-2	4,387	4,269
Earnings per Share Before Exceptional Items	$0.45	$0.45	0	$1.84	$1.73
Statutory (FRS3)	$0.25	$0.42		$1.64	$1.65

* Restated to be on a consistent basis under FRS19. See note 1 on page 13 for further information.
**Sales in the fourth quarter and full year reflect an adjustment for prompt payment discounts that have been reclassified from cost of sales to sales. Please see note 1 on page 13 for more information. All narrative in this section refers to growth rates at constant exchange rates (CER)

- Earnings per Share (before exceptional items) were up 7 percent to $1.84 for the full year; Statutory Earnings per Share were $1.64.

- Sales for the full year increased by 9 percent. Sales growth excluding Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM)was 23 percent.

- Operating profits were up by 5 percent for the full year. Operating profit in the fourth quarter declined by 2 percent on the expected phasing of R&D expenditures and lower other operating income.

- Nexium(TM) sales were nearly $2 billion for the full year. Share of total prescriptions in the US exceeded 20 percent in December. Nexium(TM) is now the number 2 PPI in new prescription market share in the US.

- Sales of Seroquel(TM) exceeded $1 billion for the year, up 67 percent. An sNDA in the US has been submitted for the use of Seroquel(TM) in the treatment of acute mania associated with bipolar disorder.

- Sales of Iressa(TM) reached $67 million for the year following launch in Japan in the third quarter. The FDA has extended its regulatory review

period for Iressa(TM) to May 5.

- Investment in Research and Development in 2002 was over $3 billion, as planned.

- An exceptional charge of $350 million has been accrued to cover potential settlement costs related to the previously disclosed investigations into the sales and marketing of Zoladex(TM) in the US.

Sir Tom McKillop, Chief Executive, said: "Sales excluding Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM) grew by 23 percent, showing the strength of our portfolio of growth products. Maintaining this momentum should allow us to absorb most of the sales impact of generic competition in 2003. Following the planned launches of Crestor(TM) and Exanta(TM) later this year, all the elements should be in place to drive strong sales and earnings growth from 2004."

London, 30 January 2003

Business Highlights All narrative in this section refers to growth rates at constant exchange rates (CER) unless otherwise indicated.

Sales for the year increased by 9 percent. The weaker US dollar increased the reported sales growth by 1 percent. Operating profits increased by 5 percent on both an "as reported" and CER basis. Earnings per Share (before exceptional items) rose by 7 percent to $1.84. The Board has recommended a second interim dividend of $0.47 (28.5 pence, 3.99 SEK) to be paid on 7 April 2003, bringing the dividend for the full year to $0.70 (43.2 pence, 6.20 SEK).

In the fourth quarter, sales increased by 10 percent whilst operating profits declined by 2 percent in CER terms. The decline in operating profits in the quarter is chiefly due to the anticipated phasing of R&D expenditures and a reduction in other operating income. Currency movements increased the reported growth rates for sales and operating profits by 2 percent and 1 percent respectively. Earnings per Share (before exceptional items) in the fourth quarter was unchanged at $0.45.

In the fourth quarter, sales in the US increased by 16 percent, which the company believes is higher than underlying demand because of wholesaler stock movements in the current quarter compared to the fourth quarter of 2001. The company believes the full year growth rate of 10 percent is more indicative of the underlying performance of the business in the quarter and the full year.

GI sales grew by 7 percent for the full year, as the strong growth of Nexium(TM) more than offset declines in Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM). Nexium(TM) sales more than trebled to $1,978 million, including $453 million from markets outside the US. In the US, Nexium(TM) share of total prescriptions for PPI products reached 20.5 percent in December.

Sales of Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM) were down by 18 percent for the full year, with the US down 21 percent. A generic omeprazole product became available in the US market on 8 December, and thus had little effect on reported sales of Prilosec(TM) for the year.

The underlying momentum in the business is evidenced by the sales growth rate of 23 percent (33 percent in the US) when sales of Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM) are excluded. Strong sales growth for the year was reported in CNS (up 53 percent), Respiratory (up 16 percent) and the Oncology (up 12 percent) product ranges. Despite good growth in Atacand(TM) (up 36 percent) and Seloken(TM)/Toprol-XL(TM) (up 27 percent), generic competition for Zestril(TM) resulted in sales growth for Cardiovascular products of just 1 percent.

The recently launched products--Nexium(TM), Symbicort(TM), Faslodex(TM) (in the US) and Iressa(TM) (in Japan)-- generated nearly $2.4 billion in sales in 2002 (up from $651 million in 2001). Five other growth products--Casodex(TM), Arimidex(TM), Atacand(TM), Seroquel(TM), and Zomig(TM) -- grew by another $900 million to just over $3 billion in aggregate.

Future Prospects All narrative in this section refers to growth rates at constant exchange rates (CER) unless otherwise indicated.

The excellent sales performance from the growth products in 2002 is expected to continue in 2003, enabling the company to absorb most of the impact of generic competition to Prilosec(TM), Nolvadex(TM), and Zestril(TM) and resulting in an overall low single digit sales decline in constant currency terms. However, sales should benefit significantly from current trends in exchange rates, but this would largely be offset by the adverse effect on the cost base. The company remains committed to fully supporting the launches of Crestor(TM) and Exanta(TM). Bearing these factors in mind and based on current exchange rates, the company anticipates Earnings per Share in 2003 (before exceptional items) in the range of $1.50 to $1.65 per share.

Disclosure Notice: The preceding forward looking statements relating to expectations for earnings and business prospects for AstraZeneca PLC are subject to risks and uncertainties, which may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward looking statements. These include, but are not limited to: the rate of growth in sales of generic omeprazole in the USA, the successful registration and launch of new products (in particular Crestor(TM), Iressa(TM), and Exanta(TM)), continued growth of currently marketed products, the growth in costs and expenses, interest rate movements, exchange rate fluctuations, and further improvements in the tax rate. For further details on these and other risks and uncertainties, see AstraZeneca PLC's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the 2001 Annual Report on Form 20-F.

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Photographs of the AstraZeneca annual results conference are available from newscast at www.newscast.co.uk from 1pm (UK time) today.

AstraZeneca PLC

Sales

All narratives in this section refers to growth rates at constant exchange rates (CER).

Gastrointestinal

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM)	1,115	1,372	-20	4,623	5,578	-18
Nexium(TM)	686	278	n/m	1,978	568	n/m
Total	1,819	1,664	+7	6,664	6,190	+7

- Nexium(TM) sales for the full year were just under $2 billion. There were a further 38 launches in 2002, bringing the total to 76 countries. The global PPI market continues to grow strongly (around 20 percent). Nexium(TM) share of the PPI market across major markets was 16 percent in October 2002.

- Nexium(TM) sales in the US were $1,525 million for the year, including $521 million in the fourth quarter. Nexium(TM) share of total prescriptions in the US PPI market increased to 20.5 percent in December, and its share amongst GI specialist physicians is even higher (27 percent).

- Sales for Losec(TM)/Prilosec(TM) were down by 18 percent for the year. The 21 percent decline in the US was broadly in line with the prescription trend. Sales performance outside the US (down 12 percent) was aided by strong growth in Japan and Australia.

- A generic omeprazole product became available in the US market on 8 December. In the week ending 17 January, Prilosec(TM) brand share of total omeprazole prescriptions was 47 percent; a rate that is consistent with reports of constrained supply of generic product.

Cardiovascular

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Zestril(TM)	144	256	-44	877	1,067	-18
Atacand(TM)	160	124	+24	569	410	+36
Seloken(TM)/ Toprol-XL(TM)	263	165	+60	901	711	+27
Plendil(TM)	139	136	-	489	463	+5
Total	894	900	-3	3,569	3,483	+1

- Prescriptions for Zestril(TM) in the US have rapidly declined since the introduction of generics in July. Sales in the US in the fourth quarter fell to $46 million.

- Sales of Atacand(TM) products grew by 36 percent on a worldwide basis in 2002, slightly ahead of the Angiotensin Receptor Blocker class. Sales in the US increased by 37 percent for the year, although sales growth in the quarter was only 15 percent versus a strong fourth quarter last year; total prescriptions in the US grew by 24 percent in the quarter.

- Prescriptions continue to grow strongly for Toprol-XL(TM) in the US (up 38 percent for the year), consistent with the 43 percent increase in reported US sales. US sales in the fourth quarter of $182 million were broadly in line with prescription demand; the high growth rate (up 107 percent) reflects wholesaler destocking in the fourth quarter last year.

AstraZeneca PLC

Respiratory

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Pulmicort(TM)	237	203	+14	812	766	+5
Accolate(TM)	52	30	+73	144	143	+2
Rhinocort(TM)	76	74	+3	299	265	+13
Oxis(TM)	29	33	-18	120	127	-9
Symbicort(TM)	105	49	n/m	299	83	n/m
Total	537	429	+21	1,818	1,539	+16

- Symbicort(TM) sales in the fourth quarter were $105 million, bringing the total for the year to $299 million. The product has now been launched in more than 40 countries. Value share of the fixed combination asthma products across Europe was over 22 percent in November, with notably higher shares achieved in Sweden (48 percent) and Germany (30 percent). The regulatory submission for COPD treatment is being reviewed in the EU.

- Pulmicort(TM) Turbuhaler(TM) sales globally reflect the declining inhaled bronchial steroid market in the face of growing acceptance of combination products. This was more than offset by the strong growth of Pulmicort(TM) Respules(TM) in the US (up 75 percent), enabling Pulmicort(TM) to achieve a 5 percent sales increase for the full year.

- Rhinocort(TM) Aqua sales in the US increased by 39 percent for the year, fuelled by a more than 3 point share gain in the aqueous intranasal steroid market. It is the chief reason behind the 13 percent increase in Rhinocort(TM) franchise sales on a global basis in 2002.

- The sharp increase in US sales for Accolate(TM) in the fourth quarter is a result of significant wholesaler stock building. Prescriptions for Accolate(TM) in the US declined by 21 percent for the year.

Oncology

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Casodex(TM)	184	173	+5	644	561	+15
Arimidex(TM)	92	51	+78	331	188	+75
Nolvadex(TM)	138	181	-24	480	618	-21
Zoladex(TM)	206	205	-	794	718	+12
Faslodex(TM)	16	-	n/m	35	-	n/m
Iressa(TM)	41	-	n/m	67	-	n/m
Total	681	614	+11	2,369	2,111	+12

- Arimidex(TM) has enhanced its position as the leading product in the

aromatase inhibitor market for breast cancer treatment. Market share has grown as the positive results of the ATAC trial in early breast cancer have been incorporated into product labels and are being adopted in clinical practice. Monthly prescriptions in the US have doubled since December 2001, driving the 127 percent increase in US sales for the year. Sales outside the US increased by 51 percent.

- Sales of Casodex(TM) outside of the US increased by 42 percent to $464 million in 2002 as the use of Casodex(TM) 150 mg tablets in the treatment of early prostate cancer has now been approved in 41 countries. In December, the Oncology Drugs Advisory Committee to the US FDA did not recommend approval of this indication in the US. Even without the benefit of this new indication, prescriptions for Casodex(TM) grew by some 5 percent in the US market last year. The reported sales decline in the US in the fourth quarter (down 35 percent) is therefore not indicative of underlying demand, but rather an adverse comparison against wholesaler stockbuilding in the fourth quarter of 2001.

- US sales for Nolvadex(TM) in the fourth quarter were $99 million, as sales of AstraZeneca's tamoxifen products recovered somewhat from the disruptions felt as a result of the expiration of the company's distribution agreement with Barr Laboratories. Sales were still off by 24 percent in the quarter and by 21 percent for the full year. A sharp decline in Nolvadex(TM) sales in the US is expected following the expiration of exclusivity in February.

- Sales of Faslodex(TM) in the treatment of advanced breast cancer reached $35 million after 8 months in the US market. A European submission for second line treatment of advanced breast cancer is planned for later this quarter.

- Sales of Iressa(TM) for the treatment of inoperable or recurrent non-small cell lung cancer reached $67 million in just over 4 months on the market in Japan, indicating a high level of acceptance in this area of significant unmet medical need. In the US, FDA has indicated that it will require an additional 3 months (to 5 May 2003) to complete its review of the pending NDA. A regulatory submission in Europe is planned for later in the first quarter.

CNS

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Seroquel(TM)	357	170	+109	1,145	685	+67
Zomig(TM)	94	67	+39	328	273	+19
Total	460	243	+87	1,505	980	+53

- Seroquel(TM) sales exceeded the $1 billion megabrand milestone in 2002, with strong growth of 67 percent. Share of new prescriptions in the US market was 19.2 percent in December, up 3.7 points in the year. Seroquel(TM) value share of the market in Japan is now 25 percent in just over one year on the market. An sNDA submission in the US for use of Seroquel(TM) in the treatment of acute mania associated with bipolar disorder (manic depressive illness) was announced on 2 January. A filing in Europe is planned for later this quarter.

- In the fourth quarter, sales of Seroquel(TM) in the US increased by 130 percent. Whilst there was some indication of modest wholesaler stockbuilding in the quarter, the high growth rate is largely a function of tight supply in the fourth quarter last year.

- Zomig(TM) sales for the full year grew by 19 percent, with the bulk of the increase arising in Japan (up 67 percent), France (up 29 percent) as well as from the US (up 20 percent). Rapimelt(TM) tablets and nasal spray formulations have been valuable additions to the product range in countries where they have been introduced. Zomig(TM) sales in the fourth quarter in the US appear to reflect some wholesaler stockbuilding. Zomig(TM) prescriptions in the US increased by 11 percent for the year, slightly ahead of the triptan market overall.

Pain, Infection and Other Pharma

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
Merrem(TM)	69	65	+8	285	227	+26
Diprivan(TM)	117	133	-13	443	456	-3
Xylocaine(TM)	51	57	-9	179	212	-14
Marcaine(TM)	23	26	-12	77	87	-11
Total	375	404	-7	1,418	1,496	-5

- Sales of Merrem(TM)grew by 26 percent for the full year, chiefly on the 31 percent increase in sales outside the US.

- The small sales increase for Diprivan(TM) in the US was the result of growth in the underlying demand for propofol offsetting small market share losses to generic products.

Geographic Sales

	Fourth Quarter		CER %	Full Year		CER %
	2002	2001		2002	2001	
USA	2,564	2,219	+16	9,351	8,483	+10
Europe	1,528	1,439	-1	5,695	5,238	+5
Japan	314	260	+27	977	851	+21
RoW	495	448	+14	1,818	1,650	+13

- In the US, sales increased by 10 percent for the full year. Excluding Prilosec(TM), sales growth was 33 percent, with excellent performances in Nexium(TM), Seroquel(TM), Toprol-XL(TM), Pulmicort(TM) Respules(TM), and Arimidex(TM).

- Strong sales performances in France (up 13 percent) and Italy (up 16 percent) more than offset declining sales in Germany and UK, resulting in a

5 percent sales increase in Europe for the full year. Sales growth was driven by Nexium(TM), Symbicort(TM), Casodex(TM) and Seroquel(TM).

- A strongly performing product range in Oncology (including excellent uptake for Iressa(TM)) and continued strong growth in Losec(TM) (up 40 percent) fuelled the 21 percent sales growth in Japan for the full year.

Operating Review

Full Year

Sales increased by 9 percent to $17,841 million and operating profit (before exceptional items) increased by 5 percent to $4,356 million. Operating margin of 24.4 percent of sales was 1.2 points below prior year. Currency impacts reduced the margin by 0.3 points, whilst the other 0.9 point reduction was largely due to lower other operating income. Elsewhere, improved product mix and lower Merck payments reduced cost of sales by 0.6 points to 25.3 percent of sales, whilst SG&A growth was broadly in-line with sales growth. R&D increased by 0.6 points to 17.2 percent of sales, principally due to the growth in clinical trial costs. In aggregate, R&D and SG&A grew by around 10 percent at constant exchange rates.

Currency was 1 percent favourable on sales due to the weaker dollar. This was offset by an adverse impact on costs leading to a slight negative currency variance on profits versus last year.

Fourth Quarter

Sales increased by 10 percent to $4,901 million and operating profit (before exceptional items) declined by 2 percent to $1,074 million, which led to operating margins declining by 3.1 points to 21.9 percent of sales. Cost of sales at 25.6 percent of sales was 0.3 points lower than 2001, principally due to improved mix and a lower proportion of Merck payments. R&D expenditure was $892 million or 18.2 percent of sales. The increase was largely due to increased spend on clinical trials following a high level of patient recruitment to key trials in the quarter. In dollar terms, R&D spend was inflated by around 5 percent due to adverse currency movements. SG&A expenditure was $1,661 million or 33.9 percent of sales, the increase due primarily to G&A costs and an adverse currency effect. G&A costs in the fourth quarter included a number of small reorganisation provisions aimed at improving productivity. Other operating income at 0.4 percent of sales was 1.1 points below 2001 due to the absence of one-off items in the quarter and a decrease in income from royalty agreements that expired last year.

Currency increased sales in the fourth quarter by 2 percent, primarily attributable to the weaker dollar against the euro. This benefit was partially offset by higher costs due to the weaker dollar versus sterling and Swedish krona, leading to a 1 percent favourable effect on operating profit.

Exceptional item

As previously disclosed, the U.S. Department of Justice has been conducting an investigation into the sale and marketing of Zoladex(TM) (goserelin acetate implant). This investigation was prompted by the filing of a qui tam complaint by a private party in 1997 and involves allegations of improper submissions of

claims to the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The Company and federal and state authorities are in the process of negotiating a potential settlement of the civil and criminal claims at issue in the investigation. As a result, although no final agreement has been concluded, the Company believes it appropriate to accrue $350 million to cover estimated settlement costs.

Interest

Interest income was $7 million in the quarter leading to $31 million for the full year. Interest income in the quarter incorporates some small exchange and revaluation losses.

Taxation

Excluding exceptional items, the effective tax rate for both the fourth quarter and full year 2002 was 26.8 percent compared with 28.4 percent for 2001. The 2001 tax rate has been restated under FRS19. See note 1 to the preliminary announcement for more details. No tax relief has been provided on the exceptional item charge.

Cash Flow

Cash generated from operating activities after exceptional items amounted to almost $5.6 billion for the year; $1.8 billion ahead of last year. This was applied to capital expenditures of $1.5 billion, taxation paid of $0.8 billion, dividends of $1.2 billion and share repurchases of $1.2 billion to give an increase in net cash funds of just under $1 billion. Net cash funds at the end of the year amounted to $3.8 billion (2001 $2.9 billion).

Share Repurchase Programme

During the quarter, 7.8 million shares were repurchased (nominal value $0.25 each) for cancellation at a total cost of $295 million bringing the total for the year to 28.4 million at a cost of $1,190 million.

Since the commencement of the programme, 65.6 million shares have been repurchased for cancellation at a total cost of $2,805 million.

The total number of shares in issue as at 31 December 2002 is 1,719 million.

Approximately $1.2 billion remains available under the previously announced share repurchase programme, and it is anticipated that this will be used to complete the programme by the end of 2003.

Upcoming Milestones and Key Events

30 April	Announcement of first quarter results
30 April	Annual General Meeting 2003

24 July	Announcement of second quarter results
2 October	Annual Business Review
23 October	Announcement of third quarter results

Sir Tom McKillop
Chief Executive

Agenda Item 6

Consolidated Profit & Loss Account For Continuing Operations

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m
Sales	17,841
Cost of sales	(4,520)
Distribution costs	(141)
Research and development	(3,069)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(5,998)
Other operating income	243
Operating profit before exceptional items	4,356
Exceptional items charged to operating profit	(350)
Operating profit	4,006
Share of joint ventures' and associates' operating profits	-
Profit on sale of fixed assets	-
Net interest and dividend income	31
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	4,037
Profit before taxation before exceptional items	4,387
Exceptional items charged to profit before taxation	(350)
Taxation	(1,177)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	2,860
Attributable to minorities	(24)
Net profit for the year	2,836
Dividends to Shareholders	(1,206)
Earnings per Ordinary Share before exceptional items	$1.84
Earnings per Ordinary Share	$1.64
Diluted earnings per Ordinary Share	$1.64
Weighted average number of Ordinary Shares in issue (millions)	1,733
Diluted average number of Ordinary Shares in issue (millions)	1,735

Consolidated Profit & Loss Account For Continuing Operations

For the quarter ended 31 December	2002 $m
Sales	4,901
Cost of sales	(1,253)
Distribution costs	(39)
Research and development	(892)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(1,661)
Other operating income	18
Operating profit before exceptional items	1,074
Exceptional items charged to operating profit	(350)
Operating profit	724
Share of joint ventures' and associates' operating profits	-
Profit on sale of fixed assets	-
Net interest and dividend income	7
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	731
Profit before taxation before exceptional items	1,081
Exceptional items charged to profit before taxation	(350)
Taxation	(291)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	440
Attributable to minorities	(12)
Net profit for the period	428
Dividends to Shareholders	(808)
Earnings per Ordinary Share before exceptional items	$0.45
Earnings per Ordinary Share	$0.25
Diluted earnings per Ordinary Share	$0.25
Weighted average number of Ordinary Shares in issue (millions)	1,723
Diluted average number of Ordinary Shares in issue (millions)	1,725

Consolidated Balance Sheet

At 31 December	2002 $m
Fixed assets	
Tangible fixed assets	6,597
Goodwill and intangible assets	2,807
Fixed asset investments	46
	9,450
Current assets	
Stocks	2,593
Debtors	4,845
Cash and short-term investments	4,688
	12,126
Total assets	21,576
Creditors due within one year	
Short-term borrowings and current instalments of loans	(516)
Other creditors	(7,699)
	(8,215)
Net current assets	3,911
Total assets less current liabilities	13,361
Creditors due after more than one year	
Loans	(328)
Other creditors	(34)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(1,773)
	(2,135)
Net assets	11,226
Capital and reserves	
Shareholders' funds - equity interests	11,172
Minority equity interests	54
Shareholders' funds and minority interests	11,226

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m
Net profit for the financial year	2,836

Exchange adjustments on net assets	1,106
Translation differences on foreign currency borrowings	6
Tax on translation differences on foreign currency borrowings	(2)
Total recognised gains and losses for the financial year	3,946
Prior Year adjustment (FRS 19 Deferred Tax)	(200)
Total gains and losses recognised since last Annual Report	3,746

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m
Cash flow from operating activities	
Operating profit before exceptional items	4,356
Depreciation and amortisation	960
Decrease/(increase) in working capital	305
Other non-cash movements	65
Net cash inflow from operating activities before exceptional items	5,686
Outflow related to exceptional items	(93)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	5,593
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	35
Tax paid	(795)
Capital expenditure and financial investment	(1,543)
Acquisitions and disposals	-
Equity dividends paid to Shareholders	(1,234)
Net cash inflow before management of liquid resources and financing	2,056
Management of liquid resources	
Movement in short-term investments and fixed deposits (net)	(806)
Financing	(1,272)
Decrease in cash in the year	(22)

Reconciliation of Cash Flow to Net Cash Funds

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m
Net funds at 1 January	2,867
Net cash flows before management of liquid resources and financing	2,056
Net cash flows from share issues and repurchases	(1,154)
Exchange	75
Net funds at 31 December	3,844

Notes to the Preliminary Announcement

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The results for the full year ended 31 December 2002 have been prepared in accordance with UK generally accepted accounting principles. The accounting policies applied are those set out in AstraZeneca PLC's 2001 Annual Report and Form 20-F except that, in the current period, AstraZeneca adopted Financial Reporting Standard No. 19 "Deferred Tax". Prior periods have been restated and the effects of this restatement were to reduce profits for the full year ended 31 December 2001 by $61m and reduce net assets at that date by $193m. The table below illustrates the effect on EPS before exceptional items of this restatement.

The results for the year ended 31 December 2002 presented in this preliminary announcement are extracted from, and are consistent with, those in the Group's audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2002 and those financial statements will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies following the Company's Annual General Meeting.

2001 TAXATION AND EARNINGS PER SHARE BEFORE EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

	Q1 2001	Q2 2001	Q3 2001	Q4
Tax charge before adoption of FRS 19 ($m)	(316)	(269)	(286)	(
Tax charge after adoption of FRS 19 ($m)	(315)	(289)	(295)	(
Published EPS before adoption of FRS 19 ($)	0.45	0.42	0.43	0
Adjusted EPS after adoption of FRS 19 ($)	0.45	0.41	0.42	0

As part of AstraZeneca's objective to align with accounting best practice, cash discounts arising from prompt payment of invoices have been reclassified from cost of sales to sales. Comparatives have also been reclassified for consistency of presentation. Both sales and cost of sales have been reduced by $74m in the fourth quarter 2002 and $287m in the current year (2001 $258m, 2000 $221m). Furthermore, neither profits nor net assets have been affected. The change has minimal impact on previously stated sales growth rates. The reclassified quarterly sales figures are presented below. Additional detail at the product and territorial level are available on the AstraZeneca website.

2002 Sales and Cost of Sales reclassified for cash discounts

	Q1 2002	Q2 2002
Sales as previously reported ($m)	4,421	4,382
Reclassified Sales ($m)	4,346	4,312
Cost of Sales as previously reported ($m)	1,169	1,130
Reclassified Cost of Sales ($m)	1,094	1,060
Operating margin as reported	29.3%	24.3%
Adjusted operating margin	29.8%	24.7%

2001 Sales and Cost of Sales reclassified for cash discounts

	Q1 2001	Q2 2001	Q3 2001	Q4

Sales as previously reported ($m)	3,991	4,099	3,950	4
Reclassified Sales ($m)	3,933	4,035	3,888	4
Cost of Sales as previously reported ($m)	1,074	1,112	1,064	1
Reclassified Cost of Sales ($m)	1,016	1,048	1,002	1
Operating margin as previously reported	26.4%	24.3%	25.7%	2
Adjusted operating margin	26.8%	24.7%	26.1%	2

Information in this preliminary announcement does not constitute statutory accounts of the Group within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. Statutory accounts for the year ended 31 December 2001 have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The auditor's report on those accounts was unqualified and did not contain any statement under Section 237 of the Companies Act 1985.

2 JOINT VENTURES AND ASSOCIATES

The Group's share of joint ventures' sales for the year ended 31 December 2002 amounted to $191m and $183m for the comparative period. Share of joint ventures' operating profits for the year ended 31 December 2001 and 2002 amounted to nil.

3 ANALYSIS OF EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS CHARGED TO OPERATING PROFIT

	2002 $m	2001 $m
Accrual related to Zoladex investigations	350	-
Synergy and integration charge	-	202
	350	202

4 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m
Shareholders' funds at beginning of year (originally $9,786m before deducting prior period adjustment of $200m)	9,586
Net profit for the year	2,836
Dividends to Shareholders	(1,206)
	1,630
Issue of AstraZeneca PLC Ordinary Shares	36
Repurchase of AstraZeneca PLC Ordinary Shares	(1,190)
Foreign currency adjustment	1,110
Net addition to Shareholders' funds	1,586

Shareholders' funds at end of year	11,172

5 NET CASH FUNDS

The table below provides an analysis of net cash funds and a reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net cash funds.

	At 31 Dec 2001 $m	Cash flow $m	Other non-cash $m
Loans due after 1 year	(635)	28	279
Current instalments of loans	(107)	77	(279)
Total loans	(742)	105	-
Short-term investments	3,118	806	-
Cash	705	(18)	-
Overdrafts	(195)	(4)	-
Short-term borrowings, excluding overdrafts	(19)	13	-
	3,609	797	-
Net cash funds	2,867	902	-
Issue of AstraZeneca PLC Ordinary Shares		(36)	
Repurchase of AstraZeneca PLC Ordinary Shares		1,190	
Net cash inflow before management of liquid resources and financing		2,056	

6 FULL YEAR TERRITORIAL SALES ANALYSIS

	Full Year 2002 $m	Full Year 2001 $m	% Actual
USA	9,351	8,483	10
Canada	570	525	9
North America	9,921	9,008	10
France	1,140	967	18
UK	623	759	(18)

Germany	699	682	2
Italy	765	638	20
Sweden	285	263	8
Europe others	2,183	1,929	13
Total Europe	5,695	5,238	9
Japan	977	851	15
Rest of World	1,248	1,125	11
Total	17,841	16,222	10

7 FOURTH QUARTER TERRITORIAL SALES ANALYSIS

			%
	4th Quarter 2002 $m	4th Quarter 2001 $m	Actual
USA	2,564	2,219	16
Canada	147	142	4
North America	2,711	2,361	15
France	320	266	20
UK	147	219	(33)
Germany	196	179	9
Italy	214	181	18
Sweden	75	64	17
Europe others	576	530	9
Total Europe	1,528	1,439	6
Japan	314	260	21
Rest of World	348	306	14
Total	4,901	4,366	12

8 FULL YEAR PRODUCT SALES ANALYSIS

	World			
	Full Year 2002 $m	Full Year 2001 $m	Actual Growth %	Constant Currency Growth %
Gastrointestinal:				

Losec	4,623	5,578	(17)	(18)
Nexium	1,978	568	n/m	n/m
Others	63	44	43	38
Total Gastrointestinal	6,664	6,190	8	7
Cardiovascular:				
Zestril	877	1,067	(18)	(18)
Seloken	901	711	27	27
Atacand	569	410	39	36
Plendil	489	463	6	5
Tenormin	370	404	(8)	(7)
Others	363	428	(15)	(18)
Total Cardiovascular	3,569	3,483	2	1
Respiratory:				
Pulmicort	812	766	6	5
Rhinocort	299	265	13	13
Symbicort	299	83	n/m	n/m
Accolate	144	143	1	2
Oxis	120	127	(6)	(9)
Others	144	155	(7)	(9)
Total Respiratory	1,818	1,539	18	16
Oncology:				
Zoladex	794	718	11	12
Casodex	644	561	15	15
Nolvadex	480	618	(22)	(21)
Arimidex	331	188	76	75
Iressa	67	-	n/m	n/m
Faslodex	35	-	n/m	n/m
Others	18	26	(31)	(31)
Total Oncology	2,369	2,111	12	12
CNS:				
Seroquel	1,145	685	67	67
Zomig	328	273	20	19
Others	32	22	45	40
Total CNS	1,505	980	54	53
Pain, Infection and Other Pharma:				
Diprivan	443	456	(3)	(3)
Merrem	285	227	26	26
Local anaesthetics	432	434	-	-
Other Pharma Products	258	379	(32)	(31)
Total Pain, Infection and Other Pharma	1,418	1,496	(5)	(5)
Salick Health Care	233	194	20	20
Astra Tech	151	126	20	14
Marlow Foods	114	103	11	8
Total	17,841	16,222	10	9

n/m not meaningful

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9 FOURTH QUARTER PRODUCT SALES ANALYSIS

	World			
	4th Quarter 2002 $m	4th Quarter 2001 $m	Actual Growth %	Constant Currency Growth %
Gastrointestinal:				
Losec	1,115	1,372	(19)	(20)
Nexium	686	278	n/m	n/m
Others	18	14	29	15
Total Gastrointestinal	1,819	1,664	9	7
Cardiovascular:				
Zestril	144	256	(44)	(44)
Seloken	263	165	59	60
Atacand	160	124	29	24
Plendil	139	136	2	-
Tenormin	95	104	(9)	(8)
Others	93	115	(19)	(29)
Total Cardiovascular	894	900	(1)	(3)
Respiratory:				
Pulmicort	237	203	17	14
Rhinocort	76	74	3	3
Symbicort	105	49	n/m	n/m
Accolate	52	30	73	73
Oxis	29	33	(12)	(18)
Others	38	40	(5)	(10)
Total Respiratory	537	429	25	21
Oncology:				
Zoladex	206	205	-	-
Casodex	184	173	6	5
Nolvadex	138	181	(24)	(24)
Arimidex	92	51	78	75
Iressa	41	-	n/m	n/m
Faslodex	16	-	n/m	n/m
Others	4	4	-	-
Total Oncology	681	614	11	11
CNS:				
Seroquel	357	170	110	109
Zomig	94	67	40	39
Others	9	6	50	33
Total CNS	460	243	89	87
Pain, Infection and Other Pharma:				

Diprivan	117	133	(12)	(13)
Merrem	69	65	6	8
Local anaesthetics	121	102	19	19
Other Pharma Products	68	104	(35)	(33)
Total Pain, Infection and Other Pharma	375	404	(7)	(7)
Salick Health Care	63	50	26	26
Astra Tech	43	36	19	2
Marlow Foods	29	26	12	4
Total	4,901	4,366	12	10

n/m not meaningful

Convenience Translation of Key Financial Information

For the three months ended 31 December	2002 $m	2001 (restated) $m	2002 (pound)m	2001 (restated) (pound)m
Total Sales	4,901	4,366	3,045	2,713
Operating profit before exceptional items (EI)	1,074	1,090	667	677
Profit before tax on continuing operations before EI	1,081	1,102	672	685
Net profit for the period	428	726	266	451
Earnings per Ordinary Share pre EI	$0.45	$0.45	(pound)0.28	(pound)0.28

For the year ended 31 December	2002 $m	2001 (restated) $m	2002 (pound)m	2001 (restated) (pound)m
Total Sales	17,841	16,222	11,086	10,080
Operating profit before exceptional items (EI)	4,356	4,156	2,707	2,582
Profit before tax on continuing operations before EI	4,387	4,269	2,726	2,653
Net profit for the year	2,836	2,906	1,762	1,806

Basic earnings per Ordinary Share	$1.64	$1.65	(pound)1.02	(pound)1.03
Earnings per Ordinary Share pre EI	$1.84	$1.73	(pound)1.14	(pound)1.08
Dividend per Ordinary Share	$0.70	$0.70	43.2p	49.3p
Net cash inflow from operating activities	5,593	3,762	3,475	2,338
Decrease in cash	(22)	(396)	(14)	(246)
Shareholders' funds - equity interests 31 December	11,172	9,586	6,942	5,957

Sterling ((pound)) and Swedish Kronor equivalents are shown for convenience and have been calculated using the current period end rates of $1=(pound)0.621388 and $1=SEK8.77, respectively. Dividend per Ordinary Share is shown as the actual amount payable using the rates at the date of declaration of the dividend.

Information for US Investors

RECONCILIATION TO UNITED STATES ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The Group profit and loss account and Group balance sheet set out on pages 9, 10 and 11 are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United Kingdom (UK GAAP) which differ in certain material respects from those generally accepted in the United States (US GAAP). The differences as they apply to AstraZeneca PLC are explained in the Group's 2001 Annual Report and Form 20-F except that, in the current year, AstraZeneca adopted SFAS No141 `Business Combinations' and SFAS No142 `Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets'. As a result goodwill is no longer amortised but tested annually for impairment. The effect has been to increase profit by approximately $755m. The approximate effects on Group income and shareholders' equity of the GAAP differences are shown below.

Income attributable to Shareholders	2002 $m
Net income for the year under UK GAAP (2001 restated)	2,836
Adjustments to conform to US GAAP	
Purchase accounting adjustments, (including goodwill and intangibles);	
- deemed acquisition of Astra	
- amortisation and other acquisition adjustments	(864)
- others	55
Capitalisation, less disposals and amortisation of interest	46
Deferred taxation	
- on fair value of Astra	239
- others	(99)
Pension expense	(50)
Post-retirement benefits/plan amendment	4
Software costs capitalised	(46)
Restructuring costs	-

Share based compensation	33
Fair value of derivative financial instruments	93
Deferred income recognition	61
Unrealised losses on foreign exchange and others	(1)
Net income before cumulative effect of change in accounting policy	2,307
Cumulative effect of change in accounting policy, net of tax, on adoption of SFAS No. 133	-
Net income in accordance with US GAAP	2,307
Net income per Ordinary Share under US GAAP (basic)	$1.33
Net income per Ordinary Share under US GAAP (diluted)	$1.33

RECONCILIATION TO UNITED STATES ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

Shareholders' equity	
Shareholders' equity under UK GAAP (2001 restated)	1
Adjustment to conform to US GAAP	
Purchase accounting adjustments, (including goodwill and intangibles);	
- deemed acquisition of Astra	
- goodwill	1
- tangible and intangible fixed assets	
- others	
Capitalisation, less disposals and amortisation of interest	
Deferred taxation	
- on fair value of Astra	(
- others	
Dividend	
Pension expense	
Post-retirement benefits/plan amendment	
Software costs capitalised	
Fair value of derivative financial instruments	
Deferred income recognition	
Others	
Shareholders' equity in accordance with US GAAP	3

Shareholder Information

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS	
Announcement of first quarter 2003 results	30 April 2003

Annual General Meeting 2003	30 April 2003
Announcement of second quarter and half year 2003 results	24 July 2003
Annual Business Review 2003	2 October 2003
Announcement of third quarter and nine months 2003 results	23 October 2003

DIVIDENDS

The record date for the first interim dividend paid on 7 October 2002 (in the UK, Sweden and the US) was 23 August 2002. Ordinary Shares traded ex-dividend on the London and Stockholm Stock Exchange from 21 August 2002. ADRs traded ex-dividend on the New York Stock Exchange from the same date.

The record date for the second interim dividend for 2002 payable on 7 April 2003 (in the UK, Sweden and the US) will be 21 February 2003. Ordinary Shares will trade ex-dividend on the London and Stockholm Stock Exchange from 19 February 2003. ADRs will trade ex-dividend on the New York Stock Exchange from the same date.

Future dividends will normally be paid as follows:

First interim	Announced in July and paid in October
Second interim	Announced in January and paid in April.

TRADE MARKS

The following brand names used in this interim report are trade marks of the AstraZeneca group of companies:

Accolate Arimidex Astra Tech Atacand Atacand HCT Casodex Crestor Diprivan Exanta Faslodex Iressa Losec Merrem Nexium Nolvadex Oxis Plendil Prilosec Pulmicort Pulmicort Respules Pulmicort Turbuhaler Rhinocort Rhinocort Aqua Seloken Seroquel Symbicort Tenormin Toprol-XL Zestril Zoladex Zomig Zomig ZMT Zomig Rapimelt

ADDRESSES FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Registrar and Transfer Office	Depositary for ADRs	Registered Office	Swedish Se VPC AB
The AstraZeneca Registrar Lloyds TSB Registrars The Causeway Worthing West Sussex BN99 6DA Tel: +44 (0)121 433 8000	JPMorgan Chase Bank PO Box 43013 Providence, RI 02940-3013 US Tel: +1 (781) 575 4328	15 Stanhope Gate London W1K 1LN UK Tel: +44 (0)20 7304 5000	PO Box 782 S-103 97 S Sweden Tel: +46 (

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

In order to utilise the `Safe Harbor' provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, AstraZeneca is providing the following cautionary statement. This Preliminary Report contains forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations and businesses of AstraZeneca. By their nature, forward-looking statements and forecasts involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future. There are a number of factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ

materially from that expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These factors include, among other things, exchange rate fluctuations, the risk that research and development will not yield new products that achieve commercial success, the impact of competition, price controls and price reductions, the risk of loss or expiration of patents or trade marks, difficulties of obtaining and maintaining governmental approvals for products, the risk of substantial product liability claims and exposure to environmental liability.