# Newron signs license agreement with Meiji Seika Pharma for safinamide covering Japan and key Asian territories

**Milan, Italy, February 14, 2012** – Newron Pharmaceuticals S.p.A. ("Newron"), a research and development company focused on novel CNS and pain therapies, announced today it has finalized a definitive license agreement with Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd. ("Meiji"), a subsidiary of the Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, covering the research, development, manufacturing, and marketing of safinamide in Japan and key Asian territories.

The transaction follows a binding agreement on principal terms and conditions as announced on January 5, 2012, and will become effective upon the return of the global rights to safinamide from Merck Serono, the division for biopharmaceuticals of German company Merck KGaA, to Newron by April 17, 2012.

Under the agreement, Newron has received an up front payment of €5m. Other financial terms of the agreement are not disclosed.

Newron is in ongoing talks for the licensing of safinamide rights in other territories and anticipates further news on this in due course.

JSB Partners LP have acted as financial advisors to Newron for this transaction.

**About safinamide**
Safinamide is an alpha-aminoamide that is currently being developed as an add-on therapy to dopamine agonists or levodopa in patients with early or late-stage Parkinson's disease. It is believed to have both dopaminergic and non-dopaminergic activities, including selective and reversible inhibition of monoamine oxidase B (MAO-B), activity-dependent sodium channel antagonism and inhibition of glutamate release in vitro. Studies are ongoing to better understand safinamide's actions in patients with Parkinson's disease.

**About Newron Pharmaceuticals**
Newron Pharmaceuticals S.p.A. (www.newron.com) is a biopharmaceutical company focused on novel therapies for diseases of the Central Nervous System and pain. Phase III trials of safinamide are currently ongoing for the treatment of Parkinson's disease (PD). Newron is currently evaluating the further clinical development of ralfinamide for pain and psychiatric diseases. Newron's additional projects are at various stages of preclinical and clinical development, including HF0220 for neuroprotection, NW-3509 for the treatment of schizophrenia, as well

as pruvanserin and sarizotan for treatment of CNS diseases. Newron is headquartered in Bresso, near Milan, Italy. The company is listed at SIX Swiss Exchange, trading symbol NWRN.

**About Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.**
Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd., the parent company of Meiji Seika Pharma, reorganized its operating companies, which resulted in the establishment of Meiji Seika Pharma on April 1, 2011. Meiji Seika Pharma, which inherited the pharmaceuticals business of Meiji Seika Kaisha, Ltd., is a "Speciality and Generic Pharmaceuticals Company" with a focus on the infectious disease area, the central nervous system disorders area, and the generic drugs business. For details on Meiji Seika Pharma, see http://www.meiji-seika-pharma.co.jp/english/index.html

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This document contains forward-looking statements, including (without limitation) about (1) Newron's ability to develop and expand its business, successfully complete development of its current product candidates and current and future collaborations for the development and commercialisation of its product candidates and reduce costs (including staff costs), (2) the market for drugs to treat CNS diseases and pain conditions, (3) Newron's anticipated future revenues, capital expenditures and financial resources, and (4) assumptions underlying any such statements. In some cases these statements and assumptions can be identified by the fact that they use words such as "will", "anticipate", "estimate", "expect", "project", "intend", "plan", "believe", "target", and other words and terms of similar meaning. All statements, other than historical facts, contained herein regarding Newron's strategy, goals, plans, future financial position, projected revenues and costs and prospects are forward-looking statements.
By their very nature, such statements and assumptions involve inherent risks and uncertainties, both general and specific, and risks exist that predictions, forecasts, projections and other outcomes described, assumed or implied therein will not be achieved. Future events and actual results could differ materially from those set out in, contemplated by or underlying the forward-looking statements due to a number of important factors. These factors include (without limitation) (1) uncertainties in the

discovery, development or marketing of products, including without limitation negative results of clinical trials or research projects or unexpected side effects, (2) delay or inability in obtaining regulatory approvals or bringing products to market, (3) future market acceptance of products, (4) loss of or inability to obtain adequate protection for intellectual property rights, (5) inability to raise additional funds, (6) success of existing and entry into future collaborations and licensing agreements, (7) litigation, (8) loss of key executive or other employees, (9) adverse publicity and news coverage, and (10) competition, regulatory, legislative and judicial developments or changes in market and/or overall economic conditions.

Newron may not actually achieve the plans, intentions or expectations disclosed in forward-looking statements and assumptions underlying any such statements may prove wrong. Investors should therefore not place undue reliance on them. There can be no assurance that actual results of Newron's research programmes, development activities, commercialisation plans, collaborations and operations will not differ materially from the expectations set out in such forward-looking statements or underlying assumptions.

Newron does not undertake any obligation to publicly up-date or revise forward looking statements except as may be required by applicable regulations of the SIX Swiss Exchange where the shares of Newron are listed.

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