

Amgen completed its acquisition of Immunex Corporation on July 15, 2002. This archived Immunex press releases is provided for reference only.

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Empowering People with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) Through Awareness and Education

Companies Launch Patient-Focused Program to Support Growing Need For Increased Disease Understanding

Call 1-800-395-3010 For Program Information

SEATTLE - The launch of a new comprehensive education and support program for those suffering from rheumatoid arthritis (RA) entitled "RA Access" was announced today by Immunex Corporation (Nasdaq: IMNX) and Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, a division of American Home Products Corporation (NYSE: AHP).

"The program is designed to provide people with important information that covers all aspects of a progressive, painful disease that can lead to permanent and irreversible damage," said Barry Labinger, vice president, marketing, Immunex Corporation. "As part of our commitment to people with rheumatoid arthritis, we developed this free program to help meet the growing need for more information about this disease."

The program's objectives are to:

- Convey the importance of early evaluation for therapies to help fight a disease that will likely grow worse over time;
- Illustrate the difference between rheumatoid arthritis and a more common form of arthritis - osteoarthritis; and
- Emphasize the need for people with RA to seek treatment from a rheumatologist, a doctor who specializes in the diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis.

"This program will empower those who are just beginning to feel the painful effects of RA to take control of their disease," said Veronica Lewandowski, who has had rheumatoid arthritis for over 20 years. "My disease got worse and worse as I waited for appropriate diagnosis and treatment. It took me three years just to find the right doctor and, as a result of the damage, I can no longer work and am on disability. This made me realize the importance of early and proper treatment from a rheumatologist."

To join RA Access and receive information, people with RA can call 1-800-395-3010. Participants will receive ongoing resource materials focusing on issues that affect the daily lives of those with RA.

Immunex Corporation is a leading biopharmaceutical company dedicated to improving lives through immune system science innovations.

Wyeth-Ayerst, a division of American Home Products Corporation, is a major research-oriented pharmaceutical company with leading products in the areas of women's health care, cardiovascular disease therapies, central nervous system drugs, anti-inflammatory gastrointestinal agents, vaccines, oncology and hemophilia products.

American Home Products Corporation is one of the world's largest research-based pharmaceutical and health care products companies. It is a leader in the discovery, development, manufacturing, and marketing of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications. It also is a global leader in vaccines, biotechnology and animal health care.

NOTE: Except for the historical information contained herein, this news release contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Among the factors that could cause actual results or timelines to differ materially are risks associated with research and clinical development, regulatory approvals, our supply capabilities and reliance on third-party manufacturers, product commercialization, competition, litigation and other risk factors listed from time to time in reports filed by Immunex with the SEC, including but not limited to risks described under the caption "Important Factors That May Affect Our Business, Our Results of Operations and Our Stock Price" within our most recently filed Form 10-Q. The forward-looking statements contained in this news release represent our judgment as of the date of this release. Immunex undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements.