



# UCB leads epilepsy hackathon to support patient needs through digital tools and services

- 'Hack Epilepsy' to be held simultaneously in Brussels and Atlanta, 24-26 April 2015
- Digital specialists to develop innovative, meaningful solutions for the epilepsy community

**Brussels (Belgium)**, **18**<sup>th</sup> **February 2015– 0700 (CET)** – UCB today announced that it will sponsor a two-city epilepsy hackathon – 'Hack Epilepsy' - with a single purpose to improve the lives of people living with epilepsy. The hackathon will be held simultaneously in Brussels, Belgium, and Atlanta, US, on the 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> April 2015, and is expected to attract developers, designers and digital experts.

"Epilepsy affects millions of people all over the world. At UCB, we want to support patients, their families and caregivers, with digital solutions that can connect them to valuable sources of knowledge and experience that can make a meaningful difference to their day-to-day living," said Erik Janssen, Vice President Global Patient Solutions Epilepsy, UCB. "Hackathons are rapidly establishing themselves as a fast, effective way to develop innovative digital healthcare solutions. Creative, highly skilled online developers and designers relish the challenge of coming up with practical, workable prototypes that can be of real value to people with a severe disease such as epilepsy."

At the Hackathon, digital experts will join forces with epilepsy specialists and patients to build prototype digital tools aimed at supporting people living with epilepsy. Participants will face four broad challenges including accessing effective support and reliable information, empowering people to talk about their epilepsy, and knowing what questions to ask following diagnosis.

As well as developing digital solutions, teams at 'Hack Epilepsy' will compete for prize money for the most innovative prototype. Each team's proposal will be judged according to its:

- Ability to meet the real needs of people with epilepsy
- Creativity, innovation and originality

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- Feasibility of implementation
- Quality of presentation and demonstration

For more information and to register for Hack Epilepsy, go to www.hackepilepsy.com

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

## **About Epilepsy**<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Epilepsy is a chronic neurological disorder affecting approximately 65 million people worldwide and more than 2 million people in the U.S. Approximately 1 in 26 people in the U.S. will develop epilepsy in their lifetime.

Epilepsy is considered to be a disease of the brain defined by any of the following conditions: (1) at least two unprovoked (or reflex) seizures occurring >24 hours apart; (2) one unprovoked (or reflex) seizure and a probability of further seizures similar to the general recurrence risk (at least 60%) after two unprovoked seizures, occurring over the next 10 years; (3) diagnosis of an epilepsy syndrome.

## **About UCB in Epilepsy**

UCB has a rich heritage in epilepsy with over 20 years of experience in the research and development of antiepileptic drugs. As a company with a long-term commitment to epilepsy research our goal is to address unmet medical needs. Our scientists are proud to contribute to advances in the understanding of epilepsy and its treatment. We partner and create super-networks with world-leading scientists and clinicians in academic institutions, pharmaceutical companies and other organizations who share our goals. At UCB, we are inspired by patients and driven by science in our commitment to support patients with epilepsy.



## For further information

#### **Corporate Communications**

**Brand Communications** 

France Nivelle. Global Communications, UCB

T +32.2.559.9178. france.nivelle@ucb.com

Laurent Schots, Media Relations, UCB

T+32.2.559.92.64, laurent.schots@ucb.com Eimear O'Brien. Global Brand Communications, UCB

T +32 2 559 92 71. eimear.obrien@ucb.com

Andrea Levin US Public Relations & Communications, UCB

T+1 770 970 8352 andrea.levin@ucb.com

#### References

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- 2. Institute of Medicine. Epilepsy Across the Spectrum. Promoting Health and Understanding, Washington, DC: The National Academic Press, 2012 brief report. Accessed 29th October 2014 from http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2012/Epilepsy/epilepsy\_rb.pdf
- 3. The Epilepsy Foundation of America. Who gets epilepsy? Accessed 29th October 2014 from http://www.epilepsy.com/learn/epilepsy-101/who-gets-epilepsy

## **About UCB**

UCB, Brussels, Belgium (www.ucb.com) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of the central nervous system. With more than 8500 people in approximately 40 countries, the company generated revenue of €3.4 billion in 2013. UCB is listed on Euronext Brussels (symbol: UCB). Follow us on Twitter: @UCB\_news

### Forward looking statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements based on current plans, estimates and beliefs of management. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including estimates of revenues, operating margins, capital expenditures, cash, other financial information, expected legal, political, regulatory or clinical results and other such estimates and results. By their nature, such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions which could cause actual results to differ materially from those that may be implied by such forward-looking statements contained in this press release. Important factors that could result in such differences include: changes in general economic, business and competitive conditions, the inability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals or to obtain them on acceptable terms, costs associated with research and development, changes in the prospects for products in the pipeline or under development by UCB, effects of future judicial decisions or governmental investigations, product



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Moreover, sales may be impacted by international and domestic trends toward managed care and health care cost containment and the reimbursement policies imposed by third-party payers as well as legislation affecting biopharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement.