

Semi-Annual Changes to the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index

NEW YORK, Nov. 14, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. (Nasdaq:NDAQ) announced today the results of the semi-annual re-ranking of the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index[®] (Nasdaq:NBI), which will become effective prior to market open on Monday, November 21, 2011.

The following seven securities will be added to the Index: Amarin Corporation plc (Nasdaq:AMRN), BioSante Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq:BPAX), Endocyte, Inc. (Nasdaq:ECYT), Grifols, S.A. (Nasdaq:GRFS), Oncothyreon, Inc. (Nasdaq:ONTY), SciClone Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq:SCLN) and Sagent Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq:SGNT).

The Index is designed to track the performance of a set of NASDAQ listed securities that are classified as either biotechnology or pharmaceutical according to the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB). The NASDAQ Biotechnology Index is re-ranked semi-annually in May and November. For more information about the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index, including detailed eligibility criteria, visit <https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/>.

As a result of the re-ranking, the following ten securities will be removed from the Index: Alexza Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq:ALXA), Albany Molecular Research, Inc. (Nasdaq:AMRI), BioMimetic Therapeutics, Inc. (Nasdaq:BMTI), Cytokinetics, Incorporated (Nasdaq:CYTK), Flamel Technologies S.A. (Nasdaq:FLML), Nabi Biopharmaceuticals (Nasdaq:NABI), Orexigen Therapeutics, Inc. (Nasdaq:OREX), POZEN, Inc. (Nasdaq:POZN), StemCells, Inc. (Nasdaq:STEM) and Zalicus Inc. (Nasdaq:ZLCS).

The NASDAQ Biotechnology Index is the basis for the iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology IndexSM Fund (Nasdaq:IBB), which seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index. In addition, options based on the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index and the iShares Nasdaq Biotechnology Index Fund trade on various exchanges.

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