



Media Contact:

Nora Plunkett
The Reilly Group
773.348.3800 ext. 204
noraplunkett@thereillygroup.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEW ECONOMICAL ALTERNATIVE AVAILABLE
FOR THE TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY**

MAPLE GROVE, MN, July 29, 2008 – Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. today announced the launch of Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP for the treatment of complex partial seizures, and simple and complex absence seizures in adults and children 10 years of age and older. The availability of this new option offers patients with epilepsy a low-cost, generic alternative to Depakote[®] (divalproex sodium) Delayed-Release Tablets.

“Generic therapies save consumers approximately eight to ten billion dollars a year at retail pharmacies,” said Mark Halvorsen, Pharm D, Senior Director, Medical Affairs, Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. “The availability of high quality, less expensive versions of brand-name treatments, like Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP, is important for people with epilepsy, because medications are a major cost of this debilitating disease.”

Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and are bioequivalent to Depakote[®] Tablets. Bioequivalence is the basis by which generic and brand name drugs are compared. Based on bioequivalence studies, the FDA determined that the rate and extent of absorption of Upsher-Smith’s Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP and Depakote[®] Tablets

-more-

Page Two

are equivalent when administered to subjects at the same dosage under fed and fasting conditions. Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP from Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. are available at pharmacies nationwide in multiple dosage strengths (125 mg, 250 mg, 500 mg) for tailored symptom management.

“Upsher-Smith recognized the need for patients with this debilitating disease to have access to more affordable treatment options, like Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP,” said Mark Evenstad, President, Upsher-Smith Laboratories, Inc. “Patients can be assured that they will receive a quality, consistent product in every dose of Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP from Upsher-Smith. We have been a trusted manufacturer of high-quality pharmaceuticals for more than 80 years.”

According to the Epilepsy Foundation, epilepsy is a neurological condition that produces seizures affecting a variety of mental and physical functions. A seizure occurs when a brief, strong surge of electrical activity interrupts brain function, which may briefly impact a person's consciousness, bodily movements or sensations. When a person has two or more seizures, they are considered to have epilepsy. Approximately 2.7 million people in the U.S. have some form of active epilepsy with about 200,000 new cases of epilepsy diagnosed each year.

Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP are indicated as monotherapy and adjunctive therapy in the treatment of patients with complex partial seizures that occur either in isolation or in association with other types of seizures. Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP also are indicated for use as sole and adjunctive therapy in the treatment of simple and complex absence seizures, and adjunctively in patients with multiple seizure types that include absence seizures. Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP also are indicated for the treatment of manic episodes associated with bipolar disorder and prophylaxis of migraine headaches.

-more-

Important Safety Information for Patients

Before taking Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP, tell your healthcare provider if you have liver problems. Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP should not be taken if you have liver disease. Some people have experienced serious liver problems while taking valproic acid*. Children under two years are at even greater risk. Your healthcare provider should order blood tests to check your liver before you start taking Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP and at frequent intervals thereafter, and monitor you for symptoms that could indicate liver problems. Notify your healthcare provider immediately if you develop malaise (illness), weakness, tiredness, facial swelling, loss of appetite, or vomiting.

If you could become pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider before taking Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP. Birth defects have been reported in children of women who have taken valproate* while pregnant. Your healthcare provider should advise you of the risk and alternative treatment options. If you become pregnant while taking this medication, contact your healthcare provider immediately. Be sure to read the [Full Prescribing Information](#).

Some people taking valproate* have experienced serious, life-threatening inflammation of the pancreas, known as pancreatitis, even after several years of use. Call your healthcare provider immediately if you experience abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite, as these can be symptoms of pancreatitis.

You should not take Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP if you have a condition known as urea cycle disorder, which may cause too much ammonia to build up in your body. Tell your healthcare provider if you have been diagnosed with this condition. Elevated ammonia levels have been reported in some patients receiving valproate*, especially in patients who also use Topamax[®] (topiramate). Contact your healthcare provider immediately if you experience abnormal drowsiness and vomiting or changes in mental status.

You should not take Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP if you know you are allergic to this drug. A fever accompanied by other symptoms such as rash or enlarged lymph nodes may be a drug-related allergic reaction and should be reported to your healthcare provider immediately.

Some people taking Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP may experience low blood platelet counts. Your healthcare provider should order blood tests to check your platelets while you are taking this medication, as well as prior to surgery.

You may experience drowsiness when you start Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP. You should not drive or operate dangerous machinery until you know how this medication will affect you.

-more-

Page Four

Tell your healthcare provider regularly about all medications you are taking, including over-the-counter medications or herbal supplements. This may help avoid serious drug interactions.

Common side effects reported in clinical trials for Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP included: nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain or discomfort, headache, drowsiness, dizziness, weakness, tremor, decreased appetite, transient hair loss and low blood platelets. (This is not a complete list of reported side effects.)

Follow your healthcare provider's instructions about how to take Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP. Swallow Divalproex Sodium Delayed-Release Tablets, USP whole; do not crush or chew.

This safety information is not all-inclusive. For more information, contact your healthcare provider, call 1-800-654-2299, or visit www.upsher-smith.com.

***Divalproex sodium is a compound that contains sodium valproate and valproic acid.**

Depakote[®] is a registered trademark of Abbott Laboratories

DP17A