

# **Quick Take**

## Anthera Pharmaceuticals — Outperform (1)

ANTH: \$5.21

Quick Take: Q4 Spending Above Forecast; VISTA-16 And PEARL-SC On Track

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This morning Anthera reported Q4:10 results. Below are the key highlights:

- Operating Income of (\$12.9MM) versus our estimate of (\$10.9MM)
- R&D of \$10.9MM was \$1.9MM above our \$9MM estimate
- SG&A of \$2.1MM was \$0.6MM above our \$1.5MM forecast
- Increased spending relates to initiation of trial sites for VISTA-16, increased A-623 manufacturing activities and operational expansion of PEARL-SC, and one-time expenses associated with the mitigation and resolution of the A-623 vial cracking problem.

Updates on Anthera's clinical development program are:

- VISTA-16 site activations and enrollment are on-track for completion of the interim biomarker analysis, as patient enrollment has exceeded the required 1,000 patient threshold. Data for the interim analysis is expected to be made available to an independent statistician within the coming weeks. The interim analysis will examine four predefined biomarkers of cardiovascular risk (sPLA2, IL-6, CRP, and LDL-C) and one composite responder index (proportion of patients achieving LDL-4 <70 and CRP <1). Varespladib must be significantly different from placebo per a predefined algorithm to measure improvement and meet various statistical treatment effects on the required biomarkers in order for the study to continue. Subsequent to the end of the fourth quarter, a DSMB held a second meeting to review VISTA-16 and recommended the study continue without modification. A DSMB meeting is scheduled to coincide with the upcoming biomarker analysis. Anthera will hold a conference call on February 28, 2011 to discuss the parameters and algorithm of the upcoming biomarker analysis, including the expected timeline for results.
- PEARL-SC resumed enrollment in Q4:10 after resolution of the vial fracture setback. Anthera's manufacturing partner, Merck BioManufacturing, has initiated pilot scale manufacturing of A-623 including the initial purification of intermediate products and small-scale fermentation. Anthera states that sufficient drug supply is on hand to complete PEARL-SC. Interim B-cell data for PEARL-SC is expected in mid-2011 and top-line data in 2012.

Please see addendum of this report for important disclosures.

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Anthera has submitted a protocol (IMPACTS-2; 150 patient, placebo-controlled ACS prevention study in sickle cell patients) to FDA for A-001 based on promising data from a pre-specified interim review of a Phase II study (IMPACTS).



### **Addendum**

### STOCKS MENTIONED IN IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Ticker	Company Name
ANTH	Anthera Pharmaceuticals

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(a) Assumptions: Time horizon is 12 months; S&P 500 is flat over forecast period.

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2010

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# Anthera Pharmaceuticals - ANTH 4/23/10 Coverage Initiated with Outperform — \$10.00 — 8.00 — 6.00

Pricing data provided by Reuters America. Chart as of 2/22/11 in USD