Fact Sheet

About Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)

- IBD, including Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC), is a chronic inflammatory condition of the intestinal tract. IBD can be painful and debilitating, and sometimes leads to life-threatening complications. Symptoms of the disease may include diarrhoea, abdominal pain, fever and rectal bleeding. Patients may require long-term medical care, including hospitalisations, surgeries and therapeutics. The condition can be difficult to diagnose and manage clinically while consuming a substantial amount of healthcare resources in terms of physician time, procedures and medications.

- Ulcerative colitis is an inflammatory bowel disease that causes long-lasting inflammation in part of the digestive tract. Symptoms usually develop over time, rather than suddenly. Ulcerative colitis usually affects only the innermost lining of the large intestine (colon) and rectum.

- Crohn's disease causes inflammation anywhere along the lining of the digestive tract, and often spreads deep into affected tissues. This can lead to abdominal pain, severe diarrhoea and even malnutrition. The inflammation caused by Crohn's disease can involve different areas of the digestive tract in different people.

About Current Standard of Care for IBD

- The current standard of care is with drugs and starts with 5-aminosalicylic acids (5-ASAs) which can induce and maintain clinical response and remission in approximately 50% of IBD patients.

- For the 5-ASA non-responding patients with moderate-to-severe active diseases, various forms of corticosteroids and immune suppressors and anti-TNF (Tumour Necrosis Factor) agents such as biologics are prescribed. These agents, though effective, are associated with various side effects, sometimes serious, and are not often suitable for prolonged usage.

About IBD Market

- According to visiongain, a London-based business information company, predicts that world drug revenues for treating inflammatory bowel diseases will reach $6.9bn in 2015.

- Source: Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: World Drug Market 2011-2021, July 2011