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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **PAGB response to ibuprofen and male fertility study**

John Smith, PAGB Chief Executive, comments: “We welcome any new research\* on over-the-counter medicines. However, the researchers highlight that further studies would be required to determine the possible effect ibuprofen could have on human reproductive and physical disorders, specifically in men.

“This small-scale study analysed the results of 31 male patients aged 18-35, of which 14 subjects were administered 2 x 600mg daily doses of ibuprofen for a period of 6 weeks, significantly longer than is recommended for over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, which are intended for short-term use. It is also worth noting that, during the trial none of the participants reported any adverse effects from taking the medication, nor did any blood parameters indicate or suggest adverse effects.

“People taking OTC ibuprofen should not be concerned by this research. Ibuprofen is an effective and appropriately safe way to provide short-term pain relief if used in accordance with the clear on-pack instructions and the patient information leaflet inside. Anyone who has concerns about taking a medicine should speak to a pharmacist for advice.”

*\*A study carried out by the University of Copenhagen and published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS Early Edition), has reported that ibuprofen has been linked to the development of compensated hypogonadism, which could impair male fertility.*

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#### **Notes to editors:**

PAGB (Proprietary Association of Great Britain) is the UK trade association representing manufacturers of branded over-the-counter medicines, self care medical devices and food supplements.

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