

**SERIES ADJUSTMENTS 2001- 017
ONN INFORMATION CIRCULAR #144
March 29, 2001**

Biochem Pharma, Inc. (BCHE) pending merger with Shire Pharmaceuticals Group plc (SHPGY) delayed due to negotiations with the Canadian Ministry of Industry.

On March 29, 2001, shareholders of Biochem Pharma, Inc., (BCHE/BQX) approved a proposed merger with Shire Pharmaceuticals Group plc (SHPGY). If the merger is consummated, BCHE will be converted into one of the following merger considerations:

1. Shire Pharmaceuticals Group plc (SHPGY) American Depositary Shares ("ADS's") each representing three (3) Ordinary Shares. The SHPGY ADS's trade on the NASDAQ NMS.
2. Between 1.5678 and 2.3537 Shire Pharmaceuticals Group plc Ordinary Shares (SHPGF). The SHPGF Ordinary Shares trade on the London Stock Exchange.
3. In the case of Canadian residents, Shire Acquisition, Inc. Exchangeable Shares, each representing three (3) Ordinary Shares. The Exchangeable Shares are expected to trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Cash will be paid in lieu of fractional ADS's, Ordinary Shares and Exchangeable Shares.

IMPORTANT: CLEARING MEMBERS SHOULD CAREFULLY NOTE THAT THE NEW DELIVERABLE FOR ADJUSTED BIOCHEM PHARMA, INC. OPTIONS WILL BE BASED ON THE "SHPGY" ADSs MERGER CONSIDERATION (#1) AND NOT ON THE NON-ELECTING MERGER CONSIDERATION. SEE OCC MEMO #16899

*** The forgoing is an unofficial summary of the terms of the Merger, prepared by the ISE for the convenience of its members. ISE accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the summary. Members should refer to the proxy statement/prospectus for the authoritative description of the terms and conditions.*

Pending Contract Adjustments:

Pursuant to The Options Clearing Corporation's ("OCC") by-laws, all outstanding BCHE options will be adjusted as follows:

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| Adjustment Date: | Effective the opening of business after the merger is consummated |
| ISE Underlying Symbol | No Change |
| OPRA Option Symbol: | BQX becomes BBN WOE becomes YCL VCN becomes VCQ |
| No. of Contracts: | No Change |
| Strike Prices: | No Change |
| Multiplier: | 100(e.g., Premium of 1.00 = \$100) |
| New Deliverable Per Contract: | Shire Pharmaceuticals Group plc (SHPCY) ADSs and cash in lieu of fractional SHPGY ADSs |