

CELLTECH GROUP PLC
Form 6-K
April 25, 2003

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of **April, 2003**

Commission File Number: **1-10817**

CELLTECH GROUP PLC

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

208 Bath Road, Slough, Berkshire SL1 3WE ENGLAND

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____).

Enclosure: Pipeline Announcement

25 April 2003

CELLTECH GROUP PLC

Celltech Group plc was today informed that Merck is issuing the following press release in respect of the discontinuation of Phase II studies of the lead compound in their joint collaboration.

"Merck Discontinues Development of Phosphodiesterase-4 (PDE-4) Inhibitor Compound

WHITEHOUSE STATION, N.J., April 25, 2003 - Merck & Co., Inc. announced today that it is discontinuing development of its lead Phosphodiesterase-4 (PDE-4) inhibitor compound, currently in Phase II clinical trials, for the treatment of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The company is continuing its research in the field of asthma and COPD through the ongoing study of other PDE-4 inhibitor molecules. The timing for the development of these other molecules is not certain."

Enquiries:

For further information contact:

Celltech Group plc +44 (0)1753 534

655

Dr Göran Ando, *CEO*

Peter Allen, *CFO*

Richard Bungay, *Director of Corporate Communications*

Brunswick London +44 (0)20 7404

5959

Jon Coles

Fiona Fong

Brunswick New York +1 212 333

3810

Cindy Leggett-Flynn

Celltech Group plc (LSE: CCH; NYSE: CLL) is one of Europe's largest biotechnology companies, with an extensive late stage development pipeline and a profitable, cash-generative pharmaceutical business. Celltech also possesses drug discovery capabilities of exceptional strength, including a leading position in antibody engineering. More details can be found at www.celltechgroup.com.

END

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

PLC

CELLTECH GROUP

(Registrant)

ALLEN

By: /s/ PETER

Officer

Peter Allen
Chief Financial

Dated: 25 April 2003