

PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOLY SPINDLER acquires the Swedish laboratory Kibion and becomes **THE LEADING COMPANY** in the market of detecting and control of *Helicobacter pylori* infections.

Mayoly Spindler, the independent French benchmark laboratory in gastroenterology and dermocosmetics, is continuing its international development with the acquisition of the young Swedish laboratory Kibion. Mayoly Spindler has there by become the leading company in the market of urea breath tests¹ used to diagnose the presence of *Helicobacter pylori* and control its eradication.

HELICOBACTER PYLORI, A PRIORITY FOR MAYOLY SPINDLER

Thanks to Diabact[®] UBT, Kibion's C-13 Urea Breath Test, and the breath sample analyzers Kibion[®] Dynamic and Heliprobe[®], Kibion enjoys a pro-eminent position in the *Helicobacter pylori* detecting market, in particular in Germany and in Middle East countries such as Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

« *We met 10 months ago, drawn together by obvious complementarity and compatibility. Given our historical activity in the field of gastroenterology, the acquisition of Kibion allows Mayoly Spindler to both broaden our geographical footprint and enrich our product portfolio* », Stéphane Thiroloux, CEO of Mayoly-Spindler stated. « *In turn, this purchase will facilitate access to the markets in which we are already established for Kibion's product range* ».



KIBION

- Founded in 2005, headquarters in Uppsala (Sweden)
- 2 production sites:
 - Uppsala (Sweden)
 - Bremen (Germany)
- Number of employees: 15
- Products:
 - Diabact[®] UBT launched in 2000
 - Heliprobe[®] System launched in 2000
 - Kibion[®] Dynamic commercialized in 2015

1. The Urea Breath Test is used to detect an active *Helicobacter pylori* infection thanks to the enzyme urease produced by the bacterium. The urease metabolises the urea into CO₂ and ammonia. The urea taken by the patient is labelled with carbon 13, if the patient is infected the expired CO₂ will contain carbon 13



MAYOLY SPINDLER

- Founded in 1929, headquarters in Chatou (France)
- 2 production sites:
 - Chatou
 - Dammarie les Lys
- 765 staff worldwide including 567 in France
- Main therapeutic areas: Gastroenterology, dermocosmetics, ENT and rheumatology.

SCREENING AND ERADICATION CONTROL OF *HELICOBACTER PYLORI*, A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

According to the Helicobacter Foundation, **approximately 60% of the world population is infected with *Helicobacter pylori*** with a high prevalence in the countries of the southern hemisphere. The bacteria present in the stomach causes chronic gastritis in the infected person that persists throughout the lifetime if the infection is left untreated. In most cases, the infection evolves silently without any particular signs or symptoms². ***Helicobacter pylori* is responsible for 70% of stomach ulcers and 90% of duodenal ulcers**³. The bacterium is also the suspected cause of **60% to 90% of gastric cancers**^{4,5}, with **1 to 3% of infected individuals developing gastric cancer**⁶. *"The prevalence of Helicobacter pylori is a real public health concern; contrary to the medical community, the general public is largely unaware of its relevance. By widening our Helikit® offering with Kibion's Diabact® UBT, Kibion Dynamic® and Heliprobe® products, our aspiration to improve this situation becomes realistic"*, Stéphane Thiroloix declared.

MAYOLY SPINDLER, AN INTERNATIONAL PLAYER

Thanks to its nearly 800 employees, Mayoly Spindler is a fast-growing, independent, French pharmaceutical company with 45% of its sales originating outside France, through subsidiaries and business partners in nearly 70 countries.

Pharmaceuticals account for 80% of sales, whilst dermo-cosmetics and contract manufacturing account for respectively 13% and 7%. Gastroenterology accounts for 70% of its pharmaceutical business, with products firmly established in daily therapeutic treatment, such as Meteospamyl®, Probiolog® and Helikit®.

« Our ambition to become an international benchmark in gastroenterology and dermocosmetics, in addition to our competitiveness in France, is based on a model of geographical expansion and collaborative R&D, perfectly illustrated by the acquisition of Kibion », Stéphane Thiroloix explained.

2. Therapeutic treatment for the eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* in adults and children. Afssaps 2005.

3. The duodenum is the first part of the small intestine; it follows on directly from the stomach.

4. JC Delchier. Pre-cancerous gastric lesions: What prevention? Gastroenterol Clin Biol 2004;28(5): 172-7.

5. Malfertheiner P, Fry LC, Mönkemüller K. Can gastric cancer be prevented by *Helicobacter pylori* eradication? Best practice and research Clinical Gastroenterology 2006;20(4):709-19.

6. Sobhani I. Helicobacter pylori and gastric cancer. Médecine/Sciences 2003;19:431-6.

ABOUT MAYOLY SPINDLER

Mayoly Spindler, a French, privately-owned pharmaceutical company, was founded in 1929 and developed steadily with effective and well known medicines in several disease areas such as gastroenterology, rheumatology, ENT, general medicine and public health. The company is also active in dermo-cosmetics with the Charlieu and Topicrem brands.

Equipped with its own manufacturing facilities, Mayoly Spindler has a solid grip on its own industrial development.

<http://www.mayoly-spindler.fr>

ABOUT KIBION

Kibion AB is a diagnostic company and world-leading supplier of rapid, reliable Urea Breath Tests and analytical instruments for detecting the gastric ulcer bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*.

The products Kibion® Dynamic, Diabact® UBT and Heliprobe® System are currently sold in more than 50 countries with the Middle East and EU being the largest markets.

The company is headquartered in Uppsala, Sweden, with a subsidiary, Kibion GmbH, in Bremen, Germany.

Kibion AB is certified according to EN ISO 13485 for Medical Devices.

<http://www.kibion.se>



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