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ON JANUARY 30, 2004, THE FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT WAS PUBLISHED ON BEHALF OF SANOFI-SYNTHELABO IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EUROPEAN EDITION.

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WE REFUSE TO ACCEPT THAT SCIENTISTS DO NOT WORK TOGETHER TO SPEED UP THEIR RESEARCH.

[Close-up image of old man leaning on walking stick]

In an essential field such as healthcare, we must do everything possible to move faster. The coming together of Sanofi-Synthelabo and Aventis means thousands of scientists throughout the world working towards a common goal and combatting diseases more effectively. Our project will harness our complementary skills to create a leading pharmaceutical group (No.1 in Europe and No.3 worldwide) committed to improving healthcare and capable of driving strong, sustainable and profitable growth.

SANOFI-SYNTHELABO'S OFFER TO AVENTIS'S SHAREHOLDERS BECAUSE HEALTH MATTERS

This advertisement does not constitute an offer to sell or an offer to purchase any securities

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