

SANOFI SYNTHELABO SA
Form 6-K
January 08, 2004

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULES 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the Month of January 2004
SANOFI-SYNTHELABO
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

174, avenue de France, 75013 Paris, FRANCE
(Address of principal executive offices)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will
file annual reports under cover 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-_____.

Paris, January 7, 2004

**Sanofi-Synthelabo to acquire all interests in
ARIXTRA[®], IDRAPARINUX
and other oligosaccharides from Organon**

Sanofi-Synthelabo announces today that it has reached agreement with NV Organon to acquire all of Organon interests relating to ARIXTRA[®] (fondaparinux sodium), idraparinux and other oligosaccharides such as the hexadecasaccharide.

In addition to taking over ongoing development programs, Sanofi-Synthelabo will make payments to Organon based largely on future sales.

This agreement is in line with Sanofi-Synthelabo's strategy to gain full control of the worldwide rights relating to innovative products in its R&D portfolio. It further confirms Sanofi-Synthelabo's high level of confidence in the future success of synthetic oligosaccharides in very rapidly growing markets.

ARIXTRA[®], a selective synthetic factor Xa inhibitor, was launched in 2002 and 2003 in the United States and in some other major markets. Based on the largest ever clinical development program in this indication, ARIXTRA[®] is approved for the short-term and extended prophylaxis of Venous Thromboembolism in patients undergoing major orthopaedic surgery.

In addition, ARIXTRA[®] has now completed all planned studies in the prophylaxis and acute treatment of Venous Tromboembolism. Filing for the approval of the treatment indication was submitted to the FDA and the EMEA in July 2003.

Two additional submissions, namely, prophylaxis in medical and high risk surgery situations are expected to be filed for approval in the first half of 2004. Moreover, a very comprehensive phase III program for the treatment of patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome is ongoing.

Idraparinux, a unique once a week synthetic pentasaccharide, is currently tested in phase III, against oral anticoagulant agents, in various indications including the prevention of vascular events associated with atrial fibrillation.

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