

Purchase of AstraZeneca plc - 10 May 2019

AstraZeneca is a biopharmaceutical company. The Company focuses on discovery and development of products, which are then manufactured, marketed and sold. The Company focuses on three main therapy areas: Oncology, Cardiovascular & Metabolic Disease (CVMD) and Respiratory, while selectively pursuing therapies in Autoimmunity, Infection and Neuroscience. In CVMD, it is expanding its portfolio into the cardiovascular-renal area, as well as investing to explore the benefits of its franchises in chronic kidney disease (CKD) and heart failure (HF). The Company has approximately 40 projects in Phase I trials, including 29 new molecular entities (NMEs), and 11 oncology combination projects. It has approximately 40 projects in Phase II trials, including 25 NMEs; four significant additional indications for projects that have reached phase II, and seven oncology combination projects.

This week AstraZeneca and Daiichi Sankyo Company said their phase I breast cancer treatment had met its primary goal after demonstrating a 'clinically-meaningful response' in patients with a more aggressive version of the disease and poorer prognosis.

AstraZeneca is the UK's 6th largest company by market capitalisation. The shares currently yield 3.7% gross per annum and dividends are paid in March and September of each year. We hold AstraZeneca as part of your growth & income equity allocation and have a base target price of 7000p.

This stock is typically (but not invariably) held within Income, Balanced, Growth, Adventurous and Bespoke portfolios.

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None of the statements or contents contained within this commentary should be taken or considered as advice and past performance is no guarantee of future returns.