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Sandoz Egypt launches NSAID treatment for arthritis and chronic rheumatic disorders

Sandoz Egypt, in collaboration with the Egyptian Orthopedic Association (EOA), has announced the launch of a new non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID from Sandoz), etoricoxib, for the treatment of arthritis and chronic rheumatic disorders symptoms.^{1,2} Experts in the field of orthopedics were invited to discuss the burden of these diseases and treatment options available to patients, underlining the efficacy of Etoricoxib in terms of pain relief and the improvement of stiffness and function in patients with osteoarthritis, as well as its favorable safety and gastrointestinal tolerability profile.

"Compared to 1990, musculoskeletal disorder prevalence has risen by 45%¹, with these disorders now representing the second largest cause of disability worldwide and accounting for 21% of global years lived in disability.¹ Osteoarthritis alone affected around 303 million people globally according to 2017 estimates and is a highly prevalent rheumatic musculoskeletal disorder,² ranked among the top 10 non-communicable diseases in terms of global disability adjusted life years (years of life lost

and years lived with disability).¹ Osteoarthritis of the knees specifically accounts for 83% of the total osteoarthritis burden,"¹ Dr. Adel Adawy, former Minister of Health and Professor of Orthopedic surgery, Benha University, said.

"Treatments for osteoarthritis can be divided into two categories: non-pharmacological and pharmacological interventions.⁶ Non-pharmacological treatment efforts focus on health education, self-management, dietary advice and weight loss with realistic goals, encouragement and regular reassessment, and exercise that includes guidance on how to improve muscle strength around the affected joints as well as general aerobic exercise for greater overall fitness,"⁶ "This is where I believe the EOA can – and does – play a significant role, providing support to osteoarthritis patients through continuous education and by providing them with instructions to improve their well-being and their lifestyles in general to complement their drug-based treatment routines." Dr. Gamal Hosny, Professor of orthopedic surgery, Benha University and president of EOA, said.