In 2013 it was exactly 10 years ago that the Janssen HIV franchise with origins in Belgium was set up. Since 2003 the franchise, now known as Infectious Diseases & Vaccines, brought three HIV medicines on the market and booked significant progress on the way towards making the difference for people living with HIV. AIDS is no longer a deadly disease thanks to the shared efforts of universities, knowledge institutions, pharmaceutical companies and governments.

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As the most important research center in Europe, the company is investing heavily in transformational innovation and cutting-edge Research and Development (R&D) in Belgium. The challenges are enormous, the investments in future treatments are large, and the result is never certain. Over the last five years the parent company Johnson & Johnson (pharmaceutics, medical and diagnostic applications, and consumer products) has each year invested approximately 11% of the turnover in research and development. In the pharmaceutical sector alone, Janssen’s expenditure on R&D amounts to 20% of the turnover.

Janssen’s worldwide results in 2013 were excellent. As the fastest-growing top 10 pharmaceutical company in the US, Europe and Japan our success is attributable to clever science that has constantly achieved important progress for patients. Since 2009 13 new products have been launched.

In 2013 three important new medicines were launched in the US and various other countries: INVOKANA® (canagliflozin) for the treatment of type 2 diabetes, IMBRUVICA™ (ibrutinib) for the treatment of mantle cell lymphoma and OLYSIO™ (simeprevir) for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C. In 2013 the company received a total of nine approvals for new products and new indications.

Janssen expects the pipeline to grow further in 2014 and the years after. The company continues to invest in R&D and plans the registration of 10 new molecular entities between 2013 and 2017 and more than 25 additional line extensions of our commercialized products.

Janssen puts the focus on the development of pioneering medicines. But in addition, we also want to search for alternative solutions, not just medicines, which can help us to improve the quality of treatment and life of patients. Various initiatives and projects were launched or continued in 2013, including Plan-It Commander, a computer game for children with ADHD to exercise their behavioral skills, Pillcoach for improving therapy-loyalty and HepCoach to support the treatment of hepatitis C.