Sweden closes surveillance of Nobel Biocare implants

UPPSALA: The Swedish Medical Products Agency (MPA) has announced to have concluded its review of NobelDirect and NobelPerfect dental implants. The company behind the implants, Nobel Biocare, was requested to take measures to improve the operating instructions. This has been carried out and the implants can be sold again without restrictions, Agency officials said in a press release at end of February. The MPA reviewed NobelDirect and NobelPerfect during 2006 and found inadequacies in the instructions for use of the implants.

The MPA has also reviewed the results from the company’s three-year study of dental implants, as well as the results from another three-year study. Data confirm that the implants unexpectedly are often connected with early degradation of the dentine which is primarily because of the inadequacies in the instructions for use. The MPA has criticized — inadequacies that are now corrected. At the same time, Nobel Biocare’s register of customer complaints shows that the dental implants do not differ negatively from the other implants in the company’s product line.

Henry Schein ranked number one by Fortune Magazine

MELVILLE: Henry Schein Inc, the largest distributor of health care products and services in the combined North American and European markets, has been ranked number one in the “wholesalers: health care” industry in the Fortune 2008 list of America’s most admired companies. The findings of the survey, which included 622 companies in 64 industries, are posted on Fortune’s website (http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/mostadmired/2008/index.html) and were published in the latest issue of Fortune Magazine.

Contributing to Henry Schein’s top overall ranking in its industry, were number one rankings in seven of the survey’s eight key attributes of reputation: innovation, use of corporate assets, quality of management, financial soundness, long-term investment, quality of products and services, and social responsibility. This marks the fourth consecutive year that Henry Schein has been named number one in its industry for social responsibility.

“It is very gratifying to be admired for our business practices and the qualities of our company, and we are honoured to be recognized along with some of the most respected companies in this country,” notes Stanley M. Bergman, chairman and CEO, Henry Schein.

“This is particularly special because we were selected by the people who know us best: senior executives, outside directors and industry analysts who are familiar with Henry Schein and our competitors within the industry. This designation is a source of great pride for over 12,000 team Schein members around the world, whose collective commitment to customer service and giving back to society has made this achievement possible.”

To determine its most admired rankings, Fortune Magazine and its partner, Hay Group, surveyed Fortune 1,000 and Global 500 companies, as well as the top foreign companies operating in the US Customized industry questionnaires were distributed to senior executives, directors, and industry analysts, who were asked to rate companies in their own industry on eight criteria. This is the 26th year that the survey of America’s most admired companies has been conducted.