

Edgar Filing: SERONO S A - Form 6-K

SERONO S A  
Form 6-K  
June 23, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER  
PURSUANT TO RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF  
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of June, 2003

Serono S.A.

(Registrant's Name)

15 bis, Chemin des Mines  
Case Postale 54  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

1-15096

(Commission File No.)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

Form 20-F  Form 40-F   
--- ---

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101 (b) (1).) \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101 (b) (7).) \_\_\_\_\_

(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-\_\_\_\_\_)

Media Release

SERONO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
-----

## Edgar Filing: SERONO S A - Form 6-K

### SERONO ANNOUNCES POSITIVE RESULTS FOR ONERCEPT IN PSORIASIS AND PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS IN PHASE II TRIALS

#### PHASE III IN PSORIASIS TO BE INITIATED LATER THIS YEAR

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, JUNE 22, 2003 - SERONO S.A. (VIRT-X: SEO AND NYSE: SRA) Serono today announced positive Phase II results for onercept (r-hTBP-1) in both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. Onercept is a recombinant, unmodified, fully human soluble type I TNF receptor (p55), which acts as an anti TNF agent. The data were presented at the 9th International Psoriasis Symposium in New York.

In a multi-center double-blind placebo-controlled study for psoriasis, patients treated with onercept at a dose of 150mg, subcutaneously, three times a week for a period of 12 weeks, showed a significant improvement in their Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) score. PASI is the globally accepted measure of treatment efficacy in this indication.

After 12 weeks of therapy, 54% (23/43) of patients receiving onercept 150mg demonstrated 75 percent or greater PASI score improvement (PASI 75) versus 12% (5/43) of patients on placebo (p