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 X 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 X

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____)

SERONO

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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