

Sincere Pharmaceutical Group

Form 6-K

August 18, 2009

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**UNITED STATES
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 August 2009

Commission Filing Number: 001-33398

**Simcere Pharmaceutical Group
(Translation of registrant's name into English)**

**No. 699-18 Xuan Wu Avenue,
Xuan Wu District, Nanjing
Jiangsu Province 210042
People's Republic of China
(Address of principal executive offices)**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover 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 by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant 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): N/A

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Simcere Pharmaceutical Group

By: /s/ Zhigang Zhao

Name: Zhigang Zhao

DATE: August 17, 2009

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Exhibit 99.1

**SIMCERE PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP REPORTS UNAUDITED SECOND QUARTER 2009 RESULTS
AND ANNOUNCES SHARE REPURCHASE**

NANJING, CHINA, August 17, 2009 Simcere Pharmaceutical Group (Simcere or the Company) (NYSE: SCR), a leading manufacturer and supplier of branded generic and innovative pharmaceuticals in China, today reported unaudited financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2009.

Highlights

² **Total revenue** was RMB424.4 million (US\$62.1 million) for the second quarter of 2009, a decrease of 2.7% from RMB436.2 million for the same period in 2008.

² **Income from operations** was RMB37.9 million (US\$5.5 million) for the second quarter of 2009, a decrease of 61.4% from RMB98.1 million for the same period in 2008.

² **Net income attributable to Simcere** was RMB37.2 million (US\$5.5 million) for the second quarter of 2009, a decrease of 60.9% from RMB95.2 million for the same period in 2008.

² **Gross margin** for the second quarter of 2009 was 82.3%, compared to 81.7% for the same period in 2008.

² The Company's board of directors approved a new share repurchase program under which Simcere Pharmaceutical Group may purchase up to US\$50 million worth of its issued and outstanding American depositary shares ("ADSs"). The new program is in addition to the share repurchase program announced in November 2008.

Mr. Jinsheng Ren, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Simcere Pharmaceutical Group, commented: While gross margin was stable in the second quarter, total revenues declined slightly. Sales of edaravone products, our single largest revenue contributor, saw solid growth for the quarter, while performance of Endu and other generic drugs was slower than expected. We were encouraged, however, by the strong performance of other first-to-market drugs, especially Sinofuan which saw exceptional growth during the quarter.

Looking forward, we will continue efforts to build our sales force as we invest in sales, marketing and R&D to support Simcere's middle-and-long-term sustainable growth, Mr. Ren continued.

In the second quarter, Simcere completed the acquisition of a 37.5% stake in Jiangsu Yanshen Biological Technology Stock Co., Ltd., a China-based developer and manufacturer of vaccines. Also, Shanghai Celgen Bio-Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Shanghai Celgen), in which Simcere entered into a share purchase agreement to acquire an approximately 35% equity interest in May 2009, is preparing for the launch of its major biogeneric etanercept drug, which is waiting for approval from the PRC State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA). The acquisition of Shanghai Celgen is expected to be completed in the third quarter this year.

Table of Contents**2009 Second Quarter Financial Results**

Total revenue for the second quarter of 2009 was RMB424.4 million (US\$62.1 million), which represented a decrease of 2.7% from RMB436.2 million for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, total revenue was RMB866.9 million (US\$126.9 million), representing an increase of 4.3% from RMB830.8 million for the same period in 2008.

Revenue from Endu, the Company's patented anti-cancer biotech product, amounted to RMB32.1 million (US\$4.7 million) in the second quarter of 2009, which was 7.6% of the Company's product revenue for the second quarter of 2009 and represented a decrease of 49.1% from RMB63.1 million for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, revenue from Endu totaled RMB68.6 million (US\$10.0 million), which represented a decrease of 45.9% from RMB126.9 million for the same period in 2008.

Revenue from edaravone injection products under the brand names Bicun and Yidasheng totaled RMB183.0 million (US\$26.8 million) for the second quarter of 2009, which was 43.3% of the Company's product revenue for the second quarter of 2009, and represented an increase of 24.0% from RMB147.6 million for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, revenue from Bicun and Yidasheng totaled RMB342.6 million (US\$50.2 million), which represented an increase of 14.3% from RMB299.7 million for the same period in 2008.

Revenue from other first-to-market products including Jiebaishu, a nedaplatin product, Sinofuan, a 5-FU sustained release implant for the treatment of cancer, and Anxin, a biapenem injection for the treatment of serious infections launched in the fourth quarter of 2008, amounted to RMB45.9 million (US\$6.7 million) for the second quarter of 2009, which was 10.8% of the Company's product revenue for the second quarter of 2009. For the first six months of 2009, revenue from other first-to-market products totaled RMB78.6 million (US\$11.5 million). Revenue from Sinofuan reached RMB34.6 million (US\$5.1 million) for the second quarter, representing a 615.2% year-over-year growth.

Revenue from other branded generic products amounted to RMB161.9 million (US\$23.7 million) or 38.3% of the Company's product revenue for the second quarter of 2009, a decrease of 24.7% from RMB215.0 million for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, revenue from other branded generic products totaled RMB369.7 million (US\$54.1 million), which was a decrease of 4.9% from RMB388.8 million for the same period in 2008.

Gross margin for the second quarter of 2009 was 82.3%, compared to 81.7% for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, gross margin was 82.4%, the same as in the first six months of 2008.

Research and development expenses for the second quarter of 2009 totaled RMB25.0 million (US\$3.7 million), an increase of 89.1% from RMB13.2 million for the same period in 2008. This increase was primarily due to increased research and development headcount as the Company continued to expand its research and development activities. As a percentage of total revenue, research and development expenses were 5.9% in the second quarter of 2009, compared to 3.0% for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, research and development expenses totaled RMB50.0 million (US\$7.3 million), compared to RMB31.0 million for the same period in 2008.

Sales, marketing and distribution expenses for the second quarter of 2009 were RMB235.5 million (US\$34.5 million), which represented an increase of 19.0% from RMB197.9 million for the same period in 2008. As a percentage of total revenue, sales, marketing and distribution expenses were 55.5% for the second quarter of 2009, compared to 45.4% for the same period in 2008. This increase was primarily due to hiring of additional staff and the increased sales, marketing and distribution expenses for promoting the Company's major products such as Bicun and Sinofuan. For the first six months of 2009, sales, marketing and distribution expenses were RMB455.3 million (US\$66.7 million), which represented an increase of 25.6% from RMB362.5 million for the same period in 2008.

General and administrative expenses were RMB50.9 million (US\$7.5 million) for the second quarter of 2009, which represented an increase of 8.4% from RMB47.0 million for the same period in 2008. As a percentage of total revenue, general and administrative expenses increased to 12.0% for the second quarter of 2009 from 10.8% for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, general and administrative expenses were RMB110.2 million (US\$16.1 million), which represented an increase of 17.2% from RMB94.0 million for the same period in 2008.

Share-based compensation expense, which was allocated to research and development expenses, sales, marketing and distribution expenses, and general and administrative expenses, based on the nature of the work that the employee

was assigned to perform, totaled RMB5.6 million (US\$0.8 million) for the second quarter of 2009. Share-based compensation expenses for the second quarter of 2008 were RMB6.4 million. For the first six months of 2009, share-based compensation expenses totaled RMB11.9 million (US\$1.7 million), which represented a decrease of 11.4% from RMB13.4 million for the same period in 2008.

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Income from operations was RMB37.9 million (US\$5.5 million) for the second quarter of 2009, which represented a decrease of 61.4% from RMB98.1 million for the same period in 2008. For the first six months of 2009, operating income was RMB98.9 million (US\$14.5 million), which represented a decrease of 49.9% from RMB197.3 million for the same period in 2008.

Income tax benefit for the second quarter of 2009 was RMB3.4 million (US\$0.5 million), compared to an income tax expense of RMB18.1 million for the same period in 2008. The decrease in income tax expense for the second quarter of 2009 was primarily due to lower taxable income, the reduced income tax rates for certain operating subsidiaries effective from 2009 and the recognition of deferred tax benefits by certain operating subsidiaries as a result of the tax losses incurred in the second quarter of 2009. For the first six months of 2009, income tax expense was RMB4.2 million (US\$0.6 million) compared to RMB34.9 million for the same period in 2008.

Net income attributable to Simcere was RMB37.2 million (US\$5.5 million) for the second quarter of 2009, compared to RMB95.2 million for the same period in 2008. Net income margin was 8.8% for the second quarter of 2009, compared to 21.8% for the second quarter of 2008. For the first six months of 2009, net income was RMB85.4 million (US\$12.5 million), which represented a decrease of 58.8% from RMB207.3 million for the same period in 2008. Net margin for the first six months of 2009 was 9.9% as compared to 24.9% for the same period in 2008.

Basic and diluted earnings per American Depository Share (ADS) for the second quarter of 2009 were RMB0.64 (US\$0.09) and RMB0.63 (US\$0.09) respectively. Basic and diluted earnings per ADS for the first six months of 2009 were RMB1.44 (US\$0.21) and RMB1.43 (US\$0.21) respectively. One ADS represents two ordinary shares of the Company.

As of June 30, 2009, the Company had **cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash** of RMB636.3 million (US\$93.2 million), compared to RMB813.8 million as of December 31, 2008.

Share Repurchase Program

In November 2008, the Company's board of directors authorized a share repurchase program, under which the Company may repurchase up to US\$50.0 million of issued and outstanding ADSs from the open market or in block trades. As of June 30, 2009, 5.8 million ADSs have been repurchased. The Company will continue to repurchase issued and outstanding ADSs depending on market conditions, the trading price of its ADSs and other factors.

In addition to the share repurchase program announced in November 2008, the board of directors has approved a new share repurchase program. Under the terms of the new share repurchase program, Simcere Pharmaceutical Group may purchase up to US\$50 million worth of its issued and outstanding ADSs. The repurchases will be made from time to time on the open market at prevailing market prices or in block trades and subject to restrictions relating to volume, price and timing. The Company may effect buyback transactions pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The timing and extent of any purchases will depend upon market conditions, the trading price of its ADSs and other factors. The Company expects to implement this share repurchase program in a manner consistent with market conditions and the interest of the shareholders. The Company's board of directors will review the share repurchase program periodically, and may authorize adjustment of its terms and size accordingly. The Company plans to fund repurchases made under this program from its available cash balance.

Financial Statements

The unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income and balance sheets accompanying this press release have been prepared by management using U.S. GAAP. These financial statements are not intended to fully comply with U.S. GAAP because they do not present all of the financial statements and disclosures required by U.S. GAAP.

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and as defined in the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can be identified by terminology such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, forecast, intend, may, plan, project, predict,

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should and will and similar expressions. In particular, the quotations from management in this press release and the section under Financial Outlook contain forward-looking statements. These forward looking statements are based upon management's current views and expectations with respect to future events and are not a guarantee of future performance. Furthermore, these statements are, by their nature, subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual performance and results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements as a result of a number of factors. Further information regarding these and other risks is included in Simcere's filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov. Simcere does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, except as required under applicable law.

Conference Call

Simcere Pharmaceutical Group will host a conference call to discuss the Company's results for the second quarter 2009 on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 8 a.m. Eastern Time (Tuesday, August 18, at 8 p.m. Beijing/Hong Kong time). The management team will be on the call to discuss the results for second quarter 2009 and to answer questions.

To access the conference call, please dial:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| United States toll-free dial-in number: | +1 800 510 0705 |
| International dial-in number: | +1 617 597 5363 |
| North China toll-free dial-in number: | +86 10 800 152 1490 |
| South China toll-free dial-in number: | +86 10 800 130 0399 |
| China toll free / Netcom: | +86 10 800 852 1490 |
| Hong Kong dial-in number: | +852 3002 1672 |

Please ask to be connected to Simcere's Q2 2009 earnings call and provide the following passcode: 78992895. Simcere will also broadcast a live audio webcast of the conference call. The broadcast will be available by visiting the Investor Relations section of the Company's web site at www.simcere.com.

Following the earnings conference call, an archive of the call will be available by dialing:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| United States toll-free dial-in number: | +1 888 286 8010 |
| | +1 617 801 6888 |

United States dial-in number:

The passcode for replay participants is: 77592594. The telephone replay also will be archived on the Investor Relations section of the Company's web site for seven days following the earnings announcement.

About Simcere Pharmaceutical Group

Simcere Pharmaceutical Group (NYSE:SCR, Simcere) is a leading manufacturer and supplier of branded generic and innovative pharmaceuticals in China. In recent years, Simcere has been focusing its strategy on the development of innovative pharmaceuticals and first-to-market generics, and has introduced an innovative anti-cancer medication Endu, a first-to-market medication Sinofuan, and first-to-market generics such as Bicun and Anxin. Simcere manufactures and sells antibiotics, anti-cancer medication and stroke management medication. Simcere concentrates its research and development efforts on the treatment of diseases with high incidence and/or mortality rates and for which there is a clear demand for more effective pharmacotherapy such as cancer, strokes, orthopaedics and infectious diseases. For more information about Simcere Pharmaceutical Group, please visit www.simcere.com.

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(AMOUNTS EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND ADS DATA)

| | Three months ended June 30, | | | Six months ended June 30, | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2008 RMB | 2009 RMB | 2009 USD | 2008 RMB | 2009 RMB | 2009 USD |
| Product revenue | 435,839 | 422,862 | 61,911 | 828,768 | 859,496 | 125,838 |
| Other revenue | 359 | 1,514 | 222 | 2,072 | 7,386 | 1,081 |
| Total revenue | 436,198 | 424,376 | 62,133 | 830,840 | 866,882 | 126,919 |
| Cost of materials and production | (79,957) | (75,113) | (10,997) | (146,077) | (152,433) | (22,317) |
| Gross profit | 356,241 | 349,263 | 51,136 | 684,763 | 714,449 | 104,602 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | | |
| Research and development expenses | (13,221) | (24,997) | (3,660) | (30,994) | (50,044) | (7,327) |
| Sales, marketing and distribution expenses | (197,939) | (235,509) | (34,481) | (362,458) | (455,288) | (66,658) |
| General and administrative expenses | (46,955) | (50,898) | (7,452) | (93,982) | (110,186) | (16,132) |
| Income from operations | 98,126 | 37,859 | 5,543 | 197,329 | 98,931 | 14,485 |
| Interest income | 11,395 | 2,948 | 432 | 21,802 | 5,517 | 808 |
| Interest expense | (2,761) | (2,172) | (318) | (3,243) | (4,675) | (684) |
| Foreign currency exchange gains | 11,524 | 312 | 46 | 38,079 | 228 | 33 |
| Other income | 1,104 | 1,092 | 160 | 1,104 | 1,092 | 160 |
| Earnings before income taxes | 119,388 | 40,039 | 5,863 | 255,071 | 101,093 | 14,802 |
| Income tax (expense) benefit | (18,087) | 3,424 | 501 | (34,869) | (4,168) | (610) |
| Net Income | 101,301 | 43,463 | 6,364 | 220,202 | 96,925 | 14,192 |
| Less: Net income attributable to the noncontrolling interest | (6,135) | (6,222) | (911) | (12,919) | (11,511) | (1,685) |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Net income attributable to Simcere | 95,166 | 37,241 | 5,453 | 207,283 | 85,414 | 12,507 |
| Earnings per share attributable to Simcere: | | | | | | |
| Basic | 0.76 | 0.32 | 0.05 | 1.66 | 0.72 | 0.11 |
| Diluted | 0.74 | 0.32 | 0.05 | 1.62 | 0.72 | 0.11 |
| Earnings per ADS attributable to Simcere: | | | | | | |
| Basic | 1.52 | 0.64 | 0.09 | 3.32 | 1.44 | 0.21 |
| Diluted | 1.48 | 0.63 | 0.09 | 3.23 | 1.43 | 0.21 |
| Weighted average number of common shares: | | | | | | |
| Basic | 125,043,205 | 116,136,745 | 116,136,745 | 125,025,500 | 118,368,384 | 118,368,384 |
| Diluted | 128,622,041 | 117,492,520 | 117,492,520 | 128,188,815 | 119,050,014 | 119,050,014 |

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SIMCERE PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(AMOUNTS EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS)

| | December 31, 2008 RMB | June 30, 2009 RMB | June 30, 2009 USD |
|--|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Assets | | | |
| <i>Current assets</i> | | | |
| Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash | 813,766 | 636,337 | 93,166 |
| Accounts and bills receivables, net | 748,997 | 638,060 | 93,417 |
| Inventories | 95,948 | 111,222 | 16,284 |
| Other current assets | 49,048 | 80,753 | 11,822 |
| Total current assets | 1,707,759 | 1,466,372 | 214,689 |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 463,059 | 500,318 | 73,251 |
| Land use rights | 114,624 | 113,385 | 16,601 |
| Goodwill and intangible assets, net | 453,455 | 439,199 | 64,303 |
| Investment in an affiliated company | | 195,540 | 28,629 |
| Other assets | 39,325 | 37,967 | 5,558 |
| Total assets | 2,778,222 | 2,752,781 | 403,031 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| <i>Current liabilities</i> | | | |
| Short-term borrowings and current installments of long-term debt | 6,000 | 6,000 | 878 |
| Accounts and bills payables | 25,219 | 30,587 | 4,478 |
| Other payables and accrued liabilities | 303,794 | 394,458 | 57,754 |
| Total current liabilities | 335,013 | 431,045 | 63,110 |
| Long-term debt, excluding current installments | 62,000 | 62,000 | 9,077 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 59,358 | 58,554 | 8,573 |
| Other liabilities | 20,529 | 20,999 | 3,074 |
| Total liabilities | 476,900 | 572,598 | 83,834 |
| Equity | | | |
| <i>Simcere shareholders equity</i> | | | |
| Ordinary shares at par | 9,624 | 8,987 | 1,316 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,505,252 | 1,269,793 | 185,909 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (82,130) | (56,476) | (8,269) |
| Retained earnings | 820,279 | 905,693 | 132,601 |
| Total Simcere shareholders equity | 2,253,025 | 2,127,997 | 311,557 |
| Noncontrolling interest | 48,297 | 52,186 | 7,640 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Total equity | 2,301,322 | 2,180,183 | 319,197 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | | |
| Total liabilities and equity | 2,778,222 | 2,752,781 | 403,031 |

Note: The conversions of Renminbi (RMB) into United States dollars (USD) as at the reporting dates are based on the noon buying rate of USD1.00 = RMB6.8302 on June 30, 2009 as set forth in the H. 10 statistical release of the Federal Reserve Board. No representation is intended to imply that the RMB amounts could have been, or could be, converted, realized or settled into U.S. dollars at that rate on the reporting dates.