

Translation

Reinforcement of Structure for the European Sales Bases

April 2, 2008 - Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. [Main Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo. President: Osamu Nagayama] (hereafter "Chugai") announced today a change in organizational management structure for the European sales bases, aiming to further enhance and reinforce its marketing activities in Europe.

Currently, Chugai Pharma Marketing Ltd. (hereafter "CPM") is in charge of Chugai's marketing activities throughout Europe. CPM was established in the United Kingdom in December 1997, and now runs European marketing operation through Chugai Pharma U.K. Ltd., Chugai Pharma France S.A.S., CHUGAI sanofi-aventis S.N.C., and Chugai Pharma Marketing Ltd. Germany Branch, based in the United Kingdom, France and Germany. Products which have been marketed in those countries include "Granocyte[®] (lenograstim)", a G-CSF preparation, and "Antepsin[®] (sucralfate)", an antiulcer agent (marketed in the United Kingdom and Ireland), and sales of those products have been growing steadily.

Alain Clergeot is now appointed as Managing Director of CPM in addition to his role as the President of Chugai Pharma France S.A.S, replacing his predecessor from Japan. This will further enhance and reinforce marketing activities, building on the existing business foundation. Clergeot has profound knowledge and experience in European business, as well as extensive personal network in Europe that will strengthen proactive marketing operation with higher level understanding and analysis of medical environment in each country. This new management structure will promote more proactive marketing activities to maximize the value of Granocyte[®].

Also, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd. (hereafter "Roche") [Head Office: Basel, Switzerland. CEO: Severin Schwan] filed an application in Europe for approval of tocilizumab as a treatment for rheumatoid arthritis in November 2007. Tocilizumab, marketed as "Actemra[®]" in Japan, is a humanized anti-human IL-6 receptor monoclonal antibody created by Chugai. Upon approval, Chugai and Roche will co-promote the product in the United Kingdom, France and Germany, where Chugai has its sales bases.

With this new management structure, CPM is ready to proceed smoothly with activities for the launch of tocilizumab and to achieve further growth through reinforcement of the partnership with Roche in Europe.

[References]

About Granocyte[®]

"Granocyte[®] (lenograstim)" is a recombinant human granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) preparation developed by Chugai and is mainly used in the supportive therapy for neutropenia caused as a side-effect of chemotherapy for cancers. As of December 2007, Granocyte[®] is approved in 74 countries worldwide including Japan and marketed under the name of "Neutrogin[®]" in Japan.

About Antepsin[®]

"Antepsin[®]" is the trade name used in the United Kingdom and Ireland for "sucralfate", a treatment for gastritis and peptic ulcer synthesized and developed by Chugai. As of January 2008, Sucralfate is distributed in 56 countries worldwide by Chugai and marketed under the name of "Ulcerlmin[®]" in Japan.

About Tocilizumab

Tocilizumab is a humanized anti-human IL-6 receptor monoclonal antibody developed by Chugai in collaboration with Osaka University as the first antibody agent created in Japan. Tocilizumab was launched in June 2005 in Japan under the brand name Actemra[®] as the world's first treatment for Castleman's Disease and was filed in April 2006 for the additional indication of rheumatoid arthritis and systemic-onset juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Outside of Japan, through co-development between Chugai and Roche, it was filed in November 2007 in the U.S. and Europe for the indication of rheumatoid arthritis. Chugai has invested approximately 15 billion yen in its Utsunomiya Plant for antibody production to supply Actemra[®] for the global market.