CHUGAI PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.
Corporate Communications Dept.
1-1, Nihonbashi-Muromachi 2-chome,
Chuo-ku Tokyo, 103-8324 Japan
TEL:+81-(0)3-3273-0881
FAX:+81-(0)3-3281-6607
E-mail:pr@chugai-pharm.co.jp
URL:http://www.chugai-pharm.co.jp

CHUGAI
Roche Group

Translation

Recombinant Human Erythropoietin, "EPOGIN® Subcutaneous Injection Syringe 24000," Approved in Japan

June 18, 2010 (Tokyo) - Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. [Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Osamu Nagayama (hereafter, Chugai)] announced today that the company has acquired the marketing approval for "the autologous blood transfusion of patients who are scheduled with blood donation of 800 mL or more for their own surgery with more than one-week blood collection period (hereafter, the autologous blood transfusion)" of a recombinant human erythropoietin (brand name "Epogin® Subcutaneous Injection Syringe 24000)" from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare on June 18, 2010.

"EPOGIN® Injection" (EPOGIN® Injection Syringe, EPOGIN® Injection Ampule) has been widely used in the clinical settings for its approved indications of renal anemia under dialysis and before dialysis, immature infant anemia, and the autologous blood transfusion. As for the autologous blood transfusion, the intravenous administration of Epogin® at 6000 units/per time for three times a week on alternative days has been already approved for three forms of "Epogin® Injection 1500, 3000 and 6000." By obtaining approval of "Epogin® Subcutaneous Injection Syringe 24000," once-weekly subcutaneous administration will become possible, extending choices in the autologous blood transfusion.

As is the case with "Epogin® Injection" now available, "Epogin® Subcutaneous Injection Syringe 24000" is a product developed by serum-free process with a reduced injection site pain at the time of subcutaneous administration. We believe that we can contribute to improvement of the quality of life (QOL) of patients by removing their anxiety at the time of injection.

Chugai is determined to conduct research, development, manufacture and distribution of drugs with the viewpoint of patients and healthcare professionals, and to make continuous endeavors to improve the QOL of patients who are treated with drugs.