

Translation

Data Presented at the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research on Japanese Phase III Study of 'Eldecalcitol,' an Active Vitamin D₃ Derivative

October 19, 2010 (Tokyo) - Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. ("Chugai") [Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Osamu Nagayama] announced today that the results of a phase III study of an active vitamin D₃ derivative (generic name: eldecalcitol) which is developed in Japan for the indication of osteoporosis, were presented by Dr. Toshio Matsumoto, Professor, Department of Medicine and Bioregulatory Sciences, University of Tokushima Graduate School of Health Biosciences, at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research currently held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on October 18, 2010 (local time).

This phase III study was a randomized, double-blind, parallel-group, comparative study to compare the 3-year incidence of bone fractures and the safety of eldecalcitol with those of alfacalcidol* in 1,054 patients with osteoporosis (population for safety analysis). In this study, patients received once-daily oral dose of eldecalcitol for three years. The results demonstrated that the patients who received eldecalcitol had a significantly lower incidence of new vertebral fractures and the forearm bone fractures compared to those who received alfacalcidol. In severe patients, eldecalcitol exerted significant preventive effects on bone fractures. Overall safety profile of eldecalcitol was similar to that of alfacalcidol.

The new drug application for eldecalcitol was filed by Chugai in October 2009.

It is estimated that 12 million people have osteoporosis in Japan. Treatments to increase bone density and thus reduce the incidence of fractures are necessary since osteoporosis-related fractures reduce quality of life, rendering patients bedridden and increase the risk of death.

Chugai is determined to make efforts to realize early approval of eldecalcitol as a new active vitamin D₃ derivative with enhanced effect on bone, and provide eldecalcitol to patients and healthcare professionals.

* Alfacalcidol is an active vitamin D₃ prodrug (Chugai brand name: Alfamol[®]) used in Japan to treat osteoporosis.