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Chugai Files a New Drug Application for a ROS1/TRK Inhibitor Entrectinib for the Treatment of *ROS1* Fusion-Positive Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

- An application was filed for *ROS1* fusion-positive locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer following the filing for *NTRK* fusion-positive locally advanced or metastatic solid tumors in December 2018 in Japan

TOKYO, March 15, 2019 -- Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (TOKYO: 4519) announced today that it filed a new drug application to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) for a ROS1/TRK inhibitor entrectinib for the treatment of *ROS1* fusion-positive non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

“With the previous filing of *NTRK* fusion-positive solid tumors, which is a rare type of cancer, and *ROS1* fusion-positive NSCLC, which accounts for one to two percent of NSCLC, Chugai wishes that entrectinib would become a new treatment option for these patients and we will continue working to contribute to the development of personalized medicine," said Dr. Yasushi Ito, Chugai’s Executive Vice President, Co-Head of Project & Lifecycle Management Unit.

This application for approval is based on an integrated analysis of an open-label, multicenter, global phase II study (the STARTRK-2 study) and three overseas phase I studies (the STARTRK-NG study, the STARTRK-1 study and the ALKA-372-001 study). Efficacy was evaluated in 53 patients with *ROS1* fusion-positive NSCLC while safety assessment was conducted with 355 patients registered in the four trials.

As the top pharmaceutical company in the field of oncology in Japan, Chugai will work to obtain early approval in order to provide entrectinib as a new treatment option for patients and medical professionals.

[Reference information]
Media release issued by Roche on February 19, 2019
Title: FDA grants Priority Review to Roche’s personalised medicine entrectinib
https://www.roche.com/media/releases/med-cor-2019-02-19b.htm

Media release issued by Chugai on December 19, 2018
Title: Chugai Files a New Drug Application for a ROS1/TRK Inhibitor Entrectinib for the Treatment of *NTRK* Fusion-Positive Solid Tumors
https://www.chugai-pharm.co.jp/english/news/detail/20181219170000_579.html

CHUGAI PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD. Corporate Communications Dept.
1-1, Nihonbashi-Muromachi 2-chome, Chuo-ku Tokyo, 103-8324 Japan
Media Relations Group TEL:+81-(0)3-3273-0881 E-mail:pr@chugai-pharm.co.jp
Investor Relations Group TEL:+81-(0)3-3273-0554 E-mail:ir@chugai-pharm.co.jp

Media release issued by Roche on September 24, 2018

Title: Roche's investigational medicine entrectinib showed a durable response of more than two years in people with a specific type of lung cancer

https://www.roche.com/media/releases/med-cor-2018-09-24c.htm

About entrectinib

Entrectinib is an oral medicine in filling for approval for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic solid tumors that harbor *NTRK1/2/3* or *ROS1* gene fusions. It is a selective, CNS-active tyrosine kinase inhibitor designed to inhibit the kinase activity of the TRK A/B/C and ROS1 proteins, whose activating fusions drive proliferation in certain types of cancer. Entrectinib can block ROS1 and NTRK kinase activity and inhibit proliferation of cancer cells with *ROS1* or *NTRK* gene fusions. FDA has granted priority review for entrectinib for the treatment of *NTRK* fusion-positive solid tumors and *ROS1* fusion-positive NSCLC.

About *ROS1* fusion-positive NSCLC

ROS1 fusion gene is an abnormal gene that can be formed by fusing the *ROS1* gene and other genes (*CD74*, etc.) as a result of chromosomal translocation for some reason. The ROS1 fusion kinase made from *ROS1* fusion gene is thought to promote cancer cell proliferation. *ROS1* fusion gene is found in about one to two percent of non-small cell lung cancer, among which it is more expressed in adenocarcinoma.

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