Ajinomoto Pharmaceuticals Obtained Marketing Approval of a Branched-chain Amino Acid Formula “LIVACT® JELLY” for Japan Market

Ajinomoto Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd. (President, Tomoyasu Toyoda; Headquarters, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan; hereinafter “Ajinomoto Pharmaceuticals”) obtained as of February 15, 2013 the marketing approval of “LIVACT® JELLY”, a new dosage form of existing branched-chain amino acid*1 formula “LIVACT® Granules” (granules of isoleucine, leucine and valine of Japanese Pharmacopoeia), for Japan market.

“LIVACT® Granules” is an ethical pharmaceutical product indicated for improvement of hypoalbuminemia*2 in patients with decompensated liver cirrhosis*3 who are suffering from hypoalbuminemia regardless of sufficient dietary intake. In a multicenter, randomized, controlled trial conducted in Japan, “LIVACT® Granules” has been proven to prevent severe complications that occur with progression of liver cirrhosis. “LIVACT® Granules” has been approved and marketed in Japan and South Korea*4 to date.

Ajinomoto Pharmaceuticals has challenged a new dosage form of “LIVACT® Granules” for more palatable texture to increase patient’s medication adherence*5. The new form, which was approved today, is the first jelly-type branched-chain amino acid in the pharmaceutical market and expected to provide a new choice for patients who hesitate to take granule medicines and increase their medication adherence.

Ajinomoto Pharmaceuticals is committed to a healthier and better quality of life of each individual patient through practice of “For Your Quality Of Life” to realize wishes of patients and medical practitioners.

*1 Branched chain amino acid: A name to collectively call isoleucine, leucine and valine, among amino acids that constitute a biological body.

*2 Hypoalbuminemia: Serum albumin concentrations decline with progression of liver cirrhosis, and this condition is called hypoalbuminemia. Hypoalbuminemia impairs nutrition status and can cause ascites or other symptoms.

*3 Decompensated liver cirrhosis: In liver cirrhosis, the liver becomes fibrotic and hardened, and loses its normal functions. Liver cirrhosis without symptoms of jaundice, ascites, encephalopathy or others is called compensated liver cirrhosis, and when the disease stage advances to have the above symptoms, it is called decompensated liver cirrhosis.

*4 In South Korea, Samil Pharm. Co., Ltd. distributes under the brand name of “LIVACT® Granules”.

*5 Medication adherence: Medication adherence refers to how patient actively participates in decision of his or her medication and actually takes and continues the medication as prescribed.

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