EA Pharma Signs A License Agreement with Cosmo Technologies Ltd. for Colonoscopy-relating Products “Methylene Blue MMX” and “Eleview” for Japan and South Korea Markets

EA Pharma Co., Ltd. (President & CEO, Yuji Matsue; Headquarters, Tokyo, Japan) (hereinafter “EA Pharma”), a subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd. for the gastrointestinal disease area, announced today that EA Pharma has signed an exclusive license agreement with Cosmo Technologies Ltd. (Headquarters, Ireland) (hereinafter “Cosmo”), a subsidiary of Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V. (CEO, Alessandro Della Chà; Headquarters, Ireland), for the rights to research, develop and commercialize “Methylene Blue MMX”, an agent to highlight the lesions prior to colonoscopy, and “Eleview”, an agent to lift up the lesions in endoscopic mucosal resection and endoscopic submucosal dissection, in the markets of Japan and South Korea.

The above agreement becomes effective after EA Pharma completes a confirmatory due diligence for a predetermined period. After the agreement becomes effective, EA Pharma pays an upfront payment, milestone payments and royalties to Cosmo under the agreement.

EA Pharma expects that commercialization of “Methylene Blue MMX” and “Eleview” under the agreement will make a contribution to fulfilment of unmet medical needs of patients in early detection and treatment of colon cancer as well as diffusion of methods of endoscopic mucosal resection and endoscopic submucosal dissection of less burden on patients. With the existing oral bowel cleansing agents “MOVIPREP®” and “NIFLEC®”, EA Pharma’s product lineup in the colonoscopy area will be further enriched.

To meet the various needs of patients, their families and medical practitioners in the gastrointestinal disease area, EA Pharma will newly develop the medical device business in addition to pharmaceuticals by commercialization of “Eleview” under the above agreement. EA Pharma aims to provide a wide range of solutions and create new medical value through expansion of pharmaceutical and medical device business in the gastrointestinal disease area.

End

※MOVIPREP® is a registered trademark of the Norgine Group.
1. About “Methylene Blue MMX”
“Methylene Blue MMX” is Cosmo’s proprietary MMX® (Multi-Matrix System) delivery technology, by which methylene blue is delivered throughout the colon and enables highlighting. When ingested prior to a colonoscopy session, methylene blue highlights tumours, polyps and other lesions throughout the colon to increase the detection rate of lesions. “Methylene Blue MMX” is under the marketing approval examination in USA at present.

2. About “Eleview”
“Eleview” is a liquid medical device that Cosmo developed to lift up and hold the neoplastic lesion in endoscopic mucosal resection and endoscopic submucosal dissection. When injected into the lesion until an enough prominence is obtained, “Eleview” can increase the visibility of the margin and prevent damage to the external muscular layer, which can lead to gastrointestinal perforation. Furthermore, it decreases the time needed to resect a lesion while reducing both reinjections required and piecemeal excisions, as compared to saline. At present, “Eleview” is marketed in USA and obtained the marketing authorization in EU.

3. About EA Pharma Co., Ltd.
EA Pharma Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd. for gastrointestinal disease area, was established in April 2016 by integration of the gastrointestinal business unit with more than 60 years’ history of the Eisai Group and the gastrointestinal business unit of the Ajinomoto Group having amino acid as its business core. EA Pharma is a gastrointestinal specialty pharma with a full value chain covering R&D, logistics and sales & marketing. For more information on EA Pharma Co., Ltd., please see http://www.eapharma.co.jp/en/

4. About Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V.
Cosmo Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company that aims to become a global leader in the field of optimized therapies for selected gastrointestinal disorders. The company’s proprietary clinical development pipeline specifically addresses innovative treatments for IBD, such as Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn’s Disease, and Colon Infections as well as medical devices relating to colonoscopy. Cosmo’s proprietary MMX® technology is designed to deliver active ingredients in a targeted manner in the colon and is at the core of the Company’s product pipeline. Cosmo’s MMX® products that have reached the market are Lialda®/Mezavant®/Mesavancol”, a treatment for Ulcerative Colitis, and “Uceris I” (USA)/Cortiment® (non-USA countries), glucocorticosteroid indicated for the induction of remission in active, mild to moderate Ulcerative Colitis.
For more information on Cosmo Pharmaceuticals N.V., please see http://www.cosmopharma.com

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