

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2007

**Announcement of the Launch of
the Selective COX-2 Inhibitor Celecox[®] Tablets in Japan**

Tokyo, Japan/June 11, 2007 - Astellas Pharma Inc. ("Astellas"; Headquarters: Tokyo; President and CEO: Masafumi Nogimori) and Pfizer Japan Inc. ("Pfizer"; Headquarters: Tokyo; President and CEO: Hiromitsu Iwasaki) today announced that their selective COX-2 inhibitor Celecox[®] (generic name: celecoxib), a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), will become available in Japan on June 12, 2007, with the indication of "relief of inflammation and pain associated with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and osteoarthritis (OA)".

Discovered by Pfizer Inc. in the United States, celecoxib is the first anti-inflammatory agent that is designed to selectively inhibit COX-2 enzyme and thereby specifically reduces the production of prostaglandin, a chemical agent involved in inflammation. First launched in the U.S. in 1999, celecoxib has been marketed in over 100 countries and prescribed to over 31 million patients as Celebrex[®] or Celebra[®].

Astellas and Pfizer jointly developed and have obtained marketing approval for Celecox in Japan to be prescribed for relief of inflammation and pain of RA and OA in January 2007. According to the agreements for Celecox, Pfizer will import active ingredients and Astellas will manufacture and distribute the product, which will be co-promoted by Astellas and Pfizer.

Astellas and Pfizer will provide and gather information to and from physicians and/or medical institutions in order to pursue appropriate use with particular emphasis.

It was revealed in 1991 that cyclooxygenase has two different subtypes, COX-1 and COX-2, in the human body and that COX-1 takes part in protection of the gastrointestinal mucosa, while COX-2 is involved in inflammation and pain. Upper gastrointestinal adverse event reported for conventional non-selective NSAIDs is thought to be the consequence of inhibiting both COX-1 and COX-2 enzymes. Celecoxib is the first selective COX-2 inhibitor developed and marketed worldwide expecting to provide therapeutic benefit while avoiding GI effect. Celecoxib exhibits proven efficacy for RA and OA with twice-daily dose.

Astellas and Pfizer are confident that Celecox will contribute to the RA and OA patients in Japan as a new treatment option.

Details of Celecox are as follows:

Date of marketing approval: January 26, 2007
Brand name: Celecox[®] tablets 100mg, 200mg
Generic name: celecoxib
Classification: NSAID
Indication: For relief of inflammation and pain associated with
rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis
Dosage and administration For RA in adults, the recommended oral dosage of Celecox is
100-200mg twice daily, once after breakfast and once after
evening meal.
For OA in adults, the recommended oral dosage of Celecox is
100mg twice daily, once after breakfast and once after
evening meal.
Approval holder: Astellas Pharma Inc.
Packaging Tablets 100mg: 140 tablets (PTP), 700 tablets (PTP), 500
tablets (not packed)
Tablets 200mg: 140 tablets (PTP), 700 tablets (PTP), 500
tablets (not packed)
NHI reimbursement prices 83.70 Japanese yen/100mg tablet
128.90 Japanese yen/200mg tablet
Date of NHI price listed March 16, 2007
Date of launch June 12, 2007

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