



**Eisai Co., Ltd.**

4-6-10 Koishikawa, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-8088, Japan

Phone: 03-3817-5120

Fax: 03-3811-3077

*Eisai is a Human Health Care Corporation striving for innovative solutions in prevention, cure and care for the health and well-being of people worldwide. We combine our talents to understand and meet the needs of patients and their families to enhance the quality of life.*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Eisai Co., Ltd.

### **Eisai Enters into In-licensing Agreement with Minophagen Pharmaceutical for Liver Disease/Allergic Disease Agents *Stronger Neo-Minophagen<sup>®</sup> C and Glycyron<sup>®</sup> Tablets***

Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Haruo Naito) signed an in-licensing agreement with Minophagen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Kyozo Utsunomiya) for liver disease/allergic disease agents *Stronger Neo-Minophagen<sup>®</sup> C* and *Glycyron<sup>®</sup> Tablets* on December 18, 2007.

With this agreement, Eisai will assume exclusive rights for development and marketing of these products in Japan and in the Euro-Asia countries and region where the products are yet to be sold.\*<sup>1</sup> For China and the Euro-Asia countries and region where the products are currently sold\*<sup>2</sup>, Eisai will assume exclusive first negotiation rights, with exclusive marketing rights in China upon termination of the existing agreement between Minophagen Pharmaceutical and its current local marketing partner. The companies expect to transfer the marketing activities to Eisai in China on April 1, 2009. In Japan, transfer of the marketing activities for *Stronger Neo-Minophagen<sup>®</sup> C* and *Glycyron<sup>®</sup> Tablets* are expected to take place on April 1, 2008 and October 1, 2008, respectively.

It has been reported that about 170 million people in China are affected with viral hepatitis and 70 percent of these cases are hepatitis B, which is treated by antiviral therapy and immunotherapy including interferon or hepato-protector therapy. Currently, Eisai is developing *clevidine*, an antiviral agent for viral hepatitis B that has been licensed by Bukwang (Korea), and by introducing the two agents announced today to Eisai's product lineup, Eisai can make further contributions to the patients and their families in China.

In Japan, approximately 2.8 million people are estimated to be affected with viral hepatitis, with more than half of this population being afflicted with chronic hepatitis C. Introduced in 1948 and in 1957, *Stronger Neo-Minophagen<sup>®</sup> C* and *Glycyron<sup>®</sup> Tablets* have been widely used in the treatment for improvement of abnormal hepatic function in chronic hepatitis C, especially when eradication of hepatitis C virus is difficult.

Moreover, the studies conducted in Europe have shown the effectiveness of *Stronger Neo-Minophagen<sup>®</sup> C* in improving abnormal hepatic function in patients with chronic hepatitis C where interferon therapy does not work. The results of the studies were presented at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases conference in November, 2007.

Eisai has been making efforts for research activities in the hepatic disease area with support from medical specialists in Japan since the 1960's. The results of these efforts have led to the introduction of the PIVKA-II series, a diagnosis product for hepatocellular cancer in 1989, which has been enabling Eisai to address the needs in the area of hepatic diseases. Additionally, Eisai has been focusing on gastrointestinal disorders as one of the strategic

areas. In Japan, Eisai markets a proton pump inhibitor *Pariet*<sup>®</sup> and gastritis/gastric ulcer treatment *Selbex*<sup>®</sup>.

With this agreement, Eisai can enhance its product lineup for the gastrointestinal disorders area that is available in countries in Asia including Japan and China, and thereby make further contributions to increase the benefits to patients and their families.

\*<sup>1</sup>The Euro-Asia countries and region where the products are yet to be sold:  
Singapore, Philippines, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Brunei, Australia, the Middle East Countries (Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Yemen), Russia.

\*<sup>2</sup>The Euro-Asia countries and region where the products are currently sold:  
China, South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, India, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Egypt

**[Please see the following note for the product information.]**

For contact:  
Corporate Communications Department  
Eisai Co., Ltd.  
81-3-3817-5120

**<Notes to Editor>**

**About *Stronger Neo-Minophagen® C***

**Product Name:**

*Stronger Neo-Minophagen® C* Injection 20mL

*Stronger Neo-Minophagen® C* Injection 5mL

*Stronger Neo-Minophagen® C* Injection P 20mL (plastic ampoule)

**Active Ingredients:** Monoammonium glycyrrhizinate, glycine (JP), L-cysteine hydrochloride (compounding ingredient)

**Applied Indication:** Eczema or dermatitis, urticaria, pruritus, drug eruption or toxicoderma, stomatitis, infant strophulus, phlycten, improvement of abnormal hepatic function in chronic hepatic disease.

**Dosage and Administration:** The usual adult dosage for intravenous use is from 5 to 20mL once a day. The dosage may be adjusted depending on the patient's age and symptoms. For chronic hepatic disease, the daily dosage is from 40 to 60mL once a day by intravenous injection or intravenous drip infusion. The dosage may be adjusted depending on the patient's age and symptoms. If an increased dosage is required, the daily dosage should be kept within the limit of 100mL.

**About *Glycyron® Tablets***

**Product Name:** *Glycyron® Tablets*

**Active Ingredients:** Monoammonium glycyrrhizinate, glycine (JP), DL-Methionine (compounding ingredient)

**Applied Indication:** Improvement of abnormal hepatic function in chronic hepatic disease. Eczema or dermatitis, infant strophulus, alopecia, stomatitis.

**Dosage and Administration:** Usually, between 2 and 3 tablets once for adults and 1 tablet once for children are orally administered after meal for 3 times a day. The dosage may be adjusted depending on the patient's age and symptoms.

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