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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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Eisai Submits Application for *Aricept*[®] Oral Jelly Formulation in Japan

Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Haruo Naito) announced today that the company submitted an application for a new oral jelly formulation of *Aricept*[®] (donepezil hydrochloride) in Japan. If approved, it will become the first Alzheimer's disease treatment available in an oral jelly formulation in the world.

Generally, Alzheimer's disease affects elderly population, and there are some patients who have difficulty swallowing a tablet or granule formulation with water due to the decline in their ability to swallow or the water enters into their trachea while taking the medication. For the patients with such problems, the new jelly formulation will make it easier to administer with the soft and jelly-like texture which can be taken without water. In addition, it can be divided with a spoon into an appropriate volume depending on the patient's ability to swallow, which reduces the burden of caregivers who help their patients take the medication.

Aricept[®], an acetylcholinesterase inhibitor developed by Eisai Co., Ltd., is the only approved prescription medicine for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease in Japan. It is believed to work by inhibiting the hydrolysis of acetylcholine, thereby increasing available levels of this neurotransmitter in the brain. It is estimated that there are approximately 1.25 million people with Alzheimer's disease in Japan, and the number is set to increase every year as the aging of the society is progressed.

In Japan, *Aricept*[®] is available in tablets, fine granule, and orally rapid disintegrating tablets. Through the addition of the new oral jelly formulation of *Aricept*[®] that helps patients adhere to taking medications appropriately, Eisai will continue to make contributions to improving the quality of life of Alzheimer's disease patients, their families and caregivers.

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