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Kyorin and Kissei announce the initiation of a Phase I clinical trial of KRP-EPA605/ KEA-0447 for the treatment of overactive bladder

KYORIN Holdings, Inc.
Kissei Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

KYORIN Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Mitsutomo Miyashita; hereafter, “Kyorin”), a subsidiary of the KYORIN Holdings, Inc. (President & CEO: Masahiro Yamashita) and Kissei Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Mutsuo Kanzawa; hereafter, “Kissei”), initiated a Phase I clinical trial of “KRP-EPA605/KEA-0447” which has been promoted under a joint development agreement for the treatment of overactive bladder.

Urology is a priority area for research and development of Kyorin and Kissei. From the point of view that it should be possible to make use of know-how and strengths of both companies, and promote the research and development of the new compounds speedy and efficiency in cooperation with each other, Kyorin and Kissei entered into a joint research agreement on the new treatment of overactive bladder in 2009, and had been conducting collaborative research with a view to global expansion in the future. Subsequently, Kyorin and Kissei entered into a joint development agreement in 2012, and has led to the initiation of a Phase I clinical trial of this drug.

This drug is a novel selective prostaglandin EP1 receptor antagonist found in the joint research of Kyorin and Kissei, and expected to improve urinary frequency by suppressing detrusor overactivity of the bladder. Although β3 agonists and anticholinergic drugs are mostly used for the treatment of overactive bladder, this drug, with a different mechanism of action from existing therapies, is expected to become a new approach to overactive bladder improving the QOL of patients suffering from urinary frequency and urgency, symptoms of overactive bladder.

Hereafter, Kyorin and Kissei aim to early approval of this drug by the joint development.