

January 17, 2022

News Release

 MSD K.K.
 KYORIN Holdings, Inc.

Co-promotion agreement in Japan for oral COVID-19 treatment LAGEVRIO® Capsules 200 mg

MSD K.K. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director and President: Kyle Tattle; “MSD”) and KYORIN Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Shigeru Ogihara; “KYORIN”), a subsidiary of KYORIN Holdings, Inc. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Yutaka Ogihara), entered into a co-promotion agreement in Japan for “LAGEVRIO® Capsules 200 mg” (molnupiravir), an oral antiviral drug for the treatment of SARS-CoV-2 infection (COVID-19). MSD received in December 2021 a special approval for LAGEVRIO® under Article 14-3 of the Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Act by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

In December 2021, MSD and KYORIN signed a memorandum of understanding about the right to negotiate for potential co-promotion of LAGEVRIO® in Japan. After negotiations, the companies entered into the agreement to start co-promotion on January 31, 2022.

LAGEVRIO® is the first oral antiviral drug in Japan indicated for SARS-CoV-2 infection. It is a ribonucleoside analog that inhibits the replication of SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19. As the COVID-19 spreads, this new treatment option is expected to contribute to the treatment as an oral antiviral drug that can be taken at home.

MSD continues to Invent for Life by developing innovative medicines and vaccines that meet unmet medical needs.

KYORIN will further strengthen its presence in strategic fields (respiratory, ENT) and contribute to the treatment of COVID-19.

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