

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 2001

Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

## Grünenthal Obtains German Approval For New Quinolone Antibiotic 「Gatifloxacin」

Tokyo, Japan Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (President: Ikuo Ogihara, Head Office: Tokyo) announced that Grünenthal (Head Office: Aachen, Germany) has obtained approval from the German Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices for Kyorin's new quinolone antibiotic, Gatifloxacin, on October 22, 2001.

Gatifloxacin was licensed to Grünenthal from Kyorin Pharmaceutical Company, Ltd. in 1995 for development, production and marketing in Europe, the Middle East and certain parts of South America. Grünenthal filed the application in Germany as Reference Member State in December 1999 in accordance with the European Union's mutual recognition approval systems for medicinal products. Following official German approval application will then be submitted for other European countries.

Gatifloxacin is effective in the treatment of patients with *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and other gram-positive bacteria, and is expected to open a new era of respiratory-tract infections therapy.

Kyorin Pharmaceutical Company, Ltd., the pioneer of new quinolones, promotes the development of Gatifloxacin as an international product through the licensing to Grünenthal (Germany) and Bristol-Myers Squibb (USA). Beginning in 1999 with the USA, Gatifloxacin is now sold in 13 countries and is expected to become even more successful with the European launch.

For more information please contact:

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## <Reference Material>

### Gatifloxacin's Distinctive Features

- Highly improved antibacterial effects against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and other gram-positive bacteria.
- Shows effectiveness against broad range of drug-resistant bacteria (Penicillin/Macrolide resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, etc.)
- Displays a different bactericidal mechanism than that of other drugs targeting gram-positive bacteria.
- Demonstrated a lowered potential for producing photosensitivity.
- Shows favorable absorption when taken orally and is excreted via the kidneys.

### **Grunenthal**

Address: P.O.Box 50 04 44 D-52088 Aachen, Germany

Yearly Sales: 1.4 Billion DM

Employees: 4,732 (in 1999)