Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. 5 Kanda, Surugadai 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Application of New Quinolone Antimicrobial Drug "Gatifloxacin Ophthalmic Solution" in the US

We are pleased to inform you that FDA approval for the new quinolone antimicrobial drug, "Gatifloxacin ophthalmic solution" created by Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Ikuo Ogihara, President) was applied for by our licensee, Allergan USA (D. Pyott, President) on May 30th.

Allergan highly values the excellent antimicrobial effect and high safety of Gatifloxacin while Kyorin highly values Allergan's unparalleled development and marketing capabilities in the ophthalmic field. As a result, a license agreement was concluded between these two companies in August 2000. Since then, Allergan has taken the development initiative in the US. Allergan is scheduled to launch this product in 2003 and intends to grow this product into a major product in the market of antimicrobial ophthalmic solution in major countries, including the USA.

We at Kyorin place high expectations on the market launch of this product in the hope that the addition of ophthalmic solution to already marketed forms of gatifloxacin tablet and injections abroad, will expand its overseas Gatifloxacin business.

Gatifloxacin ophthalmic solution in Japan, on the other hand, is now at Ph III development stage as led by our licensee, Senju Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd..