June 11, 2002 Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

Launch of **Gatiflo^ò Tablet 100 mg**, a broad-spectrum oral antibacterial agent

Today (June 11), Kyorin Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (head office: Tokyo, president: Ikuo Ogihara) and Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (head office: Osaka, president: Kenjiro Miyatake) have launched **Gatiflo^o Tablet 100 mg** (non-proprietary name: gatifloxacin), a broad-spectrum oral antibacterial agent.

Recently, in the treatment of infectious diseases, physicians are facing the challenges involved in antibacterial agent including the appearance of microorganisms resistant against multiple drugs and the challenges to reduce various adverse drug reactions. Kyorin has engaged in the researches to develop a new quinolone with superior efficacy and safety to overcome such challenges, and finally discovered **Gatiflo⁰ Tablet 100 mg**, an eight methoxy quinolone (EMQ), which has a methoxy group in the eighth position of the quinolone structure, for the first time in Japan.

Gatiflo⁰ Tablet 100 mg has the strong antibacterial potential against gram-positive bacteria such as *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, which has resistance to conventional new quinolones. Furthermore, **Gatiflo⁰ Tablet 100 mg** has strong antibacterial effect against resisitant-strains drugs such as *Chlamydia pneumoniae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* or penicillin-resistant *streptococcus pneumoniae* (PRSP), therefore it is expected to achieve high clinical evaluation as a new-generation quinolone also highly effective for respiratory infections. In safety profiles, the drug has a lower risk of photosensitivity, an adverse drug reaction specifically seen to new quinolones.

Kyorin and Dainippon, both strong in the field of infectious diseases, expect to contribute to the treatment of infectious diseases including respiratory infections by the early penetration of the drug into the market through co-distribution of the same brand. The companies anticipate that the sales of the drug by both companies will account for about 10% of the market of oral antibacterial agent for adults for the first year, and 20% of the market at the peak, to nurture the drug as the highest ranking oral antibacterial agent in Japan.