

EISAI JOINS GROUNDBREAKING TUBERCULOSIS DRUG ACCELERATOR PARTNERSHIP TO DISCOVER NEW TUBERCULOSIS DRUGS

Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, President & CEO: Haruo Naito, "Eisai") announced today that it has become a signatory to the Tuberculosis Drug Accelerator (TBDA) partnership, a groundbreaking initiative that aims to speed up the discovery of essential new treatments for tuberculosis (TB).

Jointly launched in June 2012 through a collaborative agreement among seven pharmaceutical companies¹ and six research institutions² with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the TBDA partnership targets the discovery of new TB drugs by working together on early-stage research. The long-term goal of the partnership is to create a new TB drug combination that has the potential to cure patients in only one month, compared to the six months of treatment required by existing drugs. Based on the partnership, the participating pharmaceutical companies will open up targeted sections of their compound libraries and share data with other participating pharmaceutical companies and research institutions. As a TBDA member, Eisai will provide selected portions of its chemical library for screening against TB as well as share identified and confirmed hits with other TBDA partners. Eisai will also work cooperatively with other partners to facilitate the development of new therapies for TB.

TB is a contagious disease caused by a bacterial infection that affects the lungs and other organs. Although it is a curable and preventable disease, it is the second leading infectious cause of death worldwide, having resulted in the deaths of 1.4 million people in 2011 alone. One of the main reasons for the high mortality is that first-line therapies for TB are antiquated and inadequate, with all existing drug treatment defaulting to a regimen of isoniazid, rifampin, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol.

Eisai is committed to improving the health and welfare of people in developing countries and considers its contributions to the economic development and expansion of these countries through these endeavors as a form of long-term investment for future market growth. Eisai remains actively committed to addressing issues in global health to improve the quality of life provided to patients and their families worldwide.

¹ AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Eli Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck, Sanofi

² Infectious Disease Research Institute, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Rutgers University, Texas A&M University, University of Dundee, Weill Cornell Medical College

[Please refer to the following notes for Eisai's Commitment to Improving Global Access to Medicines.]

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[Notes to editors]

1. Eisai's Commitment to Improving Global Access to Medicines

Today, it is estimated that some 2.4 billion people around the world live on US\$2 or less per day