

March 31, 2006

Astellas Issues a Statement on Today's Nikkei News

Japan, March 31, 2006 - Astellas Pharma Inc. (“Astellas”; headquarters: Tokyo; President and CEO: Toichi Takenaka) today announced a statement on the news appeared on the day’s morning edition of Nikkei Shimbun titled as “Acquisition of Zepharma Inc.”

“Although Astellas always studies every possible opportunity to maximize its business value, Astellas hasn’t reached its final decision on this matter. Astellas will make a public announcement on this matter as soon as an official decision is made.”

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