

August 1, 2008

Astellas Launches the Candin Antifungal Agent Mycamine[®] in the UK

Japan, August 1, 2008 - Astellas Pharma Inc. (headquarters: Tokyo, president and CEO: Masafumi Nogimori, “Astellas”) today announced the launch of the candin antifungal agent Mycamine[®] (generic name: micafungin sodium) in the UK by Astellas’s European subsidiary on August 1, 2008 (local time).

Astellas’s European subsidiary submitted a Marketing Authorisation Application (MAA) under the centralized procedure to European Medicines Agency (EMA) for Mycamine in April 2006. Following the review, the European Committee has granted the Marketing Authorisation for Mycamine across the EU on April 25, 2008. The indications for adults, adolescents ≥ 16 years of age and elderly are: Treatment of invasive candidiasis; Treatment of oesophageal candidiasis in patients for whom intravenous therapy is appropriate; Prophylaxis of *Candida* infection in patients undergoing allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation or patients who are expected to have neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count < 500 cells / μ L) for 10 or more days. For children (including neonates) and adolescents < 16 years of age, Mycamine is indicated for: Treatment of invasive candidiasis; Prophylaxis of *Candida* infection in patients undergoing allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation or patients who are expected to have neutropenia (absolute neutrophil count < 500 cells / μ L) for 10 or more days. The availability of Mycamine in the UK represents the first in a series of Europe-wide launches, with additional markets to follow.

Mycamine has been available since December 2002 in the Japanese market with the brand name of Funguard[®] for Infusion, where it has established its therapeutic efficacy against fungal infections caused by *Aspergillus* and *Candida* and safety profile through all therapeutic results. MYCAMINE[®] has been available in the US market since May 2005 and is now indicated for: Treatment of patients with candidemia, acute disseminated candidiasis, *Candida* peritonitis and abscesses; Treatment of patients with esophageal candidiasis; Prophylaxis of *Candida* infections in patients undergoing hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. Mycamine is available in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao and Korea. This launch in Europe means that Mycamine/Funguard will be available in major overseas markets including North America, Asia and Europe, and Astellas is expecting that Mycamine will be a new option for the treatment of *Candida* infections throughout Europe. Astellas is committed to developing a franchise in infectious diseases, and this launch in Europe will be a driving force to accelerate the expansion of this franchise.

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