

Action on Fistula is supported by a grant to the Fistula Foundation by Astellas

ACTION ON FISTULA TO TRANSFORM 4,500 LIVES BY 2020

- *Action on Fistula has already treated 2,471 women with obstetric fistula*
- *Astellas supports Fistula Foundation in its second phase of the programme to work towards ending obstetric fistula*

Tokyo, May 23, 2017 – Astellas Pharma Inc. (President and CEO: Yoshihiko Hatanaka, “Astellas”) on International Day to End Obstetric Fistula, Astellas pledges its support to the Fistula Foundation as the second phase of *Action on Fistula* launches with an ambitious target to treat 4,500 women with obstetric fistula in Kenya by 2020.

Action on Fistula, supported by a grant from an affiliate of Astellas Pharma Inc., Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd. (with Astellas Pharma Inc. correctively referred to as “Astellas”), is a programme set up by the Fistula Foundation in 2014 to transform the lives of more than 1,200 women in Kenya living with fistula: an injury caused by prolonged obstructed labour, leading to faecal or urinary incontinence or both. It most commonly occurs among women who live in rural communities in low-resource countries, who are not aware that help is available or are unable to reach a hospital.

The programme has already:

- given 2,471 Kenyan women with obstetric fistula life changing reconstructive surgery
- significantly increased surgical capacity in Kenya to treat the condition by training six fistula surgeons
- set up a fistula treatment network to extend access to services, with six treatment centres enrolled and providing fistula surgeries on a routine basis
- built a major outreach programme to identify and bring women in for treatment.

From May 2017 - April 2020 *Action on Fistula* will:

- provide surgeries to an additional 2,000 women with fistula and continue to build capacity in Kenya to deliver ongoing treatment
- extend its treatment network to up to eight treatment centres
- train a further six surgeons at the Gynocare Women’s and Fistula Hospital in Kenya, including clinicians from outside the country to build capacity across sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia
- train 10 fistula nurses to support women through their treatment journey
- establish 20 support groups throughout Kenya to provide recovering fistula patients with psychosocial assistance, economic empowerment and income-generating activities to help enable survivors to return to their communities.

Kate Grant, CEO, Fistula Foundation, comments, “*Our partnership with Astellas has enabled us to transform the treatment landscape in Kenya, from hospitals that worked largely in a vacuum, to a country-wide network of six facilities offering regular fistula treatment. The results have been incredible, enabling us to treat more than double the number of women we initially set out to help.*”

Yukio Matsui, President of Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd., said, “*We are enormously proud of what the programme has achieved in such a small space of time. Through the commitment and skill of Fistula Foundation working to train surgeons and mobilise outreach teams on the ground in Kenya, Action on Fistula has transformed the lives of more than double the number of women it set out to. This is truly remarkable.*”

“Over the next three years we have set ourselves an ambitious goal of treating many more women with this devastating condition and building an even stronger treatment infrastructure in Kenya so the legacy of Action on Fistula lasts for many years to come.”

Whilst virtually eradicated in developed countries, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates 3,000 new cases of obstetric fistula occur annually in Kenya, with approximately one to two fistulas for every 1,000 deliveries.¹

Women with fistula are often subject to severe social stigma due to odour, which is constant and humiliating, and in many cases drives the patients' family, friends and neighbours away. Stigmatised, these women are also often denied access to education and employment and left to live lives of isolation and poverty.

Action on Fistula was recognised at the 2017 Better Society Awards for its work with Fistula Foundation in the ‘Partnership with an International Charity’ category and the 2017 Communiqué Awards for the ‘Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility’ category.

Astellas is committed to the long-term sustainability of society by improving Access to Health and medical solutions, fostering scientific advancement and enhancing the health of our communities. *Action on Fistula* is a flagship programme of Access Accelerated, a multi-stakeholder collaboration focused on improving non-communicable disease care supported by Astellas.

For more information about the programme visit www.astellas.eu/action-on-fistula

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Notes to Editors

About Fistula Foundation

Fistula Foundation is dedicated to treating obstetric fistula, because no woman should suffer a life of isolation and misery simply for trying to bring a child into the world. We fund local partners who deliver life-changing fistula treatment in more than 20 countries – supporting more fistula repair surgeries worldwide than any other non-profit organisation not receiving government funding. Based in San Jose, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley, Fistula Foundation is honoured to have received eleven consecutive 4 - Star ratings from Charity Navigator; only one percent of charities have received this designation.

¹ United Nations Population Fund, Direct Relief and Fistula Foundation Global Treatment Map at <http://www.globalfistulamap.org/>

About Action on Fistula

Action on Fistula, supported by Astellas, is a programme set up by the Fistula Foundation in 2014 to transform the lives of more than 1,200 women in Kenya living with fistula. By the end of the FY2016, the programme had already given 2,471 Kenyan women with obstetric fistula life-changing reconstructive surgery, far exceeding the initial goal of improving the lives of more than 1,200 women with obstetric fistula. The target for the next three years is set at treating 4,500 women in conjunction with significantly increasing surgical capacity in Kenya. The program also raises awareness of the condition and supports initiatives that destigmatise fistula and empower other women to step forward for treatment, supporting fistula survivors to return to their community. The Fistula Treatment Network will extend access to services at centres enrolled, providing fistula surgeries on a routine basis.

To ensure women living with fistula in rural communities can be identified and helped, *Action on Fistula* is also running a major outreach programme, and training community workers to identify and encourage patients to access treatment.

Alongside funding *Action on Fistula*, Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd. is actively encouraging and enabling employees to fundraise to support fistula treatment.

More information about the programme is available at [www.astellas.eu/action - on - fistula](http://www.astellas.eu/action-on-fistula)

About Access Accelerated

Astellas' support of Action on Fistula is part of the company's commitment to Access Accelerated, designed to address the full spectrum of access barriers to medicines for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in low-income and lower-middle income countries. Involving more than 20 biopharmaceutical companies and associations, Access Accelerated also includes partners such as the World Bank and the Union of International Cancer Control, all working towards the UN Sustainable Development Goal target to reduce premature deaths from NCDs by one-third by 2030.

About Astellas

Astellas Pharma Inc., based in Tokyo, Japan, is a company dedicated to improving the health of people around the world through the provision of innovative and reliable pharmaceutical products. We focus on Urology, Oncology, Immunology, Nephrology and Neuroscience as prioritized therapeutic areas while advancing new therapeutic areas and discovery research leveraging new technologies/modalities. We are also creating new value by combining internal capabilities and external expertise in the medical/healthcare business. Astellas is on the forefront of healthcare change to turn innovative science into value for patients. For more information, please visit our website at www.astellas.com/en.

About Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd.

Astellas Pharma Europe Ltd. operates in 40 countries across Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and is the EMEA regional business of Tokyo - based Astellas Pharma Inc. Astellas' presence in Europe also includes an R&D site and three manufacturing plants. The company employs over 4,500 people across the EMEA region.

Cautionary Notes

In this press release, statements made with respect to current plans, estimates, strategies and beliefs and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements about the future performance of Astellas. These statements are based on management's current assumptions and beliefs in light of the information currently available to it and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (i) changes in general economic conditions and in laws and regulations, relating to pharmaceutical markets, (ii) currency exchange rate fluctuations, (iii) delays in new product launches, (iv) the inability of Astellas to market existing and new products effectively, (v) the inability of Astellas to continue to effectively research and develop products accepted by customers in highly competitive markets, and (vi) infringements of Astellas' intellectual property rights by third parties.

Information about pharmaceutical products (including products currently in development) which is included in this press release is not intended to constitute an advertisement or medical advice.

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