

August 21, 2006
sanofi-aventis K.K.
Astellas Pharma Inc.

**DISCONTINUATION OF MARKETING ALLIANCE
ON KETOLIDE ANTIBIOTICS, “Ketek® TABLETS 300MG”**

Sanofi-aventis K.K. (hereinafter: “sanofi-aventis”, Headquarters: Tokyo, President: Philippe Fauchet.), and Astellas Pharma Inc. (hereinafter: “Astellas”, Headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Masafumi Nogimori) announced today that both companies agreed to discontinue the marketing alliance on September 30, 2006 for “Ketec® Tablets 300mg” (generic name: telithromycin), ketolide antibiotic. Sanofi-aventis will market the drug from October 1, 2006.

Ketek, the first in a new class of antibiotics known as the ketolides, was specifically designed to treat community-acquired respiratory tract infections. Ketek is active against a broad range of respiratory pathogens, including also Streptococcus pneumoniae bacteria, resistant to other antibiotics such as penicillin, erythromycin, and related drugs. In Japan, Ketek was launched in December, 2003, which is indicated for the treatment of pharyngitis/laryngitis, tonsillitis, acute bronchitis, pneumonia, secondary infections of chronic respiratory disease, sinusitis, periodontitis, pericoronitis, jaw arthritis.

About sanofi-aventis

Sanofi-aventis is the world’s third largest pharmaceutical company, ranking number one in Europe. Backed by a world-class R&D organisation, sanofi-aventis is developing leading positions in seven major therapeutic areas: cardiovascular, thrombosis, oncology, metabolic diseases, central nervous system, internal medicine and vaccines. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (EURONEXT: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY).

About Astellas Pharma Inc.

Astellas Pharma Inc., located in Tokyo, Japan, is a pharmaceutical company dedicated to improving the health of people around the world through the provision of innovative and reliable pharmaceutical products. The organization is committed to becoming a global mega pharmaceutical company by combining outstanding R&D and marketing capabilities and continuing to grow in the world pharmaceutical market.

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