



24 May 2010

## **Press Release**

Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim Co., Ltd. Astellas Pharma Inc.

## New Contracts Concerning telmisartan (Micardis® Family) Have Been Concluded

Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo: Chairman & President: Dr. Thomas Heil, "Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim") and Astellas Pharma Inc. (Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Masafumi Nogimori, "Astellas") announced today that they have concluded new contracts on sales and co-promotion for telmisartan (Micardis® family), an angiotensin II receptor blocker. The term of current contracts will end in December 2012, but pursuant to the new contracts, the partnership will continue through December 2016.

Micardis<sup>®</sup> family is composed of the currently marketed product line-up of Micardis<sup>®</sup> (telmisartan monotherapy), Micombi<sup>®</sup> (fixed dose combination of telmisartan and hydrochlorothiazide), and a new fixed dose combination with calcium channel blocker amlodipine, which is awaiting marketing approval in Japan.



Yamada, Astellas and McKenna, Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim

Katsuro Yamada, Senior Corporate Executive, Sales & Marketing of Astellas, commented on this agreement, stating "the significant achievements with the Micardis® family to date encouraged Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim and Astellas to seek new agreements beyond the current contracted term which ends in December 2012. The new agreements will extend the partnership until December 2016." Gerrard McKenna, Head of Prescription Medicine of Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim, added on his comment: "considering the still significant unmet needs in the treatment of hypertension and the unique profile of the Micardis® family, both partners believe that the new agreements will maximise the positive contribution to the treatment of hypertension."

Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim and Astellas are committed to further contribute to the treatment of hypertension by further enhancing the promotion of the Micardis<sup>®</sup> family.

These new contracts will not make any impact on Astellas' financial forecast for FY2010 (from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011).

## **About Telmisartan**

Telmisartan is discovered and developed by Boehringer Ingelheim, and currently marketed in approximately 90 countries, including Japan, USA and European countries. Micardis® and Micombi® are manufactured by Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim, distributed by Astellas, and co-promoted by both companies in Japan. The combination drug of telmisartan and calcium channel blocker, amlodipine, is planned to be introduced to the Japanese market by both companies in the same way. Both Micardis® and Micombi® are indicated for hypertension in Japan.

Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim Co., Ltd.	Astellas Pharma Inc.
External Communications Group,	Corporate Communications
Communications Dept.	
Tel: +81-3-6417-2145 Fax: +81-3-5435-2926	Tel: +81-3-3244-3201