

July 17, 2001

## Tanabe Press Release

### TANABE SEIYAKU Granted Rights for Bepotastine Besilate For Ophthalmic Use to SENJU SEIYAKU (JAPAN)

Tanabe Seiyaku Co., Ltd. (Mr. Toshio Tanaka, President and CEO) announced today that Tanabe Seiyaku has granted a right to Senju Seiyaku Co., Ltd. (Mr. Shoji Yoshida, President) for bepotastine besilate which is an active ingredient of the anti-allergic product, TALION of Tanabe Seiyaku. Senju receives an exclusive worldwide right, except for some Asian countries, to develop, manufacture and market for ophthalmic use.

Bopotasitine besilate has been originally synthesized and identified by Ube Industries, Ltd. (Mr. Kazumasa Tsunemi, President). Ube Industries and Tanabe Seiyaku has jointly developed and launched as TALION tablets for treatment of allergic rhinitis last October in Japan. Since bepotastine besilate has a strong histamine antagonistic action as well as an inhibitory action of migration of eosinophils (a kind of leucocytes) to inflamed tissues, it is expected to be effective against main symptoms such as itching in seasonal allergic conjunctivitis caused by pollens as well as perennial allergic conjunctivitis caused by house dusts etc. Furthermore, bepotastine besilate is rich in water solubility, and suitable for applying eye-drop products.

As a pioneer in the ophthalmic area, Senju is eager to develop innovative products and has excellent expertise and experiences as a specialized company in this area.

Tanabe Seiyaku has already licensed out ecabet sodium (an agent for treatment of gastritis and gastric ulcer as GASTROM in Japan) for treatment of dry eyes to Senju. Ecabet sodium is currently under development by Senju. Therefore, this new license for bepotastine besilate is the second collaboration between both companies.

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