

March 30, 2018

SBI Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd.

Comprehensive Commercialization Rights Granted to Neopharma
on the Pharmaceuticals Containing 5-ALA

SBI Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd., (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director & President: Yoshitaka Kitao; “SBI Pharmaceuticals”), a subsidiary of SBI Holdings, Inc., engaged in research and development of pharmaceuticals, health foods and cosmetics using 5-aminolevulinic acid (“5-ALA”)^{*1}, hereby announces that SBI Pharmaceuticals has granted the comprehensive commercialization rights on the pharmaceuticals containing 5-ALA including “ALAGLIO Divided Granules 1.5g” in the territory of MENA^{*2} and India to neopharma Japan Co., Ltd. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director: Satofumi Kawata; “neopharma Japan”), a subsidiary of neopharma LLC^{*3}, a company of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) engaged in production and marketing of pharmaceuticals.

SBI Pharmaceuticals will provide neopharma Japan with the technical information proprietary to SBI Pharmaceuticals with respect to the pharmaceuticals containing 5-ALA including “ALAGLIO Divided Granules 1.5g” toward the commercialization in the future. The pharmaceuticals so developed by neopharma Japan will be marketed by SBI Neopharma FZ-LLC, a joint venture established in Dubai (UAE) between SBI ALApharma, our mother company, and neopharma group.

SBI Pharmaceuticals will continue to pursue various potential applications of 5-ALA, and focus on research and development to provide pharmaceuticals that satisfy the unmet medical needs of as many people as possible around the world.

(*1) 5-Aminolevulinic acid (5-ALA):

An amino acid produced in mitochondria. It is an important substance that serves as a functional molecule related to energy production in the form of heme and cytochromes, and its productivity is known to decrease with age. 5-ALA is contained in food such as shochu lees, red wine and Asian ginseng. It is also known as a material forming chloroplasts in plants.

(*2) MENA:

A region comprising Middle East and North Africa. It extensively covers GCC countries (UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia) as well as Yemen, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, etc.



(*3) Neopharma LLC:

A corporation established in U.A.E. in 2003 to manufacture and market pharmaceuticals. Presently Neopharma is one of the largest pharmaceutical company in the MENA region with presence in over 50 countries. Neopharma is currently working in close collaboration with several internationally renowned pharmaceutical companies. Neopharma focuses on addressing the unmet medical needs and debilitating diseases and manufacture world class pharmaceutical products at affordable prices.

For further information, please contact:

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