

September 21, 2006
Shionogi & Co., Ltd.
Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd.

Launch of Premature Ovulation Inhibitor Cetrotide® 0.25mg and 3mg for Injection (Cetrorelix Acetate)

Osaka, September 21, 2006 — Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka; President: Motozo Shiono) today announced the launch in Japan of Cetrotide® 0.25mg and 3mg for injection (generic name: cetrorelix acetate) for prevention of premature ovulation during controlled ovarian stimulation.

Canadian biopharmaceutical company *Æterna Zentaris Inc.* (NASDAQ: AEZS, TSX: AEZ), through its fully-owned German subsidiary, *Zentaris GmbH*, is the worldwide licensor of development rights for Cetrotide®, which is approved for prevention of premature ovulation in 93 countries, including countries in Europe and the United States. The drug was approved for manufacturing and marketing in Japan on April 20, 2006. Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd. will import from Zentaris and manufacture Cetrotide® and Shionogi will market it.

The first GnRH antagonist in Japan, Cetrotide® works immediately after administration to inhibit pituitary gonadotropin secretion. It is the first drug approved for prevention of premature ovulation during controlled ovarian stimulation. Because fertility treatment is not covered by health insurance in Japan, insurance will not cover the drug used in the treatment.

Shionogi and Nippon Kayaku will continue to cooperate closely in the highly specialized, knowledge-specific field of fertility treatment, to ensure that Cetrotide® makes a strong contribution to fertility treatment in Japan.

A product summary follows below.

Product Summary of Cetrotide® 0.25 and 3mg for Injection

Product name: Cetrotide® 0.25mg for Injection, Cetrotide® 3mg for Injection

Generic name: Cetrorelix acetate

Acquisition of manufacturing and marketing approval: April 20, 2006

Launch date: September 21, 2006

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