

July 7, 2003  
Shionogi & Co., Ltd.

**Launch Announcement of Controlled-Released Oral Analgesic for Cancer Pain, OxyContin®  
Tablets**

Shionogi & Co., Ltd. announced today the launch of OxyContin ® Tablets (controlled released oxycodone hydrochloride tablets), for the treatment of moderate to severe cancer pain.

OxyContin® Tablets was licensed in from Mundipharma B.V. (Netherlands). The product was officially approved in Japan on April 16, 2003 and was listed for NHI reimbursement on June 6, 2003. OxyContin® Tablets have now been approved in 50 countries worldwide, and its controlled-release mechanism provides around-the-clock analgesia with twice-daily dosing. OxyContin® Tablets possess favorable pharmacokinetics such as less plasma fluctuation, and low levels of active metabolites. OxyContin® Tablets are available in dosage forms of 5mg, 10mg, 20mg, 40 mg for easy titration according to the intensity of pain.

In Japan, Shionogi & Co. has been striving to proliferate the importance of treating cancer pain since the launch of MS Contin® Tablets (morphine sulfate controlled-released tablets) in 1989 with the slogan, “Free cancer patients from cancer pain suffering”. Through the introduction of OxyContin® Tablets, Shionogi & Co. Ltd. hopes to provide physicians in Japan with a new tool to treat cancer patients suffering from moderate to severe pain.

[ For Further Information ]

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