



March 11, 2020

Dear all

Kowa Company, Ltd.

**K-115 (Ripasudil Hydrochloride Hydrate), a Rho Kinase Inhibitor,
has been approved in Singapore**

Kowa Company, Ltd. (Headquarters: Nagoya, Japan, President & CEO: Yoshihiro Miwa, hereafter referred to as "Kowa") announced that "Ripasudil Hydrochloride Hydrate" (hereafter refer to as "Ripasudil"), a Rho kinase inhibitor, for the indications of Open-Angle Glaucoma and Ocular Hypertension has been approved by HSA (Health Sciences Authority) in Singapore.


Ripasudil has been developed as a global product, and was launched in December 2014 in Japan (Brand name: GLANATEC[®] ophthalmic solution 0.4%) as the world's first glaucoma drug with Rho kinase inhibitory activity. Ripasudil is the first Rho kinase inhibitor filed and approved by HSA. Kowa plans to establish a direct sales system to support the marketing of Ripasudil. Following this approval in Singapore, Kowa continues efforts to gain approval for Ripasudil in counties all over the world.

Kowa focuses on sensory organ diseases as one of its key therapeutic areas, especially ocular disorders. Kowa is developing Ripasudil for corneal endothelial diseases, as well as a fixed-dose combination (Ripasudil Hydrochloride Hydrate / Brimonidine Tartrate) in patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension. In addition, Kowa markets intraocular lenses for cataracts, and seeks to address other unmet medical needs.

■ GLANATEC[®] Ophthalmic Solution 0.4%

GLANATEC[®] Ophthalmic Solution 0.4% includes Ripasudil as an active ingredient, and lowers intraocular pressure by promoting discharge of aqueous humor through a main outflow via trabecular meshwork-Schlemm's canal as a result of Rho kinase inhibitory activity.

In clinical studies enrolling patients with primary open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension in Japan, GLANATEC[®] Ophthalmic Solution 0.4% has been demonstrated to be effective in lowering intraocular pressure in both cases of mono-therapy and conjunctival therapy along with conventional treatment-glaucoma and ocular hypertension drugs.

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