Lycoris radiata

PMDA Updates

September, 2017

News

1. The 8th China International Medical Device Regulatory Forum

The 8th China International Medical Device Regulatory Forum (CIMDR) was held in Hangzhou from August 16 to 18, and 3 PMDA staff members from the Office of International Programs, Office of Medical Devices III and Office of Manufacturing/Quality and Compliance participated in the forum with presentations entitled 1) Japanese Medical Device Regulatory Update; 2) the Actual Japanese pharmaceutical Regulation for Medical Devices – Review, Consideration and Actions for Left Ventricular Assist Devices; and 3) Quality Management System for Medical Device in Japan. CIMDR is a forum for medical devices regulations held by China Center for Food and Drug International Exchange (CCFDIE), a sub-organization of China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA). The forum is held every year in China, inviting speakers from overseas regulatory authorities and industries to introduce regulations of medical devices in each country or region to Chinese industries. There were approximately 1,000 participants from in and outside of China, and active discussion took place regarding the regulation of medical devices in each participating country or region.

2. Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Life Sciences Innovation Forum, Regulatory Harmonization Steering Committee (APEC-LSIF-RHSC) Meeting

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, Life Sciences Innovation Forum, Regulatory Harmonization Steering Committee (APEC-LSIF-RHSC) Meeting was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from August 18 to 19. Key participants from Japan were Dr. Toshiyoshi Tominaga (Associate Executive Director for International Programs, PMDA), Dr. Junko Sato (Office Director, Office of International Cooperation, PMDA) and Mr. Fumihito Takanashi (Deputy director, Office of International Regulatory Affairs, MHLW). RHSC meeting aims for "Promotion of the strategic framework for the convergence of medical products regulation". Dr. Tominaga is co-chair of the RHSC along with the U.S. Regulators from 14 APEC economies, representatives from industry (pharmaceuticals, bio-pharmaceuticals, medical devices) and academia participated in the meeting. APEC-LSIF-RHSC has been working on six priority work areas for establishing Centers of Excellence (CoE) to offer training for regulatory capacity building to regulators and relevant personnel. At the meeting, PMDA, an formal CoE for MRCT/GCP Inspection and Pharmacovigilance, as approved at the meeting held in Nha Trang, Vietnam in February, provided a progress report on the preparation for the PMDA's training seminars in FY2017 on these priority work areas. Also, the meeting approved adding Medical Device as a new priority work area to start working on for regulatory convergence, with the discussion to be led by the U.S., Korea and Japan.

Dr. Tominaga (left end) who co-chairs the RHSC

Next APEC-LISF-RHSC meeting will be held in Papua New Guinea in the first quarter of 2018.

3. PMDA Hokuriku Branch 1st Anniversary Symposium

On August 21, PMDA held a symposium to mark the first anniversary of its Hokuriku Branch founded on June 9, 2016. At the symposium, a special lecture was delivered by Dr. Tasuku Honjo, Distinguished Professor, Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study, which was followed by a panel discussion with Dr. Honjo; Dr. Tatsuya Kondo, Chief Executive, PMDA; Mr. Tetsuro Suemune, Cabinet Secretariat; Dr. Masaru Ishizuka, President, Toyama Prefectural University; and Mr. Takakazu Ishii, Governor, Toyama Prefecture. Active discussions were held on the topics including promoting international collaboration, reinforcing collaboration among industry, academia, and government, and vitalizing local universities and industries.

Ever since Hokuriku Branch was established, PMDA has been conducting or cooperating in conducting many projects in Toyama Prefecture, for example, a five day training seminar on GMP inspection was held at a manufacturing facility located in the prefecture in December, 2016. PMDA will, in collaboration with Toyama Prefecture through Hokuriku Branch, continue to promote regulatory capacity building and convergence in Asia and other countries, and facilitate further development of cooperation.

4. Call for application to PMDA-ATC Multi-Regional Clinical Trial (MRCT) Seminar 2018 starts

PMDA Asia Training Center for Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Regulatory Affairs (PMDA-ATC) will hold a seminar entitled "PMDA-ATC Multi-Regional Clinical Trial (MRCT) Seminar 2018" from January 15 to 18, 2018. This four-day seminar is designed for new drug application reviewers from overseas regulatory authorities. The Seminar includes lectures, group discussions with the objective of acquainting the participants with the topics or points to consider including : protocol designing and planning of MRCT, clinical data evaluation, clinical operation, GCP inspections, post-marketing issues and safety measures for approved products based on MRCT, international cooperation and regulatory convergence among regulatory authorities. As changes from the previous program, PMDA adds new sessions which are clinical site tour and introduction of review systems and regulations by participants in the program for this fiscal year.

The Seminar is held as a workshop of APEC-LSIF-RHSC CoE; however, the Seminar is open to non-APEC economies as well.

Please refer to the following web site for the details of PMDA-ATC MRCT Seminar 2018.
http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/symposia/0117.html

English translations of review reports

The followings are current information about English version of review reports on PMDA web site.

Pharmaceuticals

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/review-services/reviews/approved-information/drugs/0001.html

Brand Name	Generic Name	Posting date
Tafinlar	dabrafenib mesilate	August 14
Adynovate	rurioctocog alfa pegol (genetical recombination)	August 15
Cyramza [Partial Change Approval]	ramucirumab (genetical recombination)	August 24
Opdivo [Partial Change Approval]	nivolumab (genetical recombination)	August 31

Safety Information

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information No. 346, September 5, 2017

1. The Expert Committee on Quality of Generic Drug Products
2. Introduction of the "My Drug List for Safety Updates" service
3. Revision of Precautions (No. 287)
   Riociguat (and 4 others)
4. List of Products Subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance
   (Posted on September 5, 2017)

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/medical-safety-information/0015.html

Pharmaceuticals Revisions of PRECAUTIONS, September 12, 2017

- Dabigatran etexilate methanesulfonate
- Palivizumab (genetical recombination)
- Interferon beta

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/revision-of-precautions/0005.html

PMDA Medical Safety Information No. 51, September, 2017

Mix-up of Drugs Due to Similarity of Nonproprietary Names

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/safety-information/0001.html

Risk Information which some safety measures might be taken (September 22, 2017)

- Levetiracetam(Tablets)
- Levetiracetam(Dry Syrup)
- Levetiracetam(Injection)
- Chlorhexidine gluconate
- Chlorhexidine hydrochloride/Diphenhydramine salicylate/Hydrocortisone acetate/Benzalkonium chloride concentrated solution 50
- Products containing Chlorhexidine gluconate or products containing Chlorhexidine hydrochloride (OTC drugs)
- Products containing Chlorhexidine gluconate or products containing Chlorhexidine hydrochloride(quasi-drugs)
- Moxifloxacin hydrochloride (Oral dosage form)
- Amoxicillin hydrate
- Potassium clavulanate/Amoxicillin hydrate
- Lansoprazole/Amoxicillin hydrate/Clarithromycin
- Lansoprazole/Amoxicillin hydrate/Metronidazole
- Rabeprazole sodium/Amoxicillin hydrate/Clarithromycin
- Rabeprazole sodium/Amoxicillin hydrate/Metronidazole
- Vonoprazan fumarate/Amoxicillin hydrate/Clarithromycin
- Vonoprazan fumarate/Amoxicillin hydrate/Metronidazole
- Linagliptin

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/risk-communications/0001.html

Events

Conferences/Meetings PMDA hosts or participates in:

Date	Title	Location
October 3-4	PMDA-ATC Pharmaceuticals Seminar 2017 in Hanoi, Vietnam	Hanoi
October 9-10	CoRE Advisory Board Meeting	Singapore
October 23-26	12th International Summit of Heads of Medicines Regulatory Agencies / International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA)	Kyoto
November 11-16	ICH Week	Geneva

Reports from overseas

Our officers deliver lively reports of their activities at their stationed overseas authorities.

Performance of new drug pre-market review in 2016 in EU and Japan

Based on Annual Report 2016 by EMA and FY 2016 Performance Report by PMDA, this article introduces performances of new drug pre-market review in 2016, as done at the similar timing last year.

Table 1: Number of new drugs

		Number of new drugs	(those with new active ingredients out of the new drugs)
EU	2015	93	(39)
	2016	81	(27)
Japan	FY 2015	116	(42)
	FY 2016	112	(41)

Table 2: Pre-market review period of new drug

		Authority time	Applicant time	Total
EU (mean)	2015	8.7 months	4.3 months	13.1 months
	2016	8.6 months	5.1 months	13.7 months
Japan (70th percentile)	FY 2015	6.7 months	5.5 months	11.2 months
	FY 2016	6.3 months	5.6 months	11.2 months

The number of new drugs a little decreased in 2016 in EU while that in Japan was constant (Table 1). As 50 products have been given positive opinions for approval in EU as of June 2017, the decrease may be temporal.

Table 2 shows that the pre-market review periods in 2016 were close to those in 2015 in both EU and Japan. Their breakdowns also showed the similar periods in both Authority time and Applicant time. In EU, the assessment period by EMA is set as 210 days, and the actual periods (mean) were 202 days and 199 days in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

Both Annual Reports 2016 by EMA and FY 2016 Performance Report by PMDA include performance about services of consultation, a tool to support product development, in addition to the information on pre-market review performance described above. According to the reports, as EMA and PMDA provided lots of consultations, constant new drug pre-market applications are expected. Sharing information and exchanging opinions between EMA and PMDA would help better operations related to pre-market review.

Mr. Hideyuki Kondo
PMDA's International Liaison Officer stationed at EMA in the United Kingdom

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Dispatch of a Japanese expert to USP Visiting Scientist Program

The US Pharmacopeia (USP) created a Visiting Scientist Program in the late 1980 to provide opportunities for the development of scientists committed to pharmacopeial work and to foster international recognition and harmonization of USP-NF standards[1)]. Dr. Tatsuo Koide, a Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP) Expert Committee member who works at the National Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS) was dispatched to the Visiting Scientist Program from June 12 to September 1.

The purpose of his Visiting Scientist Programwas to progress pharmaceutical excipient harmonization projects which have been developed originally by USP and JP bilaterally and have been added to the Phamacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) work program currently. Dr. Koide participated in 1) the USP expert committee responsible for the harmonization projects, 2) identifying issues for the harmonization projects and proposing resolution for the Issues, and 3) update of each monograph draft proposals. He gave a presentation on

a result of his Visiting Scientist Program to USP staff at the end of his stay. In this presentation, he also talked about differences between USP and JP, which he felt during his stay at USP, such as organizational structures and roles of each convention/secretariat, election methods for expert committee members, and subtle differences in general analytical procedures. He received favorable comments and feedback about the good progress on these harmonization projects through this Visiting Scientist Program in USP. As a result, his Visiting Scientist Program ended a great success.

Since this was the first attempt to dispatch a JP expert to USP as a visiting scientist, I was given the opportunity to support this Visiting Scientist Program from the planning stage. I will continuously support exchange of experts between USP and JP in a workshop, an exchange program and others. By doing so, I hope USP and JP deepen their understanding each other and strengthen their cooperation.

1) http://www.usp.org/sites/default/files/global-impact/1970/05-visiting-scientist-program-vsp.html

Dr. Yujiro Kameyama
PMDA's Liaison Officer stationed at USP in the U.S.A

Differences between PMDA and the U.S. FDA – Reflections on a one-year dispatch

I am finishing my one-year dispatch to U.S. FDA in early October, during which I observed some differences between the U.S. FDA and PMDA. The first one is the working style of staff. The U.S. FDA implements a flextime system, therefore working hours are varied by each staff. In addition, most of review-level staff work at their own home twice per week, a practice enabled by an IT system developed to support work from remote sites. The second one is increasing use of advanced technologies at the U.S. FDA. Though my experiences are limited to pharmacovigilance, the U.S. FDA's Sentinel System has been in production since 2016 and utilized routinely. In addition, the U.S. FDA is now considering the use of other technologies, such as natural language processing and artificial intelligence in its drug safety work. The third difference is more frequent staff turnover at the U.S. FDA. This may be caused by American traits; however, staff movement among regulatory agencies, industry and academia can vitalize the whole pharmaceutical efforts in the U.S.

Finally, I would like to thank all of PMDA staff who supported my dispatch, and I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Gerald Dal Pan and the staff in the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, CDER, U.S.FDA.

Dr. Takashi Misu
PMDA's Officer at CDER, U.S. FDA in the U.S.A
