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PMDA Updates

January, 2018

News

1. Chief Executive Dr. Kondo's New Year Message for 2018

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

This year, PMDA marks the 14th year of its establishment, and the final year of implementation of the PMDA's 3rd 5-year mid-term plan. I would like to share some thoughts with you at this beginning of the landmark year.

Through the hard work and commitment by all our staff, PMDA has become one of the high performing agencies, comparable to its European and American counterparts. To keep up the great work, we must deal with not only domestic affairs but also global public health. I would like to take the opportunity to highlight some of our efforts towards these objectives.

Dr. Kondo (Chief Executive of PMDA)

First, 12th International Summit of Heads of Medicines Regulatory Agencies (Summit) was hosted by Japan for the first time in Kyoto in October 2017. Both the summit and ICMRA (International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities) are significant frameworks where executive-level and leadership entity of regulatory authorities can get together and discuss. At this meeting, it was decided that the Summit would integrate ICMRA into the "ICMRA Summit" and evolve its development. Furthermore, "innovation" as a new work item, "regulatory convergence on regenerative medicines" and "use of real world data (RWD) " were discussed during the meeting. All of these issues aim to make convergence of future roles and agenda of each agency, which is critical to promoting responsiveness across countries. PMDA will participate in those discussions based on Regulatory Science.

Secondly, PMDA is preparing for the establishment of the Regulatory Science Center, which will open in FY 2018. Expected objectives include creating scientific infrastructure for advanced review with electronic data submission and fully operational Medical Information Database Network (MID-NET®). As Regulatory Science plays a major role in terms of applying scientific knowledge to our operations, we would like to develop it further. Also, PMDA will make constant efforts to strengthen the organizational framework and enhance innovative regulatory initiatives, which is critical toward further development of review, safety measures and relief systems for adverse health effects.

Lastly, as we look back on the global circumstances last year, we sense increased factors causing uncertainty to pharmaceutical regulations. Despite that, PMDA will keep up our scientific efforts to gain the public's confidence, while actively contributing to global public health as one of the world's top running agencies.

Once again, I wish you all health, prosperity, and happiness in the year 2018.

2. Japan-US HBD East 2017 Think Tank Meeting

"Harmonization by Doing (HBD)" is the regulatory convergence activity, where the US FDA, Japanese regulators, academia, and industry develop internationally agreed upon standards for global clinical trials related to so far cardiovascular devices, and address regulatory barriers that may delay timely medical device approvals in both countries.

HBD East 2017 Think Tank Meeting was held on December 7, 2017 at the National Center for Global Health and Medicine in Tokyo to share its activities and experiences with the public (Hosts: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), The Japan Federation of Medical Device Associations (JFMDA), Auspices: Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA), National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Support: Joint Center

for Researchers, Associates and Clinicians (JCRAC)). 18 members from PMDA, including Dr. Tatsuya Kondo (Chief Executive) and Dr. Toshiyoshi Tominaga (Associate Executive Director), and staff members from Office of Medical Devices Ⅰ–Ⅲ and Office of International Programs, along with staff from MHLW including the director of Medical Device Evaluation Division participated in the meeting.

Group photo of participants

In this meeting, recent hot topics such as Early Feasibility Study and Real World Evidence were discussed in addition to WG activity update. In the Round Table Discussion, HBD members and other experts shared their experiences and had a free discussion to overcome the challenges in medical device clinical trials.

Presentations from Japan-US HBD East 2017 Think Tank Meeting are available at the following link.
http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/int-activities/int-harmony/0002.html

HBD West 2018 Think Tank Meeting is scheduled to be held in the U.S.

3. PMDA-ATC Pharmaceuticals Review Seminar 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand

From December 12 to 15, PMDA held a seminar entitled "PMDA-ATC Pharmaceuticals Review Seminar 2017" in Bangkok, Thailand.This seminar was designed for officials of regulatory agencies overseas engaged in drug reviews, and participated by 20 regulators from Thailand (18) and Sri Lanka (2).

Group photo of participants and PMDA staff
Front row from left to right, Dr. Junko Sato, Office Director, Office of International Cooperation (3rd)

In the seminar, lectures were delivered by PMDA staff on outline of PMDA, activities from clinical trial application to approval, the relief services for sufferers from adverse drug reactions, toxicology, GCP/GLP inspections, product reviews for new drugs and generic drugs, post-marketing safety measures, Risk Management Plan (RMP), and recent challenge to accelerate drug development in Japan. Besides these lectures, the program included the group discussions on product reviews and the presentations by the participants on the regulations of their regulatory authorities. The participants actively engaged in discussions throughout the seminar.

On the final day of the seminar, the course completion certificates were handed to each participant by Dr. Junko Sato, Office Director, Office of International Cooperation.

Please refer to the following web site for the details of PMDA-ATC Pharmaceuticals Review Seminar 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand.

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/symposia/0111.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
Zykadia	ceritinib	December 19
Uptravi	selexipag	January 9

Safety Information

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information No. 349, December 26, 2017

1. Safety of Influenza Antiviral Drugs
2. Suspected Adverse Reactions to Influenza Vaccines in the 2016 Season
3. Important Safety Information
   (1) Clozapine
4. Revision of Precautions (No. 290)
   Clozapine (and 2 others)
5. List of Products Subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance
   (Posted on December 26, 2017)

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

Pharmaceuticals Revisions of PRECAUTIONS, January 11, 2018

- Aripiprazole
- Aripiprazole hydrate
- Teriparatide (genetical recombination)
- Teriparatide acetate
- Edoxaban tosilate hydrate
- Ipilimumab (genetical recombination)
- Lenvatinib mesilate

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

Risk Information which some safety measures might be taken (January 19, 2018)

- Efavirenz
- Iomeprol
- Iohexol (for urinary tract, blood vessel)
- Iohexol (for urinary tract, blood vessel, CT)
- Gardenia fruit
- Seihaito extract
- Bofutsushosan extract
- Shishihakuhito extract
- Kamikihito extract
- Ryutanshakanto extract
- Gorinsan extract
- Unseiin extract
- Keigairengyoto extract
- Saikoseikanto extract
- Seijobofuto extract
- Inchinkoto extract
- Orengedokuto extract
- Shiniseihaito extract
- Kamishoyosan extract
- Products containing gardenia fruit (OTC drug)

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
February 5-8	PMDA-ATC Pharmacovigilance Seminar 2018	Tokyo
February 10-11	APEC-LSIF-RHSC meeting	Singapore
March 19-22	IMDRF Management Committee	Shanghai
March 19-22	The 4th Self-CARER meeting	Taipei

Reports from overseas

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

EMA to relocate to Amsterdam as result of Brexit

The UK held a referendum on EU membership on 23 June 2016, which resulted in a majority support for the UK to leave European Union ("Brexit"). Accordingly, UK issued a notice to leave the EU (triggering of Article 50) on 29 March 2017.

Negotiations related to the Brexit are being conducted between EU and UK, and it is clear that Brexit will have great impact on all medicines-related stakeholders. One of the big events related to the Brexit is the relocation of EMA. The EU Council approved the procedure to decide the EMA's new location on 22 June 2017. There were 19 applications to be the new host city of the EMA submitted by 31 July 2017.

Subsequently, after assessments of these applications by the European Commission (by the end of September 2017) and discussions in the General Affairs Council of the Council of the European Union (on 17 October 2017), the vote to select the new location was held on 20 November 2017 with the result being Amsterdam, in the Netherlands.

As UK is expected to become a third-country for the EU as of 30 March 2019, the relocation will need to be completed before that time. The progress of relocation can be monitored in the EMA website and the EMA is working hard to ensure a smooth transfer, including keeping industry stakeholders and international regulator partners informed of progress.

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

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USP Excipient Monograph 2 Expert Committee Face-to-Face Meeting

The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Excipient Monograph 2 Expert Committee held a face-to-face meeting on December 6-7. This Expert Committee is responsible for global harmonization that includes harmonization of excipient monographs for the Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) as well as for developing and revising these kinds of standards in the United States Pharmacopeia - National Formulary (USP-NF)[1]. The Expert Committee hosts a monthly teleconference and a yearly face-to-face meeting to discuss these standards. In the current face-to-face meeting, the Expert Committee reviewed and discussed the drafts and the other pharmacopoeia's comments for the excipient monographs as well as excipient-related General Chapters which the PDG pharmacopoeias have addressed towards harmonization. Also, they prioritized the topics to be discussed in FY 2018 and discussed the updates of global harmonization activities in which USP has been involved[2]. As a result, the Expert Committee made a decision on the future direction and how to move forward

development of each standard based on the discussion and information provided by the experts and the USP staff.

I had an opportunity to give a presentation on the collaboration between USP and Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP) in this topic of global harmonization activities. I provided the updates of bilateral cooperation since the previous face-to-face meeting including, but not limited to, the conclusion of memorandum of cooperation and confidentiality arrangement, and dispatch of JP experts to the USP Visiting Scientist Program[3)] and several workshops hosted or co-hosted by USP such as workshops on reference standards, particulate contamination and elemental impurities, as well as global harmonization activities such as PDG. I also gave an overview of supplement 1 to the JP 17 edition, which was published on December 1, as the recent activities in JP[4)]. The experts and USP staff showed interest in the JP's activities, especially in activities considering the relationship with regulation in Japan.

I will continue to contribute to the sharing of information regarding each pharmacopoeia's activities because it is critical for effective bilateral cooperation in order to deepen our mutual understanding.

1) 2015-2020 Excipient Monographs 2 Expert Committee Work Plan
   http://www.usp.org/expert-committees/excipient-monographs-2-expert-committee-work-plan
2) Excipient Monograph 2 Expert Committee (EM2 EC) Meeting
   http://www.usp.org/sites/default/files/usp/document/workshops/em2-f-2-f-meeting-agenda.pdf
3) PMDA Updates September, 2017: Reports from overseas
   Dispatch of Japanese expert to USP Visiting Scientist Program
   http://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000220409.pdf
4) JP 17th Edition Supplement I [December 1, 2017, the MHLW Ministerial Notification No. 348]
   http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/rs-sb-std/standards-development/jp/0019.html

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