Acer palmatum. and Tsutenkyo Bridge at Tofukuji Temple

PMDA Updates

November, 2016

News

1. 3rd Brazil-Japan Seminar on Regulations on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices (October 4)

Dr. Yamori

On October 4, the 3rd Brazil-Japan Seminar on Regulations on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices was held in São Paulo, Brazil co-hosted by Ministry of the Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)/PMDA, Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária (ANVISA) and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and attended by about 170 participants from regulatory agencies and industries in Brazil and Japan.

This seminar has been held alternately in Brazil and Japan since 2014, when Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Brazil. It was also held based on the "Memorandum of Cooperation on Pharmacopoeias", which was signed between ANVISA and MHLW in September 2015. Those who participated in the seminar included Dr. Takao Yamori, Executive Director, Mr. Naoyuki Yasuda, Office Director, Office of International Programs and 4 staff members from PMDA.

At the seminar, recent regulatory updates were presented by Brazilian and Japanese regulatory agencies, and the importance of continuous cooperation between industry and regulator was recognized.

The MHLW's press release on the 3rd Brazil-Japan Seminar on Regulations on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices is available at the following link.

http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000140442.html

2. 11th International Summit of Heads of Medicines Regulatory Agencies / International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) (October 11-13)

Group photo of participants including Dr. Kondo (2nd right on the 2nd row), Mr. Mori (3rd right on the 2nd row), Dr. Tominaga (4th left on the 4th row), and Dr. Nakashima (4th right on the 4th row)

The 11th International Summit of Heads of Medicines Regulatory Agencies was held in Interlaken, Switzerland, from October 11 to 13. From PMDA, Dr. Tatsuya Kondo, Chief Executive, Dr. Toshiyoshi Tominaga, Associate Executive Director (for International Programs) and a staff from Office of International Programs, and from Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Mr. Kazuhiko Mori, Minister's Secretariat (for pharmaceutical affairs) and Dr. Nobumasa Nakashima, Office Director for International Regulatory Affairs participated in the Summit. The Summit is held annually to discuss various topics related to pharmaceutical regulations, among the heads of pharmaceutical regulatory agencies. At this year's Summit chaired by Swissmedic, a key note lecture was delivered on cybersecurity in pharmaceutical regulations, and also opinions were exchanged to facilitate development of innovative pharmaceuticals, on the topics including good practices in reviews, information sharing among regulatory authorities, and dialogue with stakeholders.

International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) was established in order to facilitate discussion and to make recommendation on preventing overlap in international regulatory cooperative activities. At the meeting this year, topics including the election of the chair and vice chairs upon completion of the term, and the progress of the existing working group project were discussed (former chair: Canada, former vice chairs: Ireland and Japan; new chair: United Kingdom, new vice-chairs: Australia and Mexico). PMDA made presentations on the updates on its leading projects of ICMRA external website and capacity building.

The next Summit will be held in Kyoto, Japan in October, 2017 alongside of ICMRA meeting, and will be chaired by Japan.

3. 3rd Self-Medication Collaborative Regulator Expert Roundtable (Self-CARER) (October 12-13)

From October 12 to 13, the 3rd Self-Medication Collaborative ASIAN Regulator Expert Roundtable (Self-CARER) was held in Nagoya, Japan and attended by about 30 regulators from Cambodia, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Dr. Lembit Rägo from Council for International Organizations of Medical Science (CIOMS) was invited as a guest speaker to deliver a lecture on international cooperation in Asia in the area of self-medication products. This roundtable, which was arranged following the previous 1st and 2nd Self-CARER held in 2014 and 2015 in Thailand, was chaired by Japan, co-chaired by Thailand, and participated by Mr. Takeyuki Sato, Associate Executive Director (for Medical Devices Review), Mr. Naoyuki Yasuda, Office Director, Office of International Programs, and 6 staff members from PMDA.

Mr. Sato

Group photo of participants including Mr. Saso (4th left on the upper row) and Mr. Yasuda (4th right on the front row)

Discussions at Self-CARER helped to clarify that each country conducted separate review processes for new drugs and self-care medicines. It was also recognized that the common needs among participating regulators were efforts toward an efficient review process and sharing guidelines for reclassifying and switching medicines because of insufficient resources to allocate to review of self-care medicines for each country and region. Participants agreed to continue discussion on these issues in the future.

The next Self-CARER will be held in 2017 at a place TBD.

4. International Generic Drug Regulators Programme (IGDRP) (October 17-20)

From October 17 to 20, the 4th International Generic Drug Regulators Programme (IGDRP) meeting was held in Mexico City, Mexico, which was attended by about 40 participants from 17 countries/regions/organizations. Mr. Naoyuki Yasuda, Office Director, Office of International Programs, one staff member from Office of International Programs and one staff member from MHLW participated. In the Steering Committee meeting from Japan. In addition, 4 staffs from Office of Generic Drugs and a staff from Office of International Programs participated in the Bioequivalence Working Group and the Quality Working Group meetings.

Group photo of Steering Committee participants including Mr. Yasuda (3rd right on the front row)

In the Working Group meetings, current opinions regarding existing projects were shared among participants, and confirmed

action plans toward the next face-to-face meeting. In the Steering Committee meeting, future action policy of the programme was discussed.

The next IGDRP meeting will be held in Ottawa, Canada on May 15-19, 2017.

The details of the IGDRP are available at the following URL.

http://www.igdrp.com/

5. Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) Meeting (October 24-26)

From October 24 to 26, Pharmacopoeial Discussion Group (PDG) Meeting was held at PMDA Tokyo office, co-hosted by PMDA and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW). PDG is an international discussion group comprised of the representatives of the European Pharmacopoeia (EP), U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), and Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP). In this meeting, a new general chapter on Colour (Instrumental method) and a revised general chapter on Amino Acid Determination were signed off. Also, 7 excipient monographs including Hydroxypropylcellulose, Low Substituted were agreed for revision. To date, 30 of the 36 General Chapters and 49 of the 67 excipient monographs on the current work program have been agreed for harmonization. In addition, PDG confirmed that a Stage 4 draft for public enquiry of the "Chromatography" chapter, which is currently on the work program, would be issued in the near future, and that further efforts would be made by the three pharmacopoeias to harmonize "Elemental impurities" text.

The next face-to-face PDG meeting will be hosted by USP, tentatively proposed for the week of May 22, 2017 in the U.S.

Please see the following pdf file for the details of the press release.

http://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000214901.pdf

6. CoRE Scientific Conference 2016 "Frontiers in Good Regulatory Practice" (October 25-26)

From October 25 to 26, Centre of Regulatory Excellence (CoRE) Scientific Conference 2016 "Frontiers in Good Regulatory Practice" was hosted by Duke-NUS Medical School and was held in Singapore. Dr. Tatsuya Kondo, Chief Executive attended the conference on behalf of PMDA. Dr. Kondo delivered a presentation entitled "Update on the Asia Training Centre from PMDA's roadmap" in which he outlined the objectives, current achievements and future plans of the Asia Training Center for Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Regulatory Affairs (PMDA-ATC), established in April 2016 at PMDA. Also, he participated in a panel discussion with representatives from Duke-NUS, U.S.FDA, Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS), etc. During the discussion with other panelists, the importance of providing regulator initiated training far and wide was emphasized.

7. PMDA provides training to regulators and health care professionals from Myanmar (November 1)

On November 1, PMDA provided training as a part of the "project to strengthen access to blood transfusion and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in Myanmar", an international promotion project implemented by National Center for Global Health and Medicine. The training was facilitated by staff members from Office of Relief Funds and Office of Safety II, who delivered lectures on a practical overview of the relief system for adverse health effects and safety measures in the area of blood products in Japan.

Group photo of participants including Dr.Junko Sato, Office Director, Office of International Cooperation (left end on the uppoer row)

A total of 8 regulators/health care professionals from Myanmar attended the training, where an active question and answer session continued beyond the scheduled time, on the topics including the assessment method of adverse reaction and PMDA's role in relief services for adverse health effects. Participants from regulatory authority expressed that their current resource had not allowed to conduct assessment like Japan, but they were impressed by the system in Japan, and appreciated the opportunity for the training.

8. Call for application to PMDA-ATC Multi-Regional Clinical Trial (MRCT) Seminar 2017 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 2017" from January 23 to 26, 2017. This four-day seminar is designed for pharmaceutical 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 Multi –Regional Clinical Trials (MRCT), clinical data analysis, operational considerations, GCP inspections, post-marketing issues and safety measures for approved products based on MRCT, international cooperation and regulatory convergence among regulatory authorities.

The Seminar is held as APEC-LSIF-RHSC's APEC Center of Excellence Pilot Workshop; however, the Seminar is open to non-APEC economies as well.

Please refer to the following web site for the details of PMDA-ATC Multi-Regional Clinical Trial (MRCT) Seminar 2017.

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/symposia/0095.html

Safety Information

Administrative Notice

Administrative Notice: Reports of Adverse Drug Reactions, etc. of Pharmaceuticals

Attachment: Reports of Adverse Drug Reactions, etc. of Pharmaceuticals

(Posted on October 26, 2016, Originally Posted in Japanese on October 2, 2014)

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

Risk Information which some safety measures might be taken (October 28, 2016)

- Polaprezinc
- Famciclovir
- Formaldehyde
- Formalin/Cresol
- Cresol/formalin/clove oil/zinc oxide mixt
- Formalin/Guaiacol
- Alogliptin Benzoate
- Alogliptin Benzoate/ Pioglitazone Hydrochloride
- Linagliptin
- Teneligliptin Hydrobromide Hydrate
- Alogliptin Benzoate/ Metformin Hydrochloride
- Allopurinol
- Zoledronic Acid Hydrate

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

PMDA Medical Safety Information No. 49, November 15, 2016

Precautions against Misuse (Overdose) of Antirheumatic Methotrexate Preparations (Part 2)
http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/safety-information/0001.html

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information No. 338, November 15, 2016

1. Interactions in Co-administration of Miconazole and Warfarin Potassium
2. Safety Measures against Bladder Cancer Associated with Diabetes Medication "Pioglitazone Hydrochloride-Containing Products"
3. Project of the Japan Drug Information Institute in Pregnancy
4. Important Safety Information
   (1) Atorvastatin calcium hydrate (and 6 other HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors)
   (2) Ustekinumab (genetical recombination)
   (3) Nivolumab (genetical recombination)
5. Revision of Precautions (No. 279)
   Warfarin potassium (and 4 others)
6. List of Products Subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance

http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/medical-safety-information/0014.html

Events

Conferences/Meetings PMDA hosts or participates in:

Date	Title	Location
December 5-9	PMDA-ATC GMP Inspection Seminar* (* with the support of PIC/S)	Toyama
December 5-9	ASEAN Medical Device Committee Meeting	Bandar Seri Begawan
December 7-8	4th Joint Conference of Taiwan and Japan on Medical Products Regulation	Tokyo
December 13-16	IMDRF Adverse Event Terminology Working Group Meeting	Tokyo
January 23-26	PMDA-ATC MRCT Seminar 2017	Tokyo
January 26	PMDA-ATC MRCT Workshop	Tokyo

Reports from overseas

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

SME workshop: Focus on non-clinical aspects

A workshop about non-clinical aspects which mainly targeted micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) was hosted by EMA on 3 October 2016. As SMEs may not be familiar with product development, including considerations for scientific and regulatory requirements, the speakers at the workshop made much effort to provide easily-understandable information.

The topics of the workshop included introduction of consideration points and useful guidelines for non-clinical studies in drug development, identification of discussion points in non-clinical development of biological products and advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs) (in comparison to those in development of drugs), and utilization of product development support tools such as Scientific Advice and PRIME. A broad range of content related to non-clinical studies was covered at this workshop. In addition, the speakers referred to ICH guidelines in various explanations.

The venue with capacity of more than 100 persons was filled with participants, and opinions and questions were raised actively. This workshop definitely gave stakeholders, including developers, experts and regulators, a good opportunity to promote mutual understanding of expected matters from each point of view at a non-clinical stage of product development.

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

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Reference Standard Symposium

The 12th Annual International Symposium on Pharmaceutical Reference Standards was co-hosted by United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) and European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and HealthCare (EDQM) at the USP headquarters on November 3-4. The trends and approaches in management of reference standards, impurity reference standards, biological reference standards and others were introduced in this symposium. In addition, the challenges for interchangeability of reference standards between pharmacopoeias and development of monoclonal antibody reference standards were discussed. One of the Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP) Expert Committee members, Dr. Hiroko Shibata who works at the National Institute of Health Sciences (NIHS), attended this symposium and gave a presentation on the overview and challenges of reference standards in JP.

In the JP 17th Edition, which was published this year, reference standards were defined clearly and the name of some reference standards were revised to clarify the applicable analysis. Additionally, the specific work plans in the Basic Principles the Preparation of JP 18th Edition include, for example, the continued consideration of reference standards concepts, cooperation between expert committees for characterization of reference standards, establishment of a policy for reference standards based on evolving scientific methods and international trends, and reinforcement of the reference standards supply system .

Through participation in this symposium, I was able to develop my understanding of the process by which USP supplies a wide variety of reference standards in conjunction with the documentary standards. By doing so, I hope to contribute to facilitation for information exchange and cooperation of reference standards between USP and JP.

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

Dispatch to Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. FDA

I am Takashi Misu and I have been dispatched to the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology (OSE), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), U.S.FDA for one year beginning in September 2016. The primary purposes of my dispatch are learning a variety of postmarketing safety activities at the U.S.FDA, conducting a regulatory science study in OSE, and contributing to further improvement of the relationship between U.S.FDA and PMDA.

The main functions of the OSE are pharmacovigilance, including signal detection and evaluation; pharmacoepidemiology, which involves population-based assessments of drug risk; medication error prevention; and developing or revising a risk management program. OSE is also involved in updating drug labels and in drug safety communications. These activities are performed by OSE's Divisions of Pharmacovigilance I and II, Divisions of Epidemiology I and II, Division of Medication Error Prevention and Analysis, and Division of Risk Management. The number of the OSE employees is about three hundred, including pharmacists, physicians, pharmacoepidemiologists, and other specialists.

I am going to report in PMDA Updates what I learn from these trainings and from what I acquire from my own study.

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