



Mt. Fuji and sunrise

PMDA Updates

January, 2019

News

1. Chief Executive Dr. Kondo's New Year Message for 2019

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

This fiscal year, PMDA marks the 15th year of its establishment, and the final year of implementation of the PMDA's 3rd 5-year mid-term plan. For the last 15 years, PMDA has strengthened 3 main roles; new product reviews, post-marketing safety measures and a relief service for adverse drug reactions. As a result, PMDA could reduce review period and solved other problems.

However, to continue being the world's top running agencies, PMDA needs cross-sectional initiatives which organically connect 3 main roles. They are "Promotion of Regulatory Science", "International Cooperation" and "Strengthened Organizational Structure".

First, for "Promotion of Regulatory Science", PMDA has centralized PMDA's Regulatory Science-related activities and established Regulatory Science Center in April last year. We expect this Center can address and streamline resolution to scientific issues, improve quality of review and safety measures and activate discussions with each stakeholder.

Next, for "International Cooperation", PMDA made "PMDA International Strategic Plan 2015" which defines PMDA's international strategy for the next 10 years. Based on the strategy, PMDA promotes international harmonization and contributes to capacity building for other regulatory agencies through "Asia Training Center for Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Regulatory Affairs".

For "Straightened Organizational Structure", PMDA started "PMDA Proceeding Project". Under this project, PMDA implemented various initiatives to promote organizational governance. Especially, we introduced Flextime system to make better work environment for all PMDA staff. This is one of "Work style reforms" initiative.

Lastly, guided by the concept of "Regulatory Science", PMDA will keep offering citizens-focused services to deliver innovative medical products faster to patients and realize a more holistic healthcare.

Once again, I wish you all health, prosperity, and happiness in the year 2019.



Dr. Kondo, Chief Executive of PMDA

2. 4th Brazil-Japan Seminar on Regulations on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices

On December 3, the 4th Brazil-Japan Seminar on Regulations on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices was held in Tokyo, Japan. It was 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 was attended by about 140 participants from regulatory agencies and industries in Brazil and Japan. PMDA participants included Dr. Kondo, Chief Executive; Dr. Hayashi, Executive Director; Dr. Nakashima, Senior Director; Dr. Sato, Director for Office of International Programs; and 5 staff members. Also, Mr. Mori,



Group photo of participants

Councilor for Pharmaceutical Affairs; Mr. Yasuda, Director for Office of International Regulatory Affairs; Mr. Ura, Deputy Director for Office of International Regulatory Affairs; and 7 staff members from MHLW and 5 members from ANVISA attended as well.

In the seminar, the regulatory updates and approach to quality control of pharmaceuticals and medical devices were provided from Brazilian and Japanese regulatory agencies. Also, the industries from both countries shared their latest activities and had the active exchange of views on the importance and challenges of international harmonization.

The program and presentation materials on this seminar are available at the following link.

http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_02862.html

3. Japanese delegation visits China

From December 4th to 5th, high-level meeting and forum between Japanese delegation and China National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) were held in Beijing, China. This is a part of annual event, in which Japanese government and industry visit China together and develop Japan-China cooperation in the area of public health through political dialogue. Participants from Japanese government side included Dr. Kondo, Chief Executive, Dr. Nakashima, Senior Director for International Programs from PMDA; and from MHLW, Dr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister for Health, Chief Medical & Global Health Officer and Mr. Yasuda, Office Director of International regulatory Affairs participated.

At the high-level meeting with NMPA, opinions on pharmaceutical regulation were exchanged and both countries shared the view that cooperation between regulatory agencies is important. At the Forum, Dr. Nakashima gave a presentation on "Japanese efforts towards Innovative Technology and International Cooperation through Asia Training Center" and introduced Japanese latest activities on pharmaceutical regulation.

This opportunity expected to enhance reliability to each other's regulatory systems and promote Japan-China cooperation.



Presentation from Dr. Nakashima at the forum

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	Non-proprietary Name	Posting date
Parsabiv	etelcalcetide hydrochloride	December 17
Treakisym	bendamustine hydrochloride	December 25
Stivarga	regorafenib hydrate	January 17

Medical Devices

<http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/review-services/reviews/approved-information/devices/0003.htm>

Brand Name	Term Name	Posting date
Kawasumi Najuta Thoracic Stent Graft System	aortic stent graft	January 16

Safety Information

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Safety Information No. 359, December 25, 2018

1. Safety of Influenza Antiviral Drugs
2. Suspected Adverse Reactions to Influenza vaccines in the 2017 Season
3. Important Safety Information
 1. (1) Aluminum potassium sulfate hydrate/tannic acid (with saline)
(2) Aluminum potassium sulfate hydrate/tannic acid (with analgesic agents)
 2. Calcitriol (injectable dosage form)
 3. Freeze-dried live attenuated varicella vaccine
4. Revision of Precautions (No. 299)
Aluminum potassium sulfate hydrate/tannic acid (with saline)(and 3 others)
5. List of Products Subject to Early Post-marketing Phase Vigilance
<http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/medical-safety-information/0016.html>

Pharmaceuticals Revisions of PRECAUTIONS, January 10, 2019

- Nusinersen sodium
 - Axitinib
 - Lenalidomide hydrate
 - Ofloxacin (oral dosage form)
 - Garenoxacin mesilate hydrate
 - Ciprofloxacin
 - Tosufloxacin tosilate hydrate (oral preparations with dosage and administration for pediatric use)
 - Pazufloxacin mesilate
 - Moxifloxacin hydrochloride (oral dosage form)
 - Levofloxacin hydrate (oral dosage form)
 - Levofloxacin hydrate (injectable dosage form)
 - Lomefloxacin hydrochloride (oral dosage form)
 - Sitafoxacin hydrate
 - Ciprofloxacin hydrochloride hydrate
 - Tosufloxacin tosilate hydrate (oral preparations without dosage and administration for pediatric use)
 - Norfloxacin (oral dosage form)
 - Prulifloxacin
 - Asunaprevir
 - Daclatasvir hydrochloride
 - Daclatasvir hydrochloride/asunaprevir/beclabuvir hydrochloride
- <http://www.pmda.go.jp/english/safety/info-services/drugs/revision-of-precautions/0006.html>

Risk Information which some safety measures might be taken (January 18, 2019)

- Glecaprevir hydrate/pibrentasvir
 - Trastuzumab (genetical recombination)
 - Trastuzumab (genetical recombination) follow-on biologic 1
 - Trastuzumab (genetical recombination) follow-on biologic 2
 - Trastuzumab (genetical recombination) follow-on biologic 3
 - Nivolumab (genetical recombination)
 - Pembrolizumab (genetical recombination)
 - Palbociclib
 - Eliglustat tartrate
- <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 5-7	31st DIA Euro Meeting	Vienna
February 27 to March 2	APEC-LSIF-RHSC Meeting	Santiago
March 18-21	IMDRF Management Committee Meeting	Moscow

Reports from overseas

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

Workshop of quality development in PRIME

EMA launched PRIME system in March 2016 and promote early development of unmet need medicinal products. Based on the implementation of the system for more than 2 years, in cooperation with FDA, EMA hosted a workshop on 26 November 2018 in order to share experiences, challenges and actions to be taken in relation to quality development of the PRIME designated products in EU and Breakthrough Therapy designated products in USA.¹⁾

In this workshop, viewpoints of quality matters such as process validation, control strategy and GMP compliance were shared among regulatory authorities and developers. Challenges based on differences in characteristics between chemical products and biological products were also discussed.

In addition, development experiences of PRIME designated products were presented. Sharing specific key issues of product development related to quality aspects among stakeholders can contribute to smooth operation of the system in the future. As early development and accelerated product assessment of Sakigake designated medical products, similar to those designated under PRIME, are being tackled in Japan, the findings obtained from this workshop would be useful as well.

- 1) <http://www.ema.europa.eu/en/events/stakeholder-workshop-support-quality-development-early-access-approaches-such-prime-breakthrough>

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

Exploring Pharmaceutical Continuous Manufacturing (PCM) at the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)

Although batch process, in which a certain batch size of product is manufactured stepwisely, has occupied mainstream in the field of pharmaceutical manufacturing, PCM which will make manufacturing process more effective recently gets a lot of attentions. In International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH), which is formed by industry and regulatory agency in order to discuss scientific and technical aspects of drug registration, PCM was endorsed as new topic (Q13) and the discussion of its regulatory framework was started in 2018²⁾.

Pharmacopoeias are expected to play roles as official documents that define the specifications, criteria, and standard test methods necessary to properly assure the quality of pharmaceuticals, although their legal definitions are different from each countries/regions. In order to catch up the paradigm shift triggered by introduction of PCM, USP held round-table discussion on PCM with academia, industry and regulators in June, 2016, followed by forming Expert Panel on PCM, and moves forward with their exploration on PCM²⁾. Their works were summarized as an article (Stimuli) and published in Pharmacopeial Forum in November, 2018, in order to hear opinions from stakeholders³⁾. This Stimuli includes chapters on definition of terms, material characterization to be considered, and regulatory framework for implementing PCM. USP also joins ICH-Q13 Expert Working Group as Observer and contributes international discussion.

- 1) <http://www.ich.org/products/guidelines/quality/quality-single/article/technical-and-regulatory-considerations-for-pharmaceutical-product-lifecycle-management-copy-1.html>
- 2) <http://www.usp.org/research-innovation/pharmaceutical-continuous-manufacturing>
- 3) USP-PF 44(6), USP (Pharmacopeial) Perspective for Pharmaceutical Continuous Manufacturing, 2018.

Dr. Hiroshi Takeda
PMDA's Liaison Officer stationed at USP in the U.S.A
