

News release

Kyowa Kirin Announces Termination of Agreement with Zeria Pharmaceutical on ASACOL[®]

Tokyo, Japan, February 3, 2020 --- Kyowa Kirin Co., Ltd. (TSE: 4151, President and CEO: Masashi Miyamoto, “Kyowa Kirin”) today announces that its co-development and co-marketing agreement with Zeria Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.(TSE: 4559, President and COO: Mitsuhiro Ibe, Zeria Pharmaceutical) regarding ASACOL[®](generic name: mesalazine), an anti-inflammatory agent used to treat ulcerative colitis in Japan, will be terminated on March 31, 2020.

ASACOL is an enteric-coated tablet which releases the active ingredient mesalazine pH-dependently, and was launched in Japan in December 2009. Kyowa Kirin signed an agreement with Zeria Pharmaceutical for the co-development and co-marketing of ASACOL in Japan, January, 2007 (The agreement). Under the terms of the agreement, ASACOL is manufactured by Zeria Pharmaceutical and has been distributed by both the companies under one brand name.

With the termination of the agreement, Kyowa Kirin will finish its sales & marketing activity for ASACOL on March 31, 2020, and Zeria Pharmaceutical will obtain the full rights of the sales & marketing activities for ASACOL from April 1, 2020.

The Kyowa Kirin Group companies strive to contribute to the health and well-being of people around the world by creating new value through the pursuit of advances in life sciences and technologies.

About Ulcerative colitis

Ulcerative colitis is an inflammatory disease that erosion and ulceration happen on the mucous membrane (the innermost layer) of the colon, and is designated as an intractable disease in Japan (designated intractable disease 97). Main symptoms are diarrhea with or without melena and common abdominal pain. Lesions are continuous and ascending (oral) from the rectum, and can extend up to the entire colon from the rectum. (Cited and translated from the website of Japan Intractable Diseases Information Center as of January 2020)