Osaka, Japan, April 1, 2015—Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (President and Representative Director, CEO: Masayuki Mitsuka; hereinafter, “the Company”) and Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc. (Head Office: San Diego, U.S.) have concluded a license agreement on NBI-98854 as of 31st March, 2015. Through this agreement, the Company has acquired exclusive development and commercialization rights for NBI-98854 in Japan and Asian countries.

NBI-98854 inhibits VMAT2 (vesicular monoamine transporter type 2), which is located in nerve endings, thereby reducing the uptake of dopamine and other neurotransmitters into presynaptic vesicles and normalizing the function of dopaminergic neurons associated with occurrence of involuntary movement. As a result of this agreement, the Company plans to move ahead with the development of NBI-98854 for indications of Huntington’s chorea and tardive dyskinesia initially. The Company will have further discussion about additional indications with Neurocrine Biosciences.

Huntington’s disease is a hereditary and progressive neurodegenerative disorder that has been designated as intractable disease in Japan. Predominant symptoms are involuntary movement, mainly chorea; psychiatric symptoms; and cognitive impairment. With Huntington’s disease, the modulation of dopamine level at the site of intracerebral lesions is thought to improve involuntary movement.

Tardive dyskinesia is a type of involuntary movement arising from the long-term administration of antipsychotic drugs or other drugs. Increased dopamine sensitivity is considered to be a causal factor. Symptoms, which differ by patient, are principally facial, but also common in the extremities and torso. Severe cases can lead to dysphagia or respiratory distress. NBI-98854 is expected to be the first agent for tardive dyskinesia in Japan.

In accordance with this agreement, Neurocrine Biosciences receives an upfront payment of $30 million. Moreover, Neurocrine Biosciences is eligible to receive up to $85 million in additional milestone payments associated with the development and commercialization of NBI-98854 in the Company’s territory.

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation has identified central nervous system diseases as one of its strategic areas and will aggressively work to develop new drugs that address unmet medical needs.

<For Details, Contact the Following Section>
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