



January 23, 2018

**To ALS patients in the world, we hope to deliver Japan-originated ALS treatment
Swissmedic accepts our filing for Edaravone to treat ALS**

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (MTPC) (Head Office: Osaka; President & Representative Director, CEO: Masayuki Mitsuka), announced today that the Swissmedic has accepted MTPC's filing for edaravone (Japan name: RADICUT® BAG for I.V. Infusion 30mg. US name: RADICAVA®) an intravenous treatment for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a rapidly progressive neurological disease on December 22, 2017.

ALS is an idiopathic neurodegenerative disease in which motor neurons selectively degenerate and vanish. Muscle strength declines throughout the entire body, including the limb, facial, and respiratory muscles, and muscular atrophy progress. While the cause for the majority of cases is not well understood but may involve genetic and environmental factors. It is one of the most well-known neuromuscular diseases, affecting approximately two in 100,000 people worldwide. As many as 500 to 600 people are estimated to be affected by ALS in Switzerland.

Edaravone is a free-radical scavenger that was discovered by Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma. It is thought that edaravone has the effect of scavenging free radicals, which increase in ALS, protecting motor neurons from oxidative stress, and delaying the decline in muscle strength and the progress of muscular atrophy.

MTPC accomplished the clinical research program in patients diagnosed with ALS in Japan. Edaravone was approved for use as a treatment for ALS in Japan, June 2015, South Korea, December 2015 and the U.S., May 2017.

MTPC will strive to deliver edaravone to patients fighting against ALS all over the world.

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■ About edaravone

Edaravone is a free-radical scavenger that was discovered by Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma. It was approved by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in April 2001 as a treatment agent for the acute stage of cerebral infarction. In Japan, it is being marketed under the product name RADICUT®. Edaravone has the effect of scavenging free radicals that arise accompanying cerebral ischemia, controlling the lipid peroxidation reaction, and protecting neurons in the region of the ischemia and the surrounding region. Accordingly, it is thought that edaravone has the effect of scavenging free radicals, which increase in ALS, protecting motor neurons from oxidative stress, and delaying the decline in muscle strength and the progress of muscular atrophy.