

Kissei buys exclusive rights of Tavalisse in Asian countries

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Japanese drugmaker Kissei Pharmaceutical has acquired exclusive rights to develop and commercialize Tavalisse (fostamatinib disodium) in all current and potential indications in Japan, China, Taiwan and the Republic of Korea, from USA-based biotech Rigel Pharmaceuticals.

Tavalisse is commercially available in the USA for the treatment of thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) who has had an insufficient response to a previous treatment.

Under the terms of the agreement, Rigel will get an upfront cash payment of \$33 million, with the potential for an additional \$147 million in development and commercial milestone payments, and will receive product transfer price payments in the mid to upper 20% range based on tiered net sales for the exclusive supply of Tavalisse.

Kissei will initially seek local country approval for Tavalisse in ITP and conduct clinical studies as required by the country's Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency. Japan has the third highest prevalence of chronic ITP in the world behind the USA and European Union. The EU is another significant market in which Rigel is exploring partnership opportunities.