

Eisai submits application in Europe to seek approval for Fycompa

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Discovered at Eisai's Tsukuba Research Laboratories, Fycompa is used as treatment for pediatric patients with epilepsy



Eisai Co., Ltd. has announced that it has submitted an application to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for its in-house discovered antiepileptic drug (AED) Fycompa (perampanel) seeking approval for use in pediatric patients with epilepsy.

This application aims to expand the indication for Fycompa, which is already approved for adjunctive use in patients aged 12 years and older with partial-onset seizures (with or without secondarily generalized seizures) or primarily generalized tonic-clonic seizures, to cover pediatric patients as well.

This application was based on the results of Phase III (Study 311) and Phase II (Study 232) clinical studies conducted globally to evaluate Fycompa as adjunctive therapy in pediatric patients. Study 311 evaluated the safety, tolerability, as well as relationship between efficacy and blood concentration of Fycompa when administered as an adjunctive therapy in pediatric patients (age 4 to less than 12 years) with inadequately controlled partial-onset seizures or tonic-clonic seizures. Study 232 evaluated the pharmacokinetics, efficacy, and long-term safety of adjunctive perampanel in pediatric patients (from 2 to less than 12 years of age). Detailed results of both studies will be presented at upcoming academic conferences, respectively.

Discovered at Eisai's Tsukuba Research Laboratories, Fycompa is a first-in-class AED that is a highly selective, noncompetitive AMPA receptor antagonist which reduces neuronal hyperexcitation by targeting glutamate activity at AMPA receptors on postsynaptic membranes. Available in tablet form to be taken orally once daily, Fycompa has been approved in over 55 countries in the world and has been used to treat more than 200,000 patients worldwide to date. Regarding the indication covering pediatric patients, Fycompa was approved in the United States in September 2018, and an application was submitted in Japan in January 2019.

It is estimated that there are approximately 6 million patients with epilepsy in Europe, and although onset occurs at any age, onset is most common in people aged 18 and younger and the elderly.

Eisai considers neurology including epilepsy, a therapeutic area of focus, and in continued pursuit of our mission to provide "seizure freedom" to a greater number of patients living with epilepsy. Eisai seeks to address the diverse needs of, as well as increasing the benefits provided to, patients with epilepsy and their families.

Fycompa is a first-in-class AED discovered and developed by Eisai. With epileptic seizures being mediated by the neurotransmitter glutamate, the agent is a highly selective, noncompetitive AMPA receptor antagonist that reduces neuronal hyperexcitation associated with seizures by targeting glutamate activity at AMPA receptors on postsynaptic membranes. Fycompa is available in tablet form to be taken once daily orally at bedtime. In addition, an oral suspension formulation has been approved in the United States.

Fycompa is currently approved in more than 55 countries and territories, including the United States, Japan, in Europe and in Asia as adjunctive treatment for partial-onset seizures (with or without secondarily generalized seizures) in patients with epilepsy 12 years of age and older. An application seeking approval for use in the adjunctive treatment of partial-onset seizures is under review in China, which has been designated for Priority Review. In addition, Fycompa has been approved in more than 50 countries, including the United States, Japan, in Europe and in Asia for treatment as an adjunctive therapy for tonic-clonic seizures in patients with generalized epilepsy 12 years of age and older. In the United States, Fycompa is approved for monotherapy and adjunctive use in the treatment of partial-onset seizures (with or without secondarily generalized seizures) in patients with epilepsy 4 years of age and older. In Japan, a supplementary new drug application has been filed seeking approval of Fycompa for use as monotherapy for partial-onset seizures, treatment for partial-onset seizures in pediatric patients aged 4 years and older, as well as a fine granule formulation.

Furthermore, Eisai is conducting a global Phase III clinical study (Study 338) for the agent in patients with epileptic seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome.