

Eisai receives recognition for contribution towards liver diseases

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Japan based pharmaceutical firm Eisai announced that it has received the President's Award at the 8th Technology Management and Innovation Awards held by the Japan Techno-Economics Society (JATES).

The award was presented to Eisai for its discovery of the orally available kinase inhibitor LENVIMA® (generic name: lenvatinib mesylate) and its contributions towards patients with liver disease.

The Technology Management and Innovation Awards was established in 2012 with the aim of contributing to the development of Japan's economy, social transformation, and global competitiveness by introducing a wide range of outstanding innovations originating in Japan. This year marks the 8th anniversary of the award.

This award symbolizes high evaluation for Eisai's creation of the new treatment LENVIMA in Japan, the expedition of contributions towards patients through its strategic collaboration with Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., U.S.A. (known as MSD outside the United States and Canada) to globally co-develop and co-promote LENVIMA, and Eisai's efforts to support patients with liver disease based on its corporate philosophy.

LENVIMA was discovered at Eisai's Tsukuba Research Laboratories. It is an orally administered multiple receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) inhibitor that selectively inhibits the kinase activities of proangiogenic pathway-related RTKs. Eisai obtained approval of manufacturing and marketing in Japan for LENVIMA indicated for the treatment of unresectable thyroid cancer in March 2015.

In March 2018, LENVIMA received its first approval worldwide with additional indication for unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in Japan. LENVIMA thus became the first systemic therapy to be approved in Japan for front-line treatment of HCC in approximately 10 years.

Eisai positions oncology as a key franchise area and aims to create innovative drugs that act towards healing cancer.