

Japan's Tanabe sells Pharma Factory to Towa Pharmaceutical

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Tanabe Pharma Factory will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Towa Pharmaceutical



Japan-based Tanabe Pharma has decided to transfer the domestic manufacturing and marketing approvals, manufacturing and marketing rights, and related assets for 17 products across 35 specifications, including Urso, Depas, and Brotizolam, to Towa Pharmaceutical.

The transfer will begin in phases from April 2027. Until the process is completed, Tanabe Pharma will work with Towa Pharmaceutical to provide product information, promote appropriate use, and ensure a stable supply of these medicines.

Tanabe Pharma has traditionally managed research and development, manufacturing, and sales. However, following its decision to divest Tanabe Pharma Factory, the company is shifting to a business model that does not rely on owning primary manufacturing facilities. This strategic move will allow the company to focus on research and development as well as business development.

The company has stated that transferring the business to Towa Pharmaceutical represents the best path forward for Tanabe Pharma Factory, enabling it to build on its technical capabilities and manufacturing expertise while supporting future growth.

Towa Pharmaceutical, one of Japan's leading generic pharmaceutical companies, operates one of the country's largest production and supply networks. Following the transfer, Tanabe Pharma Factory is expected to become one of Towa Pharmaceutical's core domestic manufacturing operations.

Tanabe Pharma plans to transfer all shares of Tanabe Pharma Factory to Towa Pharmaceutical by the end of November 2026, subject to completion of the transaction.

Products currently manufactured at the Onoda and Yoshitomi plants will continue to be produced at these facilities under a contract manufacturing arrangement after the transfer.

The companies have not disclosed the value of the transaction due to a mutual confidentiality agreement.