

FDA grants orphan status to Eisai cancer drug

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Singapore: Eisai announced that the US FDA has granted orphan drug designation to its investigational drug lenvatinib (E7080) for follicular, medullary, anaplastic and metastatic or locally advanced papillary thyroid cancer.

[Eisai's anti-cancer agent multi-kinase inhibitor lenvatinib mesylate \(lenvatinib\) had in August 2012 received orphan drug designation from Japan's Ministry of Labor, Health and Welfare for the treatment of thyroid cancer.](#)

The Orphan Drug Act (ODA) allows FDA to grant orphan status to a drug that has the potential for the treatment, diagnosis or prevention of a rare disease or disorder that affects fewer than 200,000 people in the US.