

Launching NOBELBAR[®] 250mg for Injection
Drug for the Treatment of Neonatal Seizures and Status Epilepticus
Japan's first Phenobarbital drug for intravenous injection
First application for neonatal seizures in the world

December 15, 2008
Nobelpharma Co., Ltd.

Nobelpharma Co., Ltd. (headquarters in Chuo-ku, Tokyo; Jin Shiomura, Representative Director and CEO) launched NOBELBAR[®] 250mg for Injection (generic name: Phenobarbital sodium), a drug for treatment of neonatal seizures and status epilepticus, on December 16, 2008.

The NHI price for NOBELBAR[®] 250mg for Injection, the first intravenous Phenobarbital drug in Japan, and the first application for neonatal seizures in the world, was listed on December 12. The drug will be sold exclusively through business partner Alfresa Pharma Corporation (headquarters in Chuo-ku, Osaka; Tetsuo Kure, President and CEO).

Characteristics of NOBELBAR[®] 250mg for Injection

- 1) First application for neonatal seizures obtained in the world.
- 2) Dosages are possible for status epilepticus for infants through adults.
- 3) It is the first Phenobarbital drug for intravenous injection in Japan, and is completely free of additives.

There was strong demand from the medical field to develop this drug as it is essential for the treatment of neonatal seizures and status epilepticus, and it was classified as an orphan drug under the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law in 2005. Phase III studies were conducted through Physician-led clinical trials as a project for promoting clinical research of Japan Medical Association Center for Clinical Trials.

Intravenous injection of Phenobarbital is recommended as a medicine for neonatal seizures and status epilepticus in physician's textbooks and therapeutic guidelines that are international standards, but so far there has not been an appropriate injection drug in Japan, and it has been an unmet medical need. Launch of this drug means that treatment of neonatal seizures and status epilepticus meeting international standards may now be possible in Japan, and we expect it to contribute to medical treatment needs.

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