

November 30, 2016

Announcing a Comprehensive Business Tie-up between Nobelpharma and ASKA Pharmaceutical in the Field of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Nobelpharma Co., Ltd. (Chuo-ku, Tokyo) and ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Minato-ku, Tokyo) are announcing that they have entered a contract today to form a comprehensive business tie-up for medicines for medical treatment in the field of obstetrics and gynecology.

Since Nobelpharma was founded in 2003 its mission has been to "contribute to society by providing necessary but neglected pharmaceuticals and medical devices," and the Company has primarily developed drugs for intractable and rare diseases. ASKA Pharmaceutical has been a specialty pharmaceutical company in the field of obstetrics and gynecology since it was founded in 1920, providing products for women's healthcare, and currently continues its efforts to provide a full line of products in that field. In this business tie-up the companies have agreed that ASKA Pharmaceutical will contract to provide manufacturing and sales promotion support, such as for NPC-16 currently under development by Nobelpharma for the field of obstetrics and gynecology.

Nobelpharma and ASKA Pharmaceutical will promote a cooperative framework in the field of obstetrics and gynecology based on this contract, and will strive to respond to increasingly advanced medical needs to provide new value to patients and medical caregivers.

[About the ASKA]

Please follow this link to the ASKA Pharmaceutical website for more information. <u>http://www.aska-pharma.co.jp/english/index.html</u>

[About NPC-16]

NPC-16 is the first monophasic combination drug in Japan that includes global-standard levonorgestrel for progesterone and ethynylestradiol for estrogen. This formula uses ultra-low doses of estrogen, and is expected to reduce the risk of the serious adverse effects of thrombosis. Currently it is in Phase III clinical trials in Japan for treatment of dysmenorrhea.