Mochida files New Drug Application for an Anti-depressant, Escitalopram in Japan

Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

(Tokyo, September 15, 2010) Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Head office: Tokyo, Japan, President : Naoyuki Mochida, hereinafter : Mochida) today announced that the company filed a new drug application (NDA) for escitalopram as codenamed MLD-55, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI), for the treatment of depression with the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) .

Escitalopram is an SSRI originated by H. Lundbeck A/S (Head office: Copenhagen, Denmark, CEO: Ulf Wiinberg), and is available in more than 90 countries with a good record of achievement since it was launched as Cipralex® in European countries and Lexapro® in the United States in 2002.

In Japan, Mochida started the development of escitalopram in 2002 and conducted clinical trials in depression patients. The results of these studies confirmed its efficacy and tolerability, which led to the filing. Mochida will continue to strive to obtain the marketing authorization for escitalopram, contributing to the treatment of depression in Japan.

After the manufacturing and sales approval for escitalopram, Mochida and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (Head Office : Osaka, Japan, President & CEO : Michihiro Tsuchiya, hereinafter: Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma) will co-market the product, and Yoshitomiyakuhin Corporation (Head Office : Osaka, Japan, President & CEO : Yoshikazu Nakao), a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma, will participate in the promotion.

Contacts for inquiries:
Public Relations, Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.
E-mail webmaster@mochida.co.jp