

August 27, 2013

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## **Rheumatoid Arthritis Drug ORENCIA<sup>®</sup> SC 125mg Syringe 1mL Launched in Japan**

Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka City; President and Representative Director: Gyo Sagara; "Ono") and Bristol-Myers K.K. (Head Office: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Emmanuel Blin; "BMKK") are delighted to announce that the two companies today launched the rheumatoid arthritis drug ORENCIA<sup>®</sup> Subcutaneous Injection 125mg Syringe 1mL (generic name: abatacept (genetic recombination), "ORENCIA<sup>®</sup> SC").

ORENCIA<sup>®</sup> SC suppresses the release of cytokines by inhibiting the signals that activate T-cells, resulting in the suppression of joint inflammation. As of August 2013, the product has been approved in a total of over 40 countries, including the United States and the countries of the European Union. In Japan, the product was approved by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to be manufactured and marketed with an indication for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (only for patients with an inadequate response to prior conventional therapy) on June 28, 2013

The new product uses a prefilled syringe with an attached needle cover, which can be expected to reduce the risk of infections from needle use and improve safety for both healthcare professionals and rheumatoid arthritis patients. Where physicians deem it appropriate, the product can be used by patients for self-injection. Along with the preparation for intravenous infusion which is already on the market, the addition of a new formulation for subcutaneous injection allows patients to receive treatment that matches their own lifestyle, making an even greater contribution to the treatment of patients worried by rheumatoid arthritis.

Information on the appropriate use of ORENCIA<sup>®</sup> is available on the website [www.orencia.jp](http://www.orencia.jp), which is intended for healthcare professionals.

**About rheumatoid arthritis (RA)**

Rheumatoid arthritis is a chronic autoimmune disease characterized by inflammation of joint synovium. Major symptoms are pain and swelling of joints in hands and legs/feet. When inflammation of joint synovium progresses or is prolonged, joints being to destruct, causing advanced functional disability that interfere with daily routines and reduces quality of life (QOL). For further information on RA, please visit the Rheumatism Tea Room at <http://www.bms.co.jp/ra/index.html>.

## Overview of ORENCIA® SC 125mg Syringe 1mL

Product name	ORENCIA® SC 125mg Syringe 1mL
General name	Abatacept (Genetic recombination)
Approval date for production/ distribution	June 28, 2013
NHI price listing	August 27, 2013
Product launch	August 27, 2013
NHI price	27,171 yen
Manufacturer / Distributor(Importer)	Bristol-Myers K.K.
Distributor	Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.
Indication or usage	Rheumatoid arthritis (only for patients with an inadequate response to prior conventional therapy)
Dosage and Administration	Following an intravenous loading dose with the ORENCIA® IV, 125mg subcutaneous injection of ORENCIA® SC should be given within the first administration day, followed by 125mg subcutaneous injections once weekly for adult patients. Weekly 125mg subcutaneous injections of ORENCIA® SC may also be initiated.

## Product Photo



### **Collaboration between Ono and BMKK**

Ono and BMKK concluded an agreement to jointly promote ORENCIA® in September 21, 2011, and, commenced co-promotion of ORENCIA® IV on June 4, 2013. The two companies have also been co-developing ORENCIA®. With ORENCIA® IV and ORENCIA® SC, we will further contribute to the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

### **About Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.**

Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. is a R&D-oriented pharmaceutical company specialized in creating innovative medicines in specific areas and is headquartered in Osaka, Japan. For more information about Ono, visit the company's website at [www.ono.co.jp/eng/index.html](http://www.ono.co.jp/eng/index.html)

### **About Bristol-Myers K.K.**

Bristol-Myers K.K. is the Japanese subsidiary of Bristol-Myers Squibb, a global biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover, develop and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases. For further information, visit the company's website at <http://www.bms.co.jp>.

### **Contacts:**

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