Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited
1-1, DOSHOMACHI 4-CHOME,CHUO-KU, OSAKA 540-8645, JAPAN

News Release

Contact:
Public Relations
Tel: +81-6-6204-2412 (Osaka)
+81-3-3278-2039(Tokyo)

Additional Indication of Non-erosive Reflux Esophagitis Approved for Takepron® Capsules 15 and Takepron® OD Tablets 15

Osaka, Japan, June 16, 2006 --- Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited ("Takeda") announced today that, on June 15, an additional indication of non-erosive reflux esophagitis was approved for Takepron® (generic name: lansoprazole) Capsules 15 and Takepron OD (*) tablets 15. An application for this indication was submitted in September 2004. The dosage and administration for non-erosive reflux esophagitis are; a daily oral dose of 15mg once a day and the usual administration should be limited up to 4 weeks.
(*) OD: orally dispersing

Reflux esophagitis or GERD (*), which is caused by regurgitation of gastric contents, is classified into "erosive" and "non-erosive". The latter is associated with symptoms such as heartburn but without lesion in esophagus, and more than 50% of reflux esophagitis cases in Japan.
(*) GERD: gastroesophageal reflux disease

Takepron has become the first proton pump inhibitor approved for non-erosive reflux esophagitis by Japanese health authorities, and therefore, Takeda is required to conduct post marketing surveillance studies specifically for non-erosive reflux esophagitis indication.

The indications of Takepron approved before addition of this new indication are; Gastric ulcer, Duodenal ulcer, stomach ulcer, Reflux esophagitis, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, Adjunct to Helicobacter pylori eradication in the case of gastric ulcer or duodenal ulcer.

Takepron is a proton pump inhibitor discovered and synthesized by Takeda, and is being sold more than 90 countries in the world for the treatment of peptic ulcers and other gastroenterologic disorders while it was launched in Europe, Japan and the U.S. in 1991, 1992 and 1995 respectively. It is expected that, with this new indication Takepron be able to contribute to the treatment of wider range of patients with gastroenterologic disorders in Japan.

###