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News Release

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Takeda Submitted a New Drug Application in Japan for Actos® Orally Disintegrating Tablets

Osaka, Japan, September 29, 2008 ---Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited ("Takeda") announced today that it submitted a new drug application to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare for Actos® orally disintegrating tablets 15 and 30 (pioglitazone HCl; Actos OD tablets), for treatment of type 2 diabetes.

Takeda is the originator of the thiazolidinedione (TZD) class of oral anti-diabetic medications. Actos is a member of TZDs that help reduce insulin resistance, which is one of the major defects in type 2 diabetes. Because Actos OD tablets swiftly disintegrate in the oral cavity, they can be taken without water by even aged or other patients who have difficulty in swallowing.

“The number of patients with type 2 diabetes is increasing among not only the aged but also the middle- and upper-aged population,” said Masaomi Miyamoto, Ph.D., General Manager of Pharmaceutical Development Division. “We will strive to provide Actos OD tablets to the patients with Type 2 diabetes as early as possible, thereby further enhancing the diabetes franchise which Takeda has already established.”

Takeda has already developed and is selling OD tablets of Lansoprazole (brand name in Japan: Takepron®) for treatment of peptic ulcers and Voglibose (brand name in Japan: Basen®) for improvement of postprandial hyperglycemia. Takeda firmly believes in the compliance advantages of OD tablets due to their superior convenience in administration.

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