



Press Release

Apr 18, 2023

Eli Lilly Japan K.K.
Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation

New launch of Mounjaro[®] 2.5 mg / 5 mg Ateos[®], the world's first sustained release GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonist

April 18, 2023 - Eli Lilly Japan K.K. (Head Office: Kobe, Japan, Representative Director and President: Simone Thomsen, hereinafter called "Eli Lilly Japan") and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (Head Office: Osaka, Japan, Representative Director: Akihiro Tsujimura, hereinafter called "MTPC") announced that "Mounjaro[®] subcutaneous injection 2.5 mg / 5 mg ATEOS[®]" (Non-proprietary name: Tirzepatide, hereinafter referred called "Mounjaro"), the following sustained release GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonists, was launched in Japan today.

As the world's first sustained release GIP (glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide) and GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide-1) receptor agonist, Mounjaro activates two receptors: GIP and GLP-1. Although the structure of Mounjaro is a single molecule based on the natural GIP peptide sequence, it has been modified to also bind to the GLP-1 receptor, and selectively acts for a long time to improve blood glucose.

Mounjaro is administered once weekly by subcutaneous injection with a single-use autoinjector device (ATEOS). Using a special pen injector with a pre-installed needle, the needle is automatically inserted under the skin by pressing the injection button, and a single dose of the filled drug is injected. The patient does not need to set the dose or handle the needle.

The usual starting dose for adults is 2.5 mg of tirzepatide once a week for 4 weeks, after which the dose is increased to a maintenance dose of 5 mg once a week. Of the six dose standards, two, the starting dose (2.5 mg) and the maintenance dose (5 mg), were launched earlier today. The higher four dose (7.5 mg, 10 mg, 12.5 mg, and 15 mg) are scheduled for launch on June 12, 2023.

Eli Lilly and Company obtained an approval of Mounjaro in the United States on May 13, 2022 as the world's first sustained release GIP/GLP-1 receptor agonist and launched it on June 7, 2022. In Japan, Mounjaro was also approved on September 26, 2022. Eli Lilly Japan holds the manufacturing and marketing approval for Mounjaro, while MTPC is responsible for sales and distribution. Eli Lilly Japan and MTPC will jointly provide information to healthcare professionals.

"We are very pleased to announce the launch of Mounjaro. We will strive to provide appropriate information so that we can deliver Mounjaro as a new class of treatment options to many people living with type 2 diabetes who need it.," said Mary Thomas, Associate Vice President, Diabetes and Growth Hormone Business unit, Eli Lilly Japan.

“MTPC sets the MISSION of ‘Creating hope for all facing illness.’ We will continue to promote the proper use through information provision activities so that Mounjaro, which was launched today, will be a hopeful option for people living with type 2 diabetes.,” said Katsunori Yoshinaga, Head of Sales & Marketing Division, MTPC.

Reference Information

Product Summary

Product Name	Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 2.5 mg ATEOS® Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 5 mg ATEOS®
Non-proprietary Name	Tirzepatide
Indications	Type 2 diabetes
Dosage and Administration	For adults, the usual maintenance dose of Tirzepatide is 5 mg once a week by subcutaneous injection. However, start with 2.5 mg once weekly and increase to 5 mg once weekly after 4 weeks. The dosage may be adjusted according to the patient's condition, but if the effect is insufficient with 5 mg once a week, the dosage can be increased by 2.5 mg at intervals of 4 weeks or longer. However, the maximum dosage should be up to 15 mg once weekly.
Date of acquisition of manufacturing and marketing approval	September 26, 2022
Date of NHI price listing	March 15, 2023
Date of launch	April 18, 2023
Drug price	Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 2.5 mg ATEOS® 0.5mL 1kit: 1,924 yen Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 5 mg ATEOS® 0.5mL 1kit: 3,848 yen
Manufacturer and distributor	Eli Lilly Japan K.K.
Distributor	Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation

Product Image



Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 2.5 mg ATEOS



Mounjaro® subcutaneous injection 5 mg ATEOS

About Eli Lilly Japan

Eli Lilly Japan K.K. is a subsidiary of US-based Eli Lilly and Company. It contributes to medical treatment in Japan through the development, manufacture, import and sale of innovative pharmaceutical products that enable people to live longer, healthier, and more fulfilling lives, focusing on the therapeutic areas such as cancer, diabetes, musculoskeletal diseases, central nervous system diseases, autoimmune diseases, growth disorder, and pain. For more information, visit <http://www.lilly.co.jp>

About Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (MTPC), the pharma arm of Mitsubishi Chemical Group (MCG), is one of the oldest pharmaceutical companies in the world, founded in 1678, and focusing on ethical pharmaceuticals. MTPC is headquartered in Doshomachi, Osaka, the birthplace of Japan's pharmaceutical industry. MCG has positioned health care as its strategic focus in its management policy, "Forging the future". MTPC sets the MISSION of "Creating hope for all facing illness". To that end, MTPC is working on the disease areas of central nervous system, immuno-inflammation, diabetes and kidney, and cancer. MTPC is focusing on "precision medicine" to provide drugs with high treatment satisfaction by identifying patient populations with high potential for efficacy and safety. In addition, MTPC is working to develop "around the pill solutions" to address specific patient concerns based on therapeutic medicine, including prevention of diseases, pre-symptomatic disease care, prevention of aggravation and prognosis. For more information, go to <https://www.mt-pharma.co.jp/e/>