

Eisai is a Human Health Care Corporation striving for innovative solutions in prevention, cure and care for the health and well-being of people worldwide. We combine our talents to understand and meet the needs of

# with *Divel Atibody Teatme* nt for *Heimer's Dease*

## The antibody targets the neurotoxin believed to cause Alzheimer's disease

Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Haruo Naito) and BioArctic Neuroscience AB (Headquarter: Stockholm, Sweden, CEO: Pär Gellerfors) announced today that on December 3, they signed an exclusive licence agreement for BAN2401, a novel humanized monoclonal antibody, which is being developed as a next-generation therapeutic treatment for Alzheimer's disease. Under the terms of the agreement Eisai obtains the global rights to study, develop, manufacture and market BAN2401 for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

BAN2401 is the result of a strategic research alliance between Eisai and BioArctic initiated in 2005 to identify a potential immunotherapy for Alzheimer's disease. The research is based on the Arctic mutation of amyloid beta-peptide (A), discovered by Prof. Lannfelt at Uppsala University, which causes familial Alzheimer's disease.

BAN2401 is a humanized monoclonal antibody which selectively recognizes A protofibrils, a form of soluble aggregate of A believed to play a key role in the development of Alzheimer's disease. The antibody is currently in pre-clinical development and Eisai aims to develop a novel treatment for Alzheimer's disease using this antibody.

The licensing agreement for BAN2401, together with the gamma secretase modulator E2012 developed in-house by Eisai, allows the company to pursue parallel approaches to developing next-generation treatments for Alzheimer's disease based on a small molecule compound and immunotherapy.

As a pioneer in Alzheimer's disease treatment, having discovered and developed Aricept<sup>®</sup> (donepezil hydrochloride), Eisai aims to accelerate the development of a new generation of

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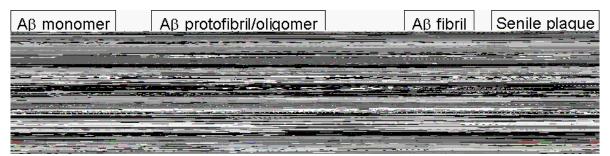
#### Notes to Editors

#### 1. BioArctic Neuroscience AB

BioArctic Neuroscience is a biopharmaceutical company established in 2003 with the aim of commercializing the research in Alzheimer's disease carried out by the internationally renowned researcher Prof. Lannfelt at Uppsala University.

## 2. Pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease and A protofibrils

Accumulation of A in the brain is believed to play a key role in the development of Alzheimer's disease. Pathologically, the accumulation is found as senile plaques containing aggregated insoluble A fibrils.



It is described that the toxic species causing Alzheimer's disease are the precursor forms of insoluble A fibrils, the soluble A aggregates including A protofibrils.

## 3. Immunotherapy for Alzheimer's disease

As immunotherapies for Alzheimer's disease, there exist vaccine therapies that use A to induce anti-A immunoresponses, and antibody therapies that administrate monoclonal antibodies targeting A . BAN2401 targets brain A protofibrils by applying BioArctic Neuroscience's technology and it can efficiently eliminate A species causing Alzheimer's disease.

## 4. Arctic mutation in A

5. Eisai's commitment to providing new therapy for Alzheimer's Disease