

Trade/Business/Medical press

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AstraZeneca K.K.
Shionogi & Co., Ltd.

AstraZeneca and Shionogi launches

CRESTOR[®] Tablets 2.5mg · 5mg for the treatment of hypercholesterolemia

AstraZeneca K.K. (President: Masuhiro Kato, hereinafter "AZKK") and Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (President: Motozo Shiono, hereinafter "Shionogi") today announce the launch of CRESTOR[®] Tablets 2.5mg · 5mg for the treatment of hypercholesterolemia (generic name: rosuvastatin calcium).

CRESTOR[®] is a strong inhibitor of 3-hydroxy-methylglutaryl coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase, and is an effective statin at lowering LDL-C whilst increasing HDL-C.

Hyperlipidaemia is a risk factor for the development and progression of cardiovascular disease, including angina and myocardial infarction. The aim of statin therapy is for patients to achieve a target LDL-C goal as recommended in treatment guidelines to prevent Coronary Heart Disease (CHD). However, a large proportion of patients may not reach their lipid goals. In these circumstances, CRESTOR[®] will make a beneficial contribution to the treatment of hyperlipidaemia. CRESTOR[™] has shown superior efficacy that enables the majority of patients to meet their treatment goals.

CRESTOR[®] was approved using clinical data from more than 10,000 patients, including Japanese patients, and CRESTOR's safety profile has been confirmed as in line with other marketed statins. This is also supported by overseas post-marketing surveillance data.

In launching CRESTOR[®], AstraZeneca and Shionogi are placing priority on patient safety. AstraZeneca and Shionogi will implement Japan's first "Pharmacovigilance plan" in line with the International Clinical Harmonization E2E guideline. The companies will prepare a special delivery system, prior to the delivery of product to specific medical institutions, and thus the start of the PMS study will be on the 13th of May 2005.

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