

Press Release:**Manufacturing and Marketing Approval of Emergency Contraception,
NorLevo® 0.75mg Tablets**

ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Takashi Yamaguchi; hereafter referred to as “ASKA”) announced today that Sosei Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, CEO: Shinichi Tamura; hereafter referred to as “Sosei”) acquired the marketing approval of emergency contraception, NorLevo® 0.75mg Tablets, as of February 23, 2011 of which ASKA has acquired its exclusive marketing rights in Japan from Sosei.

This drug has become the first emergency contraception available in Japan, and 1.5mg (2 tablets) is taken within 72 hours after unprotected sexual intercourse or contraceptive failure to prevent unwanted pregnancy. Its active ingredient, levonorgestrel (synthetic progestin), is designated as the essential drug for emergency contraception by WHO. Since this product was launched in France in 1999, it was approved in 50 countries in the world under the name of NorLevo®, etc. In Japan, Sosei has acquired the right of this product from Laboratoire HRA Pharma (France) and has developed it.

ASKA is preparing for the launch of this product based on the alliance with Laboratoire HRA Pharma and is planning to launch it in the middle of May 2011, taking the manufacturing lead time of formulation in Europe into consideration.

ASKA, as a specialty pharmaceutical company in the field of Ob/Gyn, will strengthen the product portfolio in this area and, by launch of this product, will contribute further to women’s health.

About ASKA

ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. located in Tokyo, Japan, is a research and development (R&D) oriented company, which contributes to the society by developing and providing innovative pharmaceutical products, concentrating its management resources to the specific therapeutic areas including internal medicine, urology, and Ob/Gyn. For more information on ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. please visit our website at <http://www.aska-pharma.co.jp/english/index.html>.

About Socei

For more information on Socei Co., Ltd., please visit our website at <http://www.sosei.com>.

About Laboratorie HRA Pharma

For more information on Laboratorie HRA Pharma, please visit its corporate website at <http://www.hra-pharma.com>.

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