

April 30, 2020

Koei Chemical Supplies Raw Materials for Remdesivir and Avigan®

We would like to express our deepest condolences for all those who passed away of the novel coronavirus disease and to their families, and also to sincerely pray for the earliest recovery of all those affected.

Koei Chemical Company, Limited (President: OKAMOTO Yoshihiko) supplies raw materials such as “Pyrrole” and “Pyridine” for the novel coronavirus disease (hereinafter “COVID-19”). We believe that it is our social mission to supply these materials steadily and stably as the sole manufacturer of “Pyrrole” and “Pyridine” (except tar distillate products) in Japan so we have strengthened our supply capability of “Pyrrole” and “Pyridine”.

We will continue supplying these raw materials so that we can make a meaningful contribution to fighting off COVID-19.

1. Pyrrole: Raw Material for Remdesivir (Gilead Sciences, Inc.)

Remdesivir is an antiviral drug originally developed for Ebola hemorrhagic fever (EHF) which is expected to be effective against COVID-19. Our “Pyrrole” is a key raw material to construct framework of remdesivir.

2. Pyridine: Raw Material for Favipiravir (FUJIFILM Toyama Chemical Co., Ltd. “Avigan®”, hereinafter “Avigan”)

Avigan is an anti-influenza drug approved in 2014 in Japan which is also expected to be effective against COVID-19. Our “Pyridine” is a raw material in manufacturing process of Avigan.