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Symbio Pharmaceuticals Limited.

Fuminori Yoshida

Representative Director  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## **Symbio Initiates Japan Phase 2 Trial of Bendamustine HCl (SyB L-0501) in Aggressive Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**

TOKYO, Japan, March 4, 2010 -- Symbio Pharmaceuticals Limited ("Symbio") today announced that it has initiated a phase 2 clinical trial for its lead drug candidate, bendamustine hydrochloride (SyB L-0501), in refractory and relapsed aggressive non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) in Japan in accordance with the license agreement signed with Eisai Co., Ltd.

Symbio submitted A New Drug Application (NDA) for SyB L-0501 to the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) in Japan under priority review on October 30, 2009, after receiving orphan drug designation for the treatment of refractory and relapsed indolent NHL and mantle cell lymphoma. With this phase 2 trial in aggressive NHL, the Company seeks to expand the use of this drug in a wider range of indications. The trial has been designed as an international collaborative study of bendamustine HCl in combination with rituximab for the treatment of aggressive NHL in Korea and Japan. A clinical trial application was submitted to the Korean Food and Drug Administration (KFDA) on February 17, 2010, and the trial is expected to be underway this April.

SyB L-0501, in combination with rituximab, proved to be both safe and efficacious during the earlier Japan phase 1 trial conducted in patients with refractory and relapsed aggressive NHL.

[SyB L-0501]

Symbio holds exclusive rights to SyB L-0501, the Company's first drug candidate, from Astellas Deutschland GmbH for development and commercialization in Japan, China (HK), Taiwan, Korea and Singapore. Symbio and Eisai executed a license agreement for co-development and commercialization of SyB L-0501 in Japan in August, 2008, followed by a second license agreement for the exclusive development and commercialization of SyB L-0501 in Korea and Singapore in May, 2009. Symbio and Cephalon executed a license agreement for development and commercialization of SyB L-0501 in China in March, 2009, (Development and commercialization rights of bendamustine HCl are held by Cephalon, Inc. in North America, and by Mundipharma International Corp. Ltd. in Europe.) The drug is currently on the market in the U.S., and is listed as first line therapy for indolent NHL and mantle cell lymphoma in NCCN (National Comprehensive Cancer Network) Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology, the recognized standard for clinical policy in oncology.

[Company Profile]

SymBio Pharmaceuticals Ltd. was established in March, 2005 by Fuminori Yoshida, who previously served as both Corporate VP of Amgen Ltd. and President of Amgen Japan (currently Takeda Bio Development Center Limited). The company's underlying corporate mission is "delivering hope to patients in need" as it aspires to be a leading specialty pharmaceutical company in the Asia Pacific Rim dedicated to addressing underserved medical needs in the areas of oncology and hematology.

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