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PRESS RELEASE

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LAUNCH OF ORAL FORMULATION COLON CLEANSING VISICLEAR[®] TABLETS

We would like to announce that as of June 8th Zeria received the NHI pricing for the recently approved Visiclear[®] Tablets (Sodium Phosphate formulation), which will be launched on June 15.

Visiclear[®] Tablets was originated by InKine (an affiliated company of Salix Pharmaceuticals (Carolyn J. Logan, President and CEO), with offices in Morrisville, North Carolina). Currently, Salix distributes Visicol[®] Tablets in the USA as a colon cleansing agent prior to colonoscopy and the product is used extensively. Zeria licensed this product from InKine in August 2001 and developed it as a colon cleansing agent.

Visiclear[®] Tablets is classified as a saline laxative that contains monobasic sodium phosphate monohydrate and dibasic sodium phosphate anhydrous as active ingredients with excellent cleansing effect.

It is the first tablet form colon cleansing agent product in Japan, and patient acceptance and compliance is very high; it can be taken with water or tea.

In Japan, approximately 2 million colonoscopy procedures are performed every year, and this number is expected to increase year by year, thus, the market for this product is also expected to grow.

From the very beginning, Zeria has devoted efforts in the development and launch of pharmaceutical products for the gastrointestinal diseases, such as the H₂ antagonist Acinon[®] Capsules 75/150, the Zinc containing cytoprotective agent Promac[®] Granules 15% / D Tablets 75, the cytoprotective antagastitis agent Marzulen[®]-S Granules/ ES Tablets and the bulk laxative New Lecicarbon[®] Suppository. With the addition of Visiclear[®] Tablets to our lineup of products we are confident that we can strengthen our market potential in this field.