

Santen and Koken Enter Into Agreement Concerning Marketing of KK-951, Lacrimal Canaliculus Closing Material for Treatment of Dry Eye Syndrome

May 28, 2002 --- Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (headquartered Osaka, Japan; president: Takakazu Morita) and Koken Co., Ltd. (headquartered Tokyo, Japan; president: Teruo Miyata) entered into an agreement concerning the marketing of KK-951, a lacrimal canaliculus closing material for the treatment of dry eye syndrome under development by Koken. This agreement allows Santen to exclusively market KK-951 in Japan.

Dry eye syndrome is a condition caused by a disorder of the eye surface due to a quantitative reduction or qualitative change of tear. If lacrimation is insufficient, the eyes become dry and damageable. In severe cases, it may even lead to numerous flaws on the eye surface.

KK-951 is a high-purity preparation of atelocollagen* developed by Koken. When injected to the lacrimal canaliculus, KK-951 suppresses the discharge of tears from the eyeball surface to the nasal cavity, thus helping moisture retention to prevent drying on the eye surface (see the "Tear Flow" diagram below).

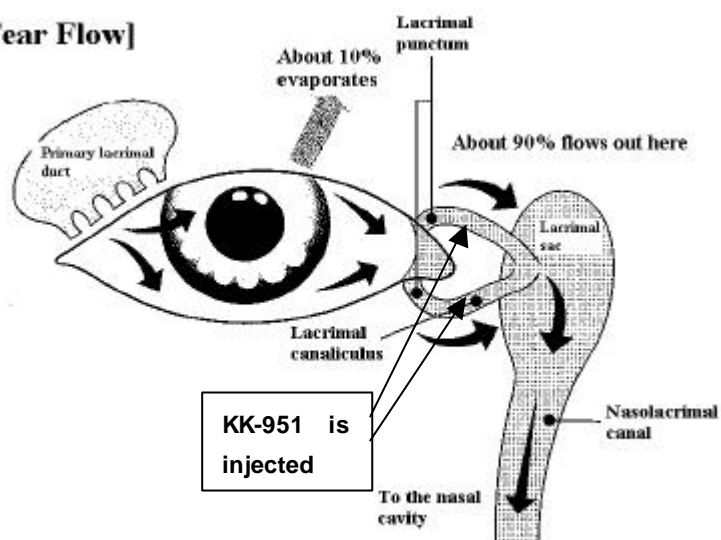
It is estimated that more than eight million people are suffering from dry eye syndrome in Japan, and the instillation of eye drops has been the main treatment for this condition. It is expected that this new preparation will broaden the range of therapeutic options for severe dry eye syndrome, thus contributing to the improvement of the patients' quality of life.

[Reference]

***Atelocollagen:**

Atelocollagen is an implantable protein prepared from collagen, a protein found abundantly in the mammalian body, by degrading and removing its antigenic/immunogenic portion. KK-951 can be injected from the lacrimal punctum via a needle and the atelocollagen thus injected gels at body temperature.

[Tear Flow]



- Corporate Profiles -

Koken Co., Ltd.

Head office:	3-14-3 Mejiro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo
President:	Teruo Miyata
Established:	1959
Capital:	90 million yen (as of the end of March 2002)
Number of employees:	161 (as of March 31, 2002)
Net sales:	3.4 billion yen (fiscal year ended September 2002)
Business fields:	Research and development, import, manufacture, and marketing of medical devices

Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

Head office:	3-9-19 Shimoshinjo, Higashiyodogawa-ku, Osaka
President:	Takakazu Morita
Established:	1890
Capital:	6.214 billion yen (as of March 31, 2002)
Number of employees:	2,463 (as of March 31, 2002)
Net sales:	88.9 billion yen (fiscal year ended in March 2002, consolidated accounts)
Business fields:	Research and development, import, manufacture, and marketing of pharmaceuticals