## 日本ジェネリック医薬品学会の活動趣旨

患者高負担, 国民医療費の高騰, 病院における包括支払制度の拡大など, 時代の変化の中で, ジェネリック医薬品の役割がますます重要となっています. 現在欧米ではジェネリック医薬 品の品目ベースでのシェア(特許が切れてジェネリック医薬品のある医薬品に占めるジェネ リック医薬品のシェア)は60%~90%にも達しています. しかしながら日本ではまだジェ ネリック医薬品市場は40%程度にとどまっています.

わが国でジェネリック医薬品が伸び悩んでいる理由は,欧米との制度的な違いもあります が,ジェネリック医薬品の情報の少なさからくる品質に対する漠然とした不安,品切れなど の供給不安があげられます.

この時期に大切なことは、まず医師、薬剤師、患者がジェネリック医薬品のことを正しく 知ること、そしてジェネリック医薬品メーカーもその品質や安全性の情報提供体制、供給体 制について万全の体制でのぞむことでしょう.

一方,いつの時代にも画期的な新薬は必要とされています.とくに最近では抗体医薬などのバイオ医薬品の躍進がめざましいです.しかしこうした新薬も年月を経て,特許が切れれば,その有効成分は開発メーカーばかりのものではなく,社会全体の共通の財産となります. こうして生まれてくるジェネリック医薬品やバイオ後続品(バイオシミラー)の正しい理解 とその普及をはかるために,日本ジェネリック医薬品学会は,現場の医師,薬剤師を中心と して設立されました.学会は,当初2003年9月より日本ジェネリック研究会としてスター トし,2007年より現在の学会に移行しました.

現在,日本ジェネリック医薬品学会は年1回の学術大会,年2回の学会誌「ジェネリック 研究」の発刊,Web上での「ジェネリック医薬品情報検索システム(GIS)」,「患者さんの くすり箱」などの情報提供活動,ジェネリック医薬品を積極的に推奨する保険薬局に配布す る「ジェネリック推奨マーク」の発行,各種セミナー活動,品質評価委員会,制度委員会, 流通委員会,国際委員会などの各種委員会活動を通じて,ジェネリック医薬品の理解と普及 に努めています.

こうした学会の趣旨をご理解の上,ぜひ日本ジェネリック医薬品学会にご参加の程お願い 申し上げます.

日本ジェネリック医薬品学会代表理事

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## Significance of Activity of Japan Society of Generic Medicines

Generic medicines have been playing an important role to keep up with present pace of change of era. Indeed, generic medicines allow us to reduce both of individual and national medical expenditures. Also contribute to effective hospital management under a prospective payment system which has been widely adopted. However, the market share of generic medicines (the proportion of generic medicines to off-patent medicines for which generic medicines exist) remains only around 40% in Japan. Whereas, it accounts for 60% to 90% based on the number of units sold in the US and EU.

What is the cause for such a low percentage, in Japan? There are naturally some differences among the health care systems of countries. Moreover, there is not enough information available regarding generic medicines. This lack of information tends to bring a vague uncertainty in the quality and supply of generic medicines.

Including physicians, pharmacists and patients, we all should acquire an adequate knowledge of generic medicines. That must be the most important task in future. Consequently, the companies will thoroughly prepare for information provision to ensure their quality and safety as well as keep the constant and adequate supply.

It is obvious that the innovative new medicines are always required and demanded. Most recently, biosimilars appear to have been successful and monoclonal antibody-based products are become the major class. Needless to say, the generic versions will become available after patent expiration. To accelerate the growth and spread of knowledge about generic medicines including these biosimilars, our institution was established in September, 2003. The members were mainly physicians and pharmacists at that time. And it was renamed Japan Society of Generic Medicines in 2007.

Currently, Japan Society of Generic Medicines runs annual meeting once a year and publishes regular academic journal "Japanese Journal of Generic Medicines" twice a year. As information provision activities, "Generic Information System (GIS)" and "A Medicine Chest for Patients" are provided through the website. "Generic Medicines Awareness Stickers" are also distributed in order to encourage hospitals, clinics, or pharmacies in a more proactive use of generic medicines. Furthermore, we have been engaged in other initiatives to promote understanding and awareness of generic medicines by setting up four committees; "Quality Evaluation Committee", "Policy Advisory Committee", "Distribution Monitoring Committee" and "International Study Committee".

All potential medical personnel including interested individuals and organizations are highly and respectfully encouraged to join our society to achieve the goal stated above.

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