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NEWS RELEASE

RaQualia Receives a Patent Allowance for T-type Calcium Channel/Voltage-Gated Sodium Channel Blocker in Korea

February 17, 2016 - RaQualia Pharma Inc. (RaQualia) today announced that the company received an allowance* for a T-type calcium channel/voltage-gated sodium channel blocker substance patent in Korea (Application Number: 10-2011-7030346). In addition to the patent allowances received in Japan, this allowance ensures that the company's intellectual property rights will be strengthened in Korea.

This T-type calcium channel/voltage-gated sodium channel blocker showed significant analgesic effects on several animal models for pain. It is highly selective either to T-type calcium channels or tetrodotoxin-sensitive (TTX-S) sodium channels which are involved in wide therapeutic applications. The compound is expected to provide new treatment options for various pain conditions with fewer side effects.

As one of our core programs, the T-type calcium channel/voltage-gated sodium channel blocker was generated from RaQualia's integrated discovery research using its expertise on ion channel assessment and long years' experience on pain research. RaQualia will continue efforts on ion channel discovery research to fulfill unmet medical needs, and bolster its portfolio management of intellectual properties.

The consolidated financial projection for FY 2016 will not be affected by this announcement.

<Sodium Channel>
Sodium channel, one of ion channels that exist in excitable cell membranes such as muscle cells and neurons, conducts sodium ions through a cell's plasma membrane in response to change in potential. The opening of sodium channel triggers action potentials, which lead to pain transmission in sensory nerves. The T-type calcium channel/voltage-gated sodium channel blockers are expected to be innovative drugs for pain.

*A patent allowance is an evaluation by a country's patent office that a patent application merits being granted a patent. After the patent is allowed and the fee paid, it is registered and the patent is issued in the relevant country.

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