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Kazutaka TSUCHIDA and Shinji AOKI  
  
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  
 yes  no

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)?  
TAISHO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.  
24-1, Takata 3-chome,  
Toshima-ku, Tokyo  
Japan  
  
10-17-00

3. Nature of Conveyance:  
 Assignment  Merger  
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Execution Date: September 18, 2000

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):  
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: September 18, 2000  
A. Patent Application No.(s)  
  
Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

09/673398  
B. Patent No.(s)  
  
Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:  
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

6. Total number of applications and registration involved:  
1  
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# Assignment

Whereas, I/We, Kazutaka TSUCHIDA and Shinji AOKI, both of  
 c/o Taisho Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., 24-1, Takata 3-chome, Toshima-ku,  
 Tokyo, Japan,  
 respectively, hereinafter called assignor(s), have invented certain improvements in  
 MULTIPLE-UNIT SUSTAINED RELEASE TABLETS  
 and executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America therefor on  
 September 18, 2000; and

Whereas, TAISHO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD. of  
 24-1, Takata 3-chome, Toshima-ku, Tokyo, Japan  
 (assignee), desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in the application and invention, and to  
 any United States and foreign patents to be obtained therefor;

Now therefore, for valuable consideration, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,

I/We, the above named assignor(s), hereby sell, assign and transfer to the above named assignee, its  
 successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the application and the invention disclosed  
 therein for the United States of America and all countries foreign thereto, including rights of priority under  
 the International Convention of Paris (1883) as amended, and I/we request the Commissioner of Patents  
 to issue any Letters Patent granted upon the invention set forth in the application to the assignee, its  
 successors and assigns; and I/we hereby agree that the assignee may apply for foreign Letters Patent  
 on the invention and I/we will execute without further consideration all papers deemed necessary by the  
 assignee in connection with the United States and foreign applications when called upon to do so by  
 the assignee.

I/We hereby authorize and request my attorneys SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS of  
 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-3202 to insert here in parentheses (Application  
 number \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_) the filing date and application  
 number of said application when known.

Date: Sep. 18, 2000 s/ Kazutaka Tsuchida  
 Kazutaka Tsuchida

Date: Sep. 18, 2000 s/ Shinji Aoki  
 Shinji Aoki

Date: s/ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: s/ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: s/ \_\_\_\_\_

(Notarization not required for recording but is prima facie evidence of execution under 35 U.S.C. §261)