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**EUROPEAN REGULATORY AGENCY GRANTS ORPHAN STATUS  
TO MORPHOTEK®'S FARLETUZUMAB™ AND MORAb-009**

*Orphan status extends marketing rights in European Union for both investigational treatments*

**Exton-PA- February \_\_\_\_, 2008** – Morphotek, Inc., a subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd., announced today that the Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products, which is part of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMA), has granted Orphan Drug Status to the monoclonal antibodies farletuzumab (also known as MORAb-003) for the treatment of ovarian cancer and MORAb-009 for the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

Farletuzumab is currently being evaluated in a Phase II efficacy study in patients with platinum sensitive ovarian cancer. In Phase I studies, farletuzumab was well tolerated and showed signs of clinical activity in patients with advanced, platinum-resistant or refractory ovarian cancer over the course of the treatment period. MORAb-009 is currently being evaluated in a Phase II study in first line therapy with gemcitabine in patients with inoperable pancreatic cancer. In Phase I studies, MORAb-009 was well tolerated and showed signs of anti-tumor activity.

“We are very pleased to have received EMA orphan drug designation for these investigational treatments,” said Nicholas C. Nicolaides, Ph.D., President and CEO of Morphotek. “This further strengthens these two important programs by offering several clinical development and commercialization benefits.”

“We are making good progress with our clinical development programs for farletuzumab and MORAb-009 in the treatment of ovarian and pancreatic cancer,” said Martin D. Phillips, M.D., Senior Vice President of Clinical Development for Morphotek. “The Phase I study results for both molecules were promising, and the ongoing Phase II studies are designed to evaluate their efficacy in combination with current standard of care regimens in patients with ovarian and pancreatic cancer. These studies are being conducted in Europe and the Americas.”

Created to encourage research and development of drugs for diseases with small patient populations, orphan drug designation in the European Union provides for 10 years of market exclusivity in Europe following marketing authorization, fee reductions for certain regulatory activities related to the development of the antibodies, direct access to the EMA’s Centralized Procedure for review of marketing applications; and possible research and development grants from certain EU member states

According to the National Cancer Institute, an estimated 22,430 new cases of ovarian cancer occurred in the United States in 2007 and about 15,280 women died from the disease. (1) Approximately 43,000 cases of ovarian cancer occur each year in Europe.(2)

Pancreatic cancer develops in the tissues of the pancreas, usually growing asymptotically before it is discovered. It is the eighth most common cause of death from cancer in men and women worldwide, accounting for more 227,000 deaths per year. More than 37,000 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year in the United States and approximately 50,000 people in the European Union.

### **About Morphotek**

Morphotek<sup>®</sup>, Inc., a subsidiary of Eisai Co., Ltd., is a biopharmaceutical company specializing in the development of protein and antibody products through the use of a novel and proprietary gene evolution technology. The technology has been successfully applied to a broad variety of cell lines and organisms to yield genetically diverse offspring that are suitable for pharmaceutical product development in the areas of antibody therapeutics, protein therapeutics, product manufacturing, drug target discovery, and improved output traits for commercial applications. The company is currently focusing its platform on the development and manufacturing of therapeutic antibodies for the treatment of cancer, inflammation and infectious disease. For more information, please visit [www.morphotek.com](http://www.morphotek.com).

### **About Eisai Co., Ltd.**

Eisai Co., Ltd. is a research-based *human health care (hhc)* company that discovers, develops and markets products throughout the world. Eisai focuses its efforts in three areas of therapeutic focus: Integrative neuroscience including neurology and psychiatric medicines; gastrointestinal disorders; and integrative oncology including oncotherapy and supportive-care treatments. Through a global network of research facilities, manufacturing sites and marketing subsidiaries, Eisai actively participates in all aspects of the worldwide health care system. Eisai employs approximately 10,000 people worldwide and forecasts worldwide sales of ¥739 billion in FY2007 (year ended March 31, 2008). More than 50 percent of the group sales are derived from overseas business. For more information, please visit [www.eisai.co.jp](http://www.eisai.co.jp).

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1. <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/ovarian>
2. IARC, GLOBOCAN 2002 Cancer Incidence, Mortality and Prevalence Worldwide (2002 estimates). 2004