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PRESS RELEASE

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## **5-HT<sub>4</sub> Partial Agonist Use Patent Allowance in Japan**

June 2, 2020 - RaQualia Pharma Inc. (RaQualia) today announced that the company received an allowance\* for a 5-HT<sub>4</sub> partial agonist use patent in Japan (Application Number: 2016-565362). In addition to the allowance of use patent on gastroparesis received in the U.S.A. and Europe, this allowance ensures that the company's intellectual property rights will be strengthened in Japan.

The serotonin 5-HT<sub>4</sub> receptor is known to play an important role in regulating gastrointestinal motility. The patented compound has been confirmed to accelerate gastric emptying and has fewer of the cardiovascular adverse events, while conventional 5-HT<sub>4</sub> receptor agonists have the problem of showing cardiovascular side effects. Therefore, the 5-HT<sub>4</sub> partial agonist is expected to be a useful drug for the treatment of gastroparesis with high safety.

RaQualia will continue to promote its licensing activities for 5-HT<sub>4</sub> partial agonist globally.

The financial forecasts for the fiscal year 2020 (Jan. 1, 2020 – Dec. 31, 2020) will not be affected by this announcement.

\*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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