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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALS Association Applauds FDA for Speedy Approval of New ALS Drug
Radicava is First Approved Treatment for ALS in Decades

Atlanta, GA, May, 9, 2017 – The ALS Association, the only national nonprofit fighting amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) on every front, applauded the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) announcement Friday that it has approved Radicava (edaravone), the first new treatment approved specifically for ALS in 22 years. The FDA approved Radicava less than a year after Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation submitted a New Drug Application. The only other approved treatment specifically for ALS, riluzole, was approved in 1995.

"We hope the announcement signals the beginning of a new chapter in the fight against this terrible disease," said Sarah Embro, Executive Director of The ALS Association Georgia Chapter. "There are several drugs to treat ALS currently in clinical trials and we are hopeful that people living with ALS have even more therapies available to them sooner rather than later.

ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Eventually, people with ALS lose the ability to initiate and control muscle movement, which often leads to total paralysis and death within two to five years of diagnosis. For unknown reasons, veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS as the general population.

Edaravone was originally approved in Japan to treat stroke and in 2015, it was approved for use as a treatment for ALS in Japan and South Korea. In the United States, it will be commercialized under the brand name Radicava. According to MT Pharma, the drug has been demonstrated to slow decline of physical function in ALS patients by 33 percent.

More information about Radicava, including Frequently Asked Questions, can be found at www.alsa.org/radicava.

About The ALS Association Georgia Chapter

The ALS Association Georgia Chapter is the only nationally affiliated not-for-profit health organization dedicated solely to the fight against Lou Gehrig's Disease. The ALS Association Georgia Chapter provides patient consultations, a medical equipment loan program, patient and caregiver support groups, and support for ALS clinics in Atlanta, Augusta and Macon. The local chapter also joins with chapters across the country to support research and participate in federal advocacy initiatives. To learn more about Lou Gehrig's Disease and The ALS Association Georgia Chapter, visit www.alsaga.org.

About MT Pharma America, Inc.

Based in Jersey City, NJ, MT Pharma America is a wholly-owned subsidiary of MTPC's 100% owned U.S. holding company, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Holdings America, Inc. MT Pharma America is dedicated to delivering innovative solutions that address the unmet medical needs of patients in the United States. It was established by MTPC to commercialize approved pharmaceutical products in the U.S. with plans to expand its product line through collaborations with partners.

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