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Press Release

National University Corporation Kyoto University
Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation

**Open innovation laboratory for drug discovery and development by
Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma and Kyoto University
-Basic and clinical research project for CKD drugs-**

Kyoto and Osaka, Japan, March 11, 2011---National University Corporation Kyoto University and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation announced today that they have entered into research and development agreement regarding "Basic and Clinical Research Project for Discovering Innovative Treatment for Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)".

Under the Agreement, Kyoto University and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma will work closely for 5 years from April this year; and discover new drug targets for CKD drugs to create innovative new drugs. The project is implemented mainly at the research center of Kyoto University with the research system formed under the joint steering committee. Project investigators are chosen publicly from junior researchers, and some researchers will join the project from Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma.

Kyoto University, in addition to its worldwide research achievement, established the Japan's first open innovation laboratory based on equal partnership, "Medical Innovation Center" within the Graduate School of Medicine, and is conducting efficiently industry-government-academia collaborative projects under the leadership of Dr. Nagahiro Minato, Dean of the Kyoto University Graduate of School of Medicine and Dr. Shuh Narumiya, Director of Medical Innovation Center. This Center is aimed at creating innovative drugs and medical knowledge and management of knowhow, and effectively utilizing their intellectual properties. In addition, the center is expected to strengthen human resource development by enhancing participation of doctors and medical researchers in drug discovery process. On the other hand, aiming to continually create new drugs, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma is working to enhance its discovery research capabilities, and aggressively utilize strategic alliances to launch new drugs as rapidly as possible.

Kyoto University and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma will work closely in both basic and clinical research to create innovate drugs for CKD that meet unmet medical needs through finding target molecules for new drugs from the research of the pathological conditions. Further, we are expecting to contribute to human resource development and drug discovery capabilities of Japanese healthcare industry.

Contact for further information

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