



May 30, 2018

**Notice Regarding Establishment of Immune-mediated
Inflammatory Diseases Consortium for Drug
Development****Start of collaborative/competitive drug discovery research by three
academic institutions and three pharmaceutical companies**

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (President & Representative Director: Masayuki Mitsuka; Head Office: Chuo-ku, Osaka) announced the establishment of the Immune-mediated Inflammatory Diseases Consortium for Drug Development. In addition to Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma, the consortium was established by Keio University (President: Akira Haseyama; Location: Minato-ku, Tokyo), Kochi University (President: Katsutoshi Sakurai; Location: Nankoku-shi, Kochi Prefecture), National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition (Director General: Yoshihiro Yoneda, Location: Ibaraki City, Osaka), Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (President, Representative Director, and CEO: Gyo Sagara; Head Office: Chuo-ku, Osaka), and Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd. (Representative Director, President and COO: Sunao Manabe; Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo). The purpose of the consortium is the implementation of drug discovery research targeting immune-mediated inflammatory diseases.

In recent years, data obtained through the use of leading-edge technology to analyze clinical specimens has been used in drug discovery research with the objective of improvement/complete remission of immune-mediated inflammatory diseases. However, due to limitations on the collection of clinical specimens for immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and to further increases in research expenses, in the future it will be more difficult to efficiently develop new drugs with only the conventional model of one-to-one academic-industry collaboration.

The consortium will work to overcome these challenges. To that end, Keio University Hospital's Rheumatology Department and Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department and Kochi Medical School Hospital's Center for Intractable Immune Disease will collect clinical specimens and related information, before and after treatment, from patients with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases. At the National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition, these clinical specimens will undergo detailed and comprehensive analyses, including gene

expression profiling. A high-quality database will be constructed based on the data accumulated by the consortium, and this database will be shared by the academic institutions and the pharmaceutical companies. Individual pharmaceutical company will utilize this database and conduct independent drug discovery research for immune-mediated inflammatory diseases. The academic institutions will utilize the outcome for further basic and applied research. In this way, the consortium will be operated in accordance with a unique new concept for academic-industrial partnership.

In the Medium-Term Management Plan 16-20 Open Up the Future, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma has positioned autoimmune diseases as one of its priority disease areas. By implementing drug discovery research through this consortium, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma expects to be able to accelerate the enhancement of its pipeline in the field of autoimmune diseases and to provide new treatment options to patients and health-care professionals.

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