

Press Release

Tohoku University and Astellas Establish Second Phase of Comprehensive Industry- Academia Collaboration with Aim of Creating Innovative Healthcare Solutions

TOKYO and Sendai, Miyagi, September 24, 2021 - Tohoku University (President; Hideo Ohno, “Tohoku University”) and Astellas Pharma Inc. (TSE: 4503, President and CEO: Kenji Yasukawa, Ph.D., “Astellas”) have established the second phase of comprehensive industry-academia collaboration on July 30 to continuously create value for patients through co-creation of innovative healthcare solutions.

In the first phase (August 2018-July 2021), Tohoku University and Astellas set up the "TACT (Tohoku University and Astellas Collaboration Committee) Office" to serve as a hub function for interorganizational open innovation. Along with building a functional network necessary to promote large-scale industry-academia collaboration, both parties have been conducting joint research mainly in the fields of medicine, pharmacy, and biomedical engineering. In the second phase of this agreement, based on the built network foundation, both parties will promote interdisciplinary joint research that will organically connect Astellas' drug discovery capabilities with Tohoku University's strengths in the medical, science, and engineering fields, and aim to create innovative healthcare solutions.

Tohoku University expects to incorporate Astellas' drug discovery capabilities for the purposes of promptly returning innovative research results to society and contributing to solving various problems, especially those in the healthcare field. In collaboration with Tohoku University, Astellas aims to realize novel healthcare solutions by obtaining early access to cutting-edge intellectual property and technology in a wide range of fields such as dentistry, science, and engineering, in addition to the fields of medicine, pharmacy, and biomedical engineering.

Based on this agreement, both parties will promote activities of collaborative creation between industry and academia to implement research results into society as value for patients.

About Tohoku University

For more than a century, Tohoku University has been consistently ranked amongst the top academic institutions in Japan. Its research achievements and contributions, coupled with its wide network of collaborative partners, led to it being one of the first institutions to be conferred the status of a Designated National University by the Japanese government in June 2017. The university prides itself in its community engagement and the transformational impacts its research has on society at large. In the aftermath of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, Tohoku University pioneered research in next-generation medicine and disaster science, giving local and global communities the necessary tools and knowledge to fight illnesses and be better prepared for natural disasters.

<http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/>

About Astellas

Astellas Pharma Inc. is a pharmaceutical company conducting business in more than 70 countries around the world. We are promoting the Focus Area Approach that is designed to identify opportunities for the continuous creation of new drugs to address diseases with high unmet medical needs by focusing on Biology and Modality. Furthermore, we are also looking beyond our foundational Rx focus to create Rx+[®] healthcare solutions that combine our expertise and knowledge with cutting-edge technology in different fields of external partners. Through these efforts, Astellas stands on the forefront of healthcare change to turn innovative science into value for patients. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.astellas.com/en>.

Cautionary Notes (Astellas)

In this press release, statements made with respect to current plans, estimates, strategies and beliefs and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements about the future performance of Astellas. These statements are based on management's current assumptions and beliefs in light of the information currently available to it and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to: (i) changes in general economic conditions and in laws and regulations, relating to pharmaceutical markets, (ii) currency exchange rate fluctuations, (iii) delays in new product launches, (iv) the inability of Astellas to market existing and new products effectively, (v) the inability of Astellas to continue to effectively research and develop products accepted by customers in highly competitive markets, and (vi) infringements of Astellas' intellectual property rights by third parties.

Information about pharmaceutical products (including products currently in development) which is included in this press release is not intended to constitute an advertisement or medical advice.

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