

News Release

INCJ announces drug candidate licensing, investment in Curadim Pharma Co., Ltd. New company to develop new drugs for treatment of intractable diseases

Tokyo, August 4, 2016 – Innovation Network Corporation of Japan (“INCJ”) announced today its decision to invest in Curadim Pharma Co., Ltd. (“Curadim Pharma”). INCJ, together with Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd. (“Meiji”) have provided Curadim Pharma with the license to Meiji’s multiple sclerosis treatment drug candidate (compound number: CP9531), which targets the sphingosine-1-phosphate receptor, and the rights to its R&D, manufacturing and sales across the world. INCJ will invest up to 1 billion yen to provide Curadim Pharma with the necessary funding to support future R&D.

SMBC Venture Capital Co., Ltd., Nippon Venture Capital Co., Ltd., Nissay Capital Co., Ltd., and Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Co., Ltd. will also invest in Curadim Pharma.

Curadim Pharma was established on June 29, 2016. The company aims to contribute to the treatment of diseases with high medical needs or unmet medical needs by introducing early stage seeds from domestic pharmaceutical companies in order to develop new drugs focusing primarily on immunology, for intractable diseases such as the treatment of multiple sclerosis.¹ Curadim Pharma was established by personnel with highly specialized skills and extensive R&D experience in the pharmaceutical industry.

By leveraging this investment capital, Curadim Pharma can continue R&D towards multiple sclerosis treatment with CP9531 and can reinforce resources with the development of new drugs and the discovery of next generation seeds.

In addition to providing Curadim Pharma with growth capital, INCJ will also offer management support through the appointment of outside directors and strengthening the development system. Additionally, INCJ will promote the creation of a new model case by providing support to venture companies from the establishment stage in order to contribute to the development of early stage seeds from domestic pharmaceutical companies. By concentrating on bringing together resources, funds and technological research, INCJ aim to promote open innovation through mobilizing resources and technological research in the pharmaceutical industry.

¹ Multiple Sclerosis is a disease that causes neurotransmission failure by destroying the myelin sheath which protects the central nervous system including the brain and spinal cord. It has been designated as an incurable disease by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

Through the provision of innovative pharmaceutical products, Meiji, INCJ and Curadim Pharma will continue to contribute towards the treatment of incurable diseases with unmet medical needs.

About Curadim Pharma Co., Ltd.

Established	June 29 2016
Business Outline	R&D of pharmaceutical products
Headquarters	Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo ²
President	Tetsu Uchigasaki
URL	http://curadim.co.jp/

About Innovation Network Corporation of Japan (INCJ)

Established	July 2009
Headquarters	Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
President and COO	Mikihide Katsumata
URL	http://www.incj.co.jp/

INCJ was established in July 2009 as a public-private partnership that provides financial, technological and management support for next-generation businesses. INCJ specifically supports those projects that combine technologies and varied expertise across industries and materialize open innovation. INCJ has the capacity to invest up to ¥2 trillion (approx. US\$20 billion).

INCJ's management team is drawn from the private sector with diverse experience in investment, technologies and management. Through its Innovation Network Committee, INCJ assesses investment opportunities that contribute to industrial innovation in Japan in line with criteria set by the government.

About Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.

Established	October 1916
Headquarters	Chuo-ku, Tokyo
Representative	Daikichiro Kobayashi
URL	http://www.meiji-seika-pharma.co.jp/index.html

Meiji's business is based on specialty and generic pharma that continues to meet diverse medical needs through the international deployment of its three pillars; anti-infective agents, central nervous system disease treatment drugs and generic drugs.

² Curadim Pharma established its office in the Global Business Hub Tokyo, which opened in July 2016. It is a collaboration office where venture companies from both within and outside of Japan can gather.

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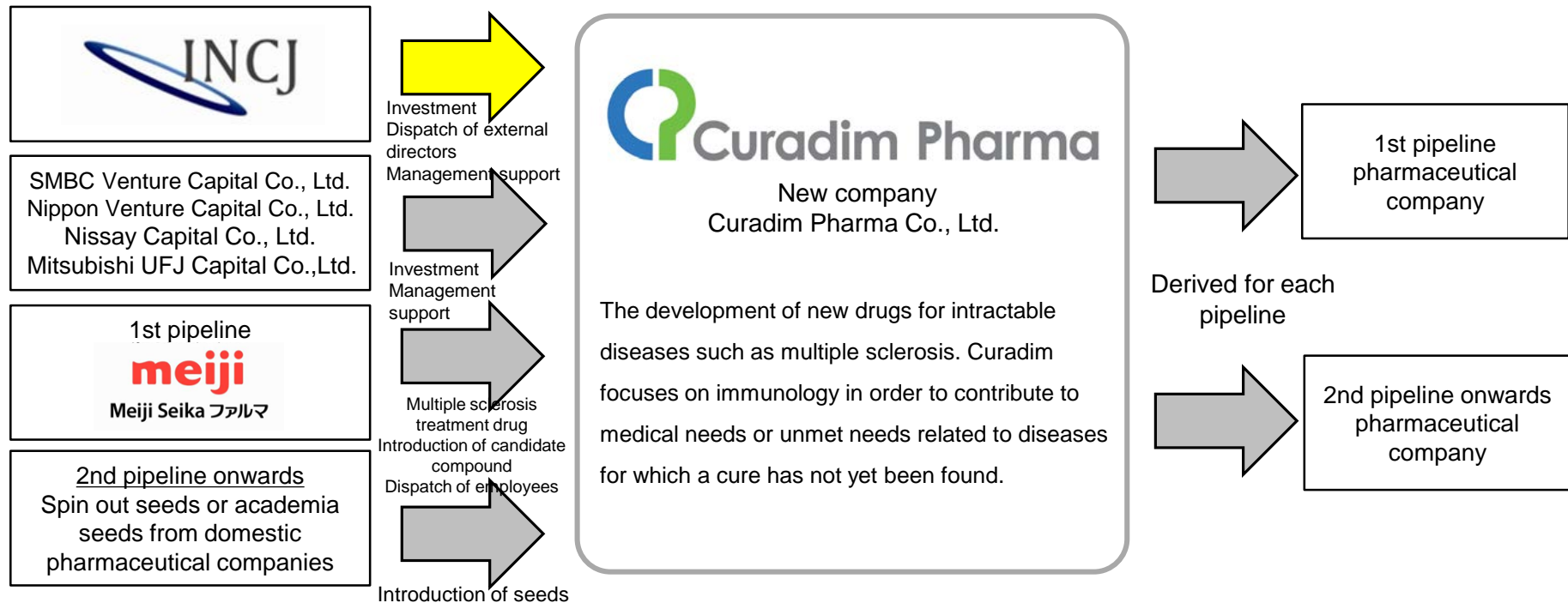
Appendix

INCJ to invest in Curadim Pharma Co., Ltd.

Domestic pharmaceutical company spin out that develops new drugs for intractable diseases



Target: Curadim Pharma Co., Ltd.
Outline: R&D of pharmaceutical products
Investment: 1 billion yen (maximum)
Date of Investment: August 4 2016



- Promote the creation of a new model case by providing support for spin-out ventures from the establishment stage in order to contribute to the development of early stage seeds from domestic pharmaceutical companies
- Aim to promote open innovation by mobilizing resources and technological research in the pharmaceutical industry
- Contribute towards solving societal issues by providing innovative pharmaceutical products for intractable diseases with high unmet medical needs