

## **INCJ sells its shares in Orphan Disease Treatment Institute Co., Ltd.**

**Tokyo, March 31, 2023** — INCJ, Ltd. (“INCJ”) announced that it has transferred its entire shareholding in Orphan Disease Treatment Institute Co., Ltd. (“ODTI”) to the co-investor, DAIICHI SANKYO COMPANY, LIMITED (“Daiichi Sankyo”).

### **About Orphan Disease Treatment Institute Co., Ltd.**

Established:	March 2013
Headquarters:	Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo
Representative:	Makoto Hanada, President
Business outline:	Development of a novel therapeutic drug (DS-5141) based on nucleic acid medicine (Exon skipping induction therapy with ENA oligonucleotides)

### **Overview of investment**

Announcement date:	February 14, 2013 / February 25, 2016
Authorized investment:	JPY1.65 billion (maximum) / JPY360 million (maximum)
Amount invested:	JPY1.955 billion
Press release:	INCJ announces additional investment in Orphan Disease Treatment Institute Co., Ltd. <a href="https://www.incj.co.jp/english/newsroom/upload/docs/10c25ddb4ab41cb3be4aaf7344eb3316f1379865.pdf">https://www.incj.co.jp/english/newsroom/upload/docs/10c25ddb4ab41cb3be4aaf7344eb3316f1379865.pdf</a>

### **1. Background of investment**

ODTI was established in March 2013 to develop a therapeutic drug for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) using seeds invented by Professor Masafumi Matsuo, Faculty of Rehabilitation Studies, Kobe Gakuin University, and Specially Appointed Professor Yasuhiro Takeshima, Graduate School of Medicine, Kobe University (concurrently, Head of Pediatrics, Hyogo Medical University\*). DMD is an extremely serious, rare genetic disease that statistically affects approximately 1 in 3,500 newborn boys. INCJ decided to invest in ODTI through a joint investment by INCJ, Daiichi Sankyo, and funds managed by Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Co., Ltd. in the hopes of improving the quality of life of DMD patients and addressing their unmet medical needs.

*\* Formerly, Hyogo College of Medicine*

## **2. Business progress**

After the company was established, ODTI collaborated with Daiichi Sankyo to develop a therapeutic drug (DS-5141) aimed at maintaining and improving muscle function in DMD patients, whose production of dystrophin protein in muscle cells declines with age. No safety concerns, such as discontinuations or clinically relevant adverse events, were observed in the Phase 1/2 clinical trials and their extension studies (collectively referred to as Phase 1/2 clinical trials) conducted in Japan in patients with DMD. Efficacy of the therapeutic agents was also achieved, with an increase in dystrophin protein in muscle cells observed in several patients.

## **3. Reason for exit**

After receiving certain results in Phase 1/2 clinical trials in the joint development of a DMD drug by ODTI and Daiichi Sankyo, INCJ had various discussions and deliberations with ODTI and Daiichi Sankyo to determine a method of exit, and decided that the transfer of shares to Daiichi Sankyo would be most appropriate for future DMD drug development.

### **About INCJ, Ltd.**

INCJ, Ltd. was established in September 2018 via company split from Innovation Network Corporation of Japan (INCJ). INCJ was established in July 2009 with the aim of overcoming boundaries between companies and industries, creating and nurturing key industries via open innovation for the prosperity of future generations. Following revisions to its governing law—the Industrial Competitiveness Enhancement Act—the continuing company changed its name to Japan Investment Corporation (JIC) and began new activities. INCJ, Ltd. is mandated until March 2025 to pursue the activities of the original Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, engaging in “Value Up” initiatives at portfolio companies, making additional and milestone investments, and developing exit strategies from investments in portfolio companies.

URL: <http://www.incj.co.jp/english/>

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