

Notice Regarding a Development Decision of Vaccine for COVID-19

Osaka, Japan, April 27, 2020 – Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; President and CEO: Isao Teshirogi, Ph.D.; hereafter "Shionogi") today announced that Shionogi has officially made the decision to develop a prophylactic vaccine for COVID-19, caused by the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) infection.

SARS-CoV-2 is a global threat, and prompt responses are needed to prevent the spread of infection and to develop therapeutics and vaccines. As a pharmaceutical company with a major focus on infectious diseases, Shionogi is also working with public institutions, academia, and partner companies, to address COVID-19 and is pursuing the discovery of novel therapeutic drugs, vaccine development, and preparations for offering a COVID-19 antibody test kit (Reference: [Press release on April 14, 2020, Commitment to Fight COVID-19](#)).

Regarding commitment to vaccine development, UMN Pharma Inc., a subsidiary of Shionogi, is pursuing the discovery and development of a recombinant protein vaccine for COVID-19, using their unique technology, "BEVS*", in a project supported by the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) [Representative of Research and Development: Dr. Hideki Hasegawa, Director of Influenza Virus Research Center, National Institute of Infectious Diseases], which began in March, 2020. We have decided to position the development of this vaccine as one of our top-priority projects, alongside the discovery of COVID-19 therapeutic drugs, and to accelerate our efforts to rapidly progress into nonclinical and clinical trials and scale-up studies to enable us to offer this vaccine to 10 million people. At the present time, we are coordinating our plans with relevant parties, such as the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, and the National Institute of Infectious Diseases (NIID), in order to start clinical trials within the year.

* Baculovirus Expression Vector System

Shionogi is committed to "protecting people from the threat of infectious diseases" as our key focus. We are not limiting ourselves to the research and development of therapeutic medications, but are also focused on the total care of infectious disease, through awareness building, prevention and diagnosis. Shionogi will work closely with the NIID, a country-representative specialist institution for infectious disease control, to accelerate the development of new domestic vaccines for COVID-19 and will strive to contribute to the recovery of the safety and security of society by advancing our efforts to support early containment of the pandemic.

The impact of this matter on the consolidated earnings forecast for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 is not yet determined at this time, but we will promptly announce any future impact of the progression of this effort on our financial results when recognized.

Press Release



Forward-Looking Statements

This announcement contains forward-looking statements. These statements are based on expectations in light of the information currently available, assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from these statements. Risks and uncertainties include general domestic and international economic conditions such as general industry and market conditions, and changes of interest rate and currency exchange rate. These risks and uncertainties particularly apply with respect to product-related forward-looking statements. Product risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, completion and discontinuation of clinical trials; obtaining regulatory approvals; claims and concerns about product safety and efficacy; technological advances; adverse outcomes of important litigation; domestic and foreign healthcare reforms and changes of laws and regulations. Also for existing products, there are manufacturing and marketing risks, which include, but are not limited to, inability to build production capacity to meet demand, unavailability of raw materials and entry of competitive products. The company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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