



## Press Release

### **Astellas and Kyoto University Innovation Capital Establish Strategic Alliance Agreement**

**TOKYO and Kyoto, May 13, 2021** - Astellas Pharma Inc. (TSE: 4503, President and CEO: Kenji Yasukawa, Ph.D., “Astellas” ) and Kyoto University Innovation Capital Co., Ltd. (President and CEO; Ko Kusumi, “KYOTO-iCAP”) have established a strategic alliance agreement to bring their strengths together and promote the social implementation of advanced research results from national universities by discovering, supporting, and fostering them.

Based on this agreement, the two companies will establish a system for regularly exchanging information in the drug discovery and healthcare fields. KYOTO-iCAP expects to promote activities supporting establishment and growth of promising venture companies by collaborating with Astellas, which has drug discovery capabilities. Astellas expects to increase opportunities for alliance to incorporate excellent capabilities outside and accelerate delivering cutting-edge science to society by collaborating with KYOTO-iCAP, which has a strong network with promising seeds and venture companies from national universities such as Kyoto University.

In recent years, with the diversification of drug discovery methods and treatment methods, technological fusion between different fields has been attempted. In the future, promoting cross-disciplinary activities beyond medicine and pharmacy will lead to the development of the drug discovery and healthcare fields. KYOTO-iCAP targets all of Kyoto University’s research fields, not limited to drug discovery and healthcare. It has a track record of making a wide range of investments, such as interdisciplinary fusion projects and company carve-out projects. Astellas is committed to open innovation through partnerships with multiple domestic and international academia and venture companies. Astellas has been involved in the ecosystem from Kyoto, such as establishing the “Alliance Station” as a base for joint research activities within Kyoto University in 2017 and investing in the KYOTO-iCAP No. 2 fund managed by KYOTO-iCAP in January 2021.

Through this strategic alliance agreement, the two companies will contribute to the further development of the ecosystem originating in Kyoto, where venture companies from various fields gather, and will strengthen the foundation for socially

implementing the research results of national universities as new drugs and new businesses.

#### **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+<sup>®</sup> 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>.

#### **About KYOTO-iCAP**

Kyoto-iCAP is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kyoto University established in December 2014. Its purpose is to provide investment and support to companies founded by researchers belonging to Kyoto University (including spin-offs from joint research companies) for commercializing knowledge (including research results, technology, etc.). The Kyoto-iCAP 1st Fund was created from a 16-billion-yen capital contribution from Kyoto University and private financial institutions, in January 2016. Kyoto-iCAP is a general partner of the Fund. The fund management period is 15 years, and this enables Kyoto-iCAP to support Kyoto University-originated startups long-term and provide equity from the seed stage to practical application. In January 2021, Kyoto-iCAP launched its 2nd Fund with a 18-billion-yen capital contribution. Kyoto-iCAP expands its support to companies that utilize the research results from Japanese national universities including Kyoto University. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.kyoto-unicap.co.jp/en/>.

#### **Cautionary Notes**

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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