

(Translation)

September 10, 2024

To Shareholders,

Company Name: Renascience Inc.
Representative: Keisuke Furuta, President & CEO
(Code: 4889 TSE Growth)
For inquiries, please contact Administration Dept.

Announcement of adoption of 'Science and Technology Platform Program for Advanced Biological Medicine' of Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

We are pleased to announce that our application for the "Development of novel drugs for the treatment of intractable neuromuscular diseases based on innovative oligonucleotide therapeutic technologies" has been adopted by the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)'s "Science and Technology Platform Program for Advanced Biological Medicine" for FY2024 (the principal research institution is Osaka University, and our company participates as a contributing research institution).

Details

1. About the adopted project

Project name: "Science and Technology Platform Program for Advanced Biological Medicine" for FY2024

Research topic: Development of novel drugs for the treatment of intractable neuromuscular diseases based on innovative oligonucleotide therapeutic technologies

(Principal Investigator: Professor Satoshi Obika, Osaka University)

Project period: FY2024 to FY2018

Project cost: FY2024 97,000,000 yen

Unlike conventional medicines, nucleic acid medicines exert their efficacy by directly acting on the mRNA of disease-causing genes, and are therefore expected to be "disease-modifying drugs"^{*1} for the treatment of intractable diseases. To date, 21 nucleic acid drugs have been launched worldwide, contributing to the treatment of intractable diseases for which no conventional treatment existed. Another major advantage of nucleic acid drugs is that once the causative gene of a disease is identified, the development speed is overwhelmingly faster than other drug discovery modalities.

In this project, based on open innovation among academic research institutes such as Osaka University and Kyoto University, Renascience Co., Ltd., a startup company from Tohoku University, and Luxana Biotech Co., Ltd., a startup company from Osaka University, we will conduct pre-clinical studies and establish manufacturing processes for nucleic acid drug seeds such as antisense nucleic acids^{*2} and anti-miRNA nucleic acids^{*3} for intractable diseases such as multiple system atrophy^{*4}, Parkinson's disease^{*5}, and muscular dystrophy^{*6}. In addition, we aim to prepare for the framework and design of investigator-initiated clinical trials for the regulatory approval.

There is no change in the earnings forecast for the fiscal year ending March 2025 due to this matter.

^{*1} Disease-modifying drugs

Drugs that directly act on substances closely related to the onset of a disease to control its onset and progression are called disease-modifying drugs.

^{*2} Antisense nucleic acid

This is a single-stranded DNA or RNA that binds complementarily to a target nucleic acid and inhibits or controls its function.

^{*3} Anti-miRNA nucleic acid

miRNA is a single-stranded RNA molecule 21-25 bases long that is involved in regulating post-transcriptional expression of genes. Anti-miRNA nucleic acids are artificial nucleic acids that bind complementarily to target miRNAs and inhibit their function.

^{*4} Multiple system atrophy

This is a disease that causes degeneration of nerve cells in the autonomic nerves and cerebellum, impairing the nerve functions of multiple systems and resulting in various neurological symptoms.

^{*5} Parkinson's disease

This is a neurodegenerative disease that develops due to damage to dopamine nerve cells in a part of the midbrain called the substantia nigra. The main motor symptoms are tremors, slow movement, muscle rigidity, and difficulty in maintaining posture (prone to falling).

^{*6} Muscular dystrophy

This is a hereditary disease in which a gene mutation prevents the proper production of proteins necessary for muscles, causing the muscles to gradually weaken.