

Shionogi starts a screening program for new anti-TB compounds

Osaka, Japan, June 3, 2013 - Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka; President & CEO: Isao Teshirogi, Ph.D.; hereafter “Shionogi”) today announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Global Alliance for Tuberculosis (TB) Drug Development (hereafter “TB Alliance”) to screen new anti-TB drug candidates from Shionogi’s compound library.

Shionogi and TB Alliance will find candidate compounds that show potential to fight TB strains that are undermining efforts to control the global TB epidemic. After an agreement on the details, the screening for new anti-TB agents will be started.

TB remains one of the leading causes of death worldwide, with almost 9 million new cases reported each year, and 1.4 million people died due to TB. Particularly in developing countries, drug-resistant TB is a serious public health issue. Thus, the development of effective drugs for TB has been keenly desired.

The Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund) is a new public-private partnership that’s bringing Japanese R&D to the global fight against infectious disease such as malaria, tuberculosis, and other afflictions that prey mainly on the poorest of the poor. Shionogi has been participating in the GHIT Fund, and this screening program is part of the activities of GHIT Fund.

Shionogi has been dedicated to providing innovative medicines for the treatment of infectious diseases, and will continue to focus on this therapeutic area to offer the greatest possible contribution to improving the lives of patients suffering from infectious diseases. Shionogi’s participation in the GHIT Fund and this agreement with TB Alliance are also expected to strengthen the healthcare and the quality of patient treatment in developing countries. Shionogi strives constantly to accomplish its mission to provide innovative medicines to patients all over the world.

About the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance)

The Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to finding faster-acting and affordable drug regimens to fight TB. With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and others, TB Alliance is coordinating the studies and assists developments of anti-TB drugs globally. To learn more about TB Alliance, please see www.tballiance.org.

About the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund)

The Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund) is an international non-profit organization aimed to advance the research and development (R&D) of new health technologies from Japan to fight infectious diseases prevalent specifically in the developing world, including HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Established as a public-private partnership between the Government of Japan, a consortium of pharmaceutical companies and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the GHIT Fund facilitates and funds the R&D of new health technologies through partnership creation and grant-making activities. To learn more about GHIT Fund, please see www.ghitfund.org.

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