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December 24, 2018

Rena Therapeutics Inc.

Tokyo Medical and Dental University

Rena Therapeutics and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Agree to
a Non-Exclusive License Agreement for Heteroduplex Oligonucleotide (HDO) Patents

Rena Therapeutics Inc. (President & CEO: Jun Sasaki, headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, hereinafter referred to as “Rena”) , a bio-venture company authorized by Tokyo Medical and Dental University (hereinafter referred to as “TMDU”), announced today that it has executed a non-exclusive license agreement with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as “Takeda”) to research, develop, make and sale nucleic acid drugs using HDO. Through the agreement with Takeda, Rena hopes that research and development of novel nucleic acid drugs using HDO will be accelerated by Takeda. Rena will receive a license fee as well as milestone payments and royalties based on the progress of development and commercial sales of HDO drugs.

[About Rena]

Rena is a Japanese corporation established in 2015, a bio-venture company authorized by TMDU, having its office at Otemachi Financial City Grand Cube 3F, 9-2, Otemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0004, Japan.

Nucleic acid drugs have been recognized issues such as delivery to a disease site, side effects and stability in blood after administration, but on the other hand, they have advantage to be able to approach to diseases in which they were difficult to apply therapy using low-molecular-weight compounds, antibodies, etc.

HDO has a structure combining an antisense strand (= active chain) (double stranded upper part) functioning as an active body and a carrier chain (lower part) containing a ligand for carrying an antisense strand to a disease site. By adopting such a structure, it is expected that the antisense effect can be implemented more effectively in the target organ than the conventional single-stranded antisense nucleic acid.



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Rena has a business model that provides solutions and services based on HDO technology as a platform to customers and receives consideration.

After establishing in January 2015, Rena has raised funds twice. As a result, we will strengthen the HDO technology, we have already signed collaborative research agreements with two major pharmaceutical companies already, and will continue to increase the number of contracts with pharmaceutical companies and will further strengthen our business foundation.

Rena is committed and responsible for creating novel nucleic acid drugs using HDO in order to respond to unmet medical needs such as cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, hereditary diseases and other difficult diseases.

(For inquiries about this announcement)

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End of announcement