

## Expansion of the Domestic Logistics Platform for Pharmaceuticals

*- To ensure a stable supply, a new logistics center for the Kyushu area will open and be added to the existing three logistics centers -*

**TOKYO, December 16, 2020** - Astellas Pharma Inc. (TSE: 4503, President and CEO: Kenji Yasukawa, Ph.D., “Astellas” ) today announced that Astellas will open a new logistics center for the Kyushu area in Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture. The domestic logistics platform will expand to four centers by January 2021, including the existing logistics centers in the western Japan area and eastern Japan area, the joint-operated logistics center in Sapporo, Hokkaido<sup>1</sup> that began its operation in January 2018. With this new structure, Astellas will aim to further strengthen its system for ensuring a stable supply of pharmaceuticals.

As part of the Business Continuity Plan (BCP), maintaining a stable supply of pharmaceuticals even during pandemic of infectious disease or natural disasters such as earthquakes, storms, and flooding is one of the most important missions of a pharmaceutical company. Moreover, in December 2018, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare released the Japanese edition of the “Good Distribution Practice (GDP)” guideline<sup>2</sup> demanding stricter quality assurance during storage and transport in compliance with the GDP. On top of this, there are also distribution-related challenges such as a shortage of truck drivers, ensuring safe driving, and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

In view of the situation mentioned above, Astellas has decided to increase the number of domestic logistics centers from the current three centers to four for reducing the risk in distribution, thereby further strengthen its system for ensuring a stable supply of pharmaceuticals. Astellas believes that ensuring an even more robust system for a stable product supply cannot be developed by Astellas alone and considers the cooperation of the stakeholders involved with logistics of pharmaceuticals, including other pharmaceutical companies, as well as the standardization of processes, to be of crucial importance. Astellas aims to establish, at logistics centers in Kyushu as well as in western and eastern Japan, system similar to those that are currently being implemented at the jointly-operated logistics center in Hokkaido with a joint storage and joint transportation structure participated by multiple number of pharmaceutical companies.

The creation of a stable and efficient logistics platform will enable Astellas to fulfill its mission of maintaining a stable supply of pharmaceutical products and ensuring their quality at all times. It will also give a sense of security to patients and medical institutions

Astellas has already reflected the impact from this decision in its financial forecast of the current fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.

1: In January 2018, Astellas, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited, Teva Takeda Pharma Ltd., and Teva Takeda Yakuhin Ltd. started the operations of its joint logistics center in Sapporo, Hokkaido, by constructing a joint storage and joint transportation system for the distribution of their pharmaceutical products.

2 GDP(Good Distribution Practice) guideline: The guideline establishes appropriate methods for ensuring distribution control and maintaining the quality of pharmaceuticals.

#### **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>.

#### **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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