

Shionogi enters into Comprehensive Cooperation Agreement in the Field of Infectious Disease Focused on Malaria with Nagasaki University.

OSAKA, Japan. February 28, 2019 - Shionogi & Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; President and CEO: Isao Teshirogi, Ph.D.; hereafter "Shionogi") today announced that it has entered into a comprehensive cooperation agreement with Nagasaki University (Administrative office : Nagasaki; President : Shigeru Kohno, M.D.,Ph.D.) in the field of infectious diseases focused on malaria.

Through this agreement, Shionogi intends to establish Shionogi Infectious Disease Division as a collaborative research division at Institute of Tropical Medicine of Nagasaki University, and accelerate and facilitate the drug discovery research for malaria. Over the next five years, this division will concentrate on studies to understand the life cycle of malaria parasites and the host defense mechanism, which are essential for the diagnosis and treatment of malaria, and aim to create an innovate novel drug based on the findings from the studies.

Malaria is one of the world's top 3 infectious diseases worldwide along with AIDS and tuberculosis, and mainly occurs in epidemics in tropical regions and subtropical regions. The reported number of patients with newly diagnosed is approximately 220 millions/year and the number of death due to malaria is approximately 440 thousands/ year.¹ Because the efficacy of the preventive vaccine is inadequate and also because a number of the parasites have developed resistance to the existing treatments, malaria has been a serious threat to mankind globally, and elimination of malaria has been included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guideline for the international societies to achieve.

Through this collaboration, Nagasaki University and Shionogi will become a key part of the new open innovation base for the industry-academia collaboration both inside and outside Japan, and will establish a platform aiming at eradication of malaria. We will strive to contribute to the sustainable society and the health of people around the world through ongoing provision of “medical development” and the “best drugs.”

For further information, contacts:

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References :

1. [WHO,2018](#)