

Alfresa Holdings Corporation

Kidswell Bio Corporation

Chiome Bioscience Inc.

**Selected for the MHLW's Subsidy Program Supporting the Development of
Domestic Manufacturing Facilities for Biosimilars
Three-Company Consortium Commences Collaboration for Facility Development**

Alfresa Holdings Corporation (“Alfresa”), Kidswell Bio Corporation (“Kidswell”), and Chiome Bioscience Inc. (“Chiome”) are pleased to announce that our joint application has been selected under the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)’s “Medical Facility Development Subsidy Program (Subsidy Program for the Development of Domestic Manufacturing Facilities for Biosimilars)” (hereinafter “the Program”).

This subsidy program aims to establish a stable domestic supply system for biosimilars in Japan. Through this initiative, the three companies will work together to develop domestic biosimilar manufacturing infrastructure with the support of MHLW. Mycenax Biotech Inc. (“MBI”), a Taiwan-based contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO), will also participate as a key partner in the program. MBI brings a proven track record in the development and manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals—including biosimilars—and has extensive experience operating GMP-certified facilities equipped with leading-edge production technologies and globally compliant quality management systems.

Biosimilars offer comparable quality, safety, and efficacy to reference biologics but are priced more affordably under NHI drug pricing system in Japan. The widespread use of biosimilars contributes to enhancing patient access to diverse treatment options and promoting more sustainable health insurance systems. Recognizing this, the MHLW has actively promoted biosimilar use in recent years and set a measurable target to encourage broader adoption across eligible biosimilar products in the coming years (Note 1). While the number of approved biosimilars in Japan is gradually increasing, usage rates still vary significantly depending on the product. In addition, Japan currently relies heavily on imports of drug substances and formulations produced overseas, posing a supply risk in the face of future pandemics or geopolitical instability.

Following the approval of this grant program, the four companies—Alfresa, which operates a licensed pharmaceutical manufacturing business and maintains a nationwide distribution network for prescription drugs; Kidswell, which has experience in the development and stable supply of multiple biosimilars; Chiome, with a long track record in the research and development of antibody therapeutics; and MBI, which offers comprehensive biomanufacturing expertise encompassing facility design, operational excellence, and workforce development —will collaborate by leveraging their respective strengths to establish an integrated value chain spanning the entire biosimilar supply

process, from development and manufacturing to distribution.

Note 1: “Policy for Promoting the Use of Biosimilars” (MHLW)

<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/10807000/001310038.pdf>

*The above referenced documents are available only in Japanese.

■ About Alfresa Holdings Corporation

Alfresa Holdings Corporation operates a comprehensive healthcare business that spans pharmaceutical development and manufacturing, distribution, and the operation of dispensing pharmacies. With consolidated net sales exceeding ¥2.9 trillion, the Alfresa Group is Japan’s largest pharmaceutical wholesaler in terms of prescription drug distribution.

Guided by its corporate philosophy, “We create and deliver a fresh life for all” the Group plays a critical role in supporting Japan’s healthcare infrastructure by maintaining a robust pharmaceutical supply chain and addressing a wide range of medical needs throughout the country.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.alfresa.com/eng/>

■ About Kidswell Bio Corporation

Kidswell Bio Corporation is guided by the mission “Biotech Engineering Company, Striving for Value Creation – For Comprehensive Healthcare System for Children as well as Families and Society”. The company has already launched four biosimilar products with partner pharmaceutical companies and established a stable revenue base, while also advancing its cell therapy business, expected to drive future growth. Through its R&D efforts, Kidswell aims to deliver innovative treatments and contribute to a society where patients can live healthier and fulfilled lives.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.kidswellbio.com/en/>

■ About Chiome Bioscience Inc.

Chiome Bioscience Inc. is a biotechnology company dedicated to the discovery and development of antibody therapeutics targeting diseases with high unmet medical needs. Leveraging its proprietary ADLib® system and multi-specific antibody generation technologies such as Tribody™, Chiome actively generates promising antibody drug candidates.

In addition to its Drug Discovery Business, which focuses on in-house antibody drug development, and its Drug Discovery Support Business, which provides high-quality technical services to pharmaceutical companies, Chiome is also promoting collaborations with pharmaceutical companies and startups under an Integrated Drug Discovery (IDD) model, aiming to expand its biosimilar business and contribute to the development of Japan’s drug discovery ecosystem.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.chiome.co.jp/?id=en>

■ About Mycenax Biotech Inc.

Mycenax Biotech Inc. is a pioneer in the development and manufacturing of biopharmaceuticals in Taiwan. The company provides an integrated value chain encompassing cell line development, process and analytical development, formulation, commercial manufacturing, and aseptic filling. Headquartered in Taiwan, Mycenax offers comprehensive CDMO services to global clients across the biopharmaceutical value chain.

For more information, please visit: <https://mycenax.com/?lang=en>