

News Release Dated May 14, 2024

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**Start of COPD Patient Education Joint Program
with the City of Takamatsu and AstraZeneca K.K.**

Japan System Techniques Co., Ltd. (JAST) has established an agreement with the City of Takamatsu and AstraZeneca K.K. for cooperation concerning education programs for individuals who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The details are as per attached.

This matter will have only a negligible effect on JAST's results of operations. An announcement will be made promptly if there is any additional information that should be disclosed.

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■ Background of the Joint COPD Education Program

COPD is a group of lung diseases including emphysema, chronic bronchitis and others that over time makes breathing increasingly difficult. The primary causes are smoking over many years and problems involving the growth of the lungs. In recent years, there has been increasing interest concerning the link between COPD and frailty and sarcopenia. Inflammation throughout the body can cause a variety of other disorders of the organs in addition to COPD (source: SMART LIFE PROJECT “COPD”, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, <https://www.smartlife.mhlw.go.jp/event/disease/copd/>, viewed on April 23, 2024)

The City of Takamatsu wanted to start programs for the diagnosis and proper treatment of COPD as part of measures to help residents enjoy a long healthy life. The goal is to prevent this disease from becoming serious. To accomplish this, Takamatsu city officials began to examine ways to work with companies for educational programs for advances regarding awareness of COPD and the diagnosis and treatment of this chronic disease. This process led to the decision to work with AstraZeneca K.K., which has activities for increasing the proper treatment of COPD in accordance with guidelines. The goals are preventing COPD symptoms from worsening and building sound three-way relationships encompassing AstraZeneca K.K., patients and healthcare professionals. To accomplish these goals, this company considered an alliance with JAST. The reason is JAST’s use of data analysis involving national health insurance and health care for people in the later stages of old age for the purpose of providing local governments and the national government with ideas for ways to alter the behavior of people. The goals are improvements in the health and quality of life of residents of Japan.

AstraZeneca K.K. and JAST support the following objectives of the planned COPD educational activities of the City of Takamatsu and recognize the medical significance of the city’s plan. As a result, the two companies responded to the request of Takamatsu city officials to establish an alliance based on the terms of the contract signed. The COPD educational activities have the following two objectives.

- (1) Contribute to an increase in suitable COPD treatments and knowledge about these treatments.
- (2) For improving the health and quality of life of the people of Japan, increase activities for altering the behavior of people based on the analysis of national health insurance data and data about health care for people in the later stages of old age

■ Upcoming Activities

JAST wants this partnership to become a new approach for national health insurance and health care for people in the later stages of old age. Activities are expected to result in advances involving the awareness, diagnosis and treatment of COPD. JAST will continue to use educational activities involving diseases and disorders to help people covered by health insurance to remain in good health.

■ Inquiries

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