



For immediate release

March 19, 2014

Astellas Pharma Inc.  
Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited

## **Astellas Pharma and Daiichi Sankyo Form Compound Library Sharing Partnership**

**Tokyo, Japan** – March 19, 2014 – Astellas Pharma Inc. (“Astellas”; Tokyo: 4503; President and CEO: Yoshihiko Hatanaka) and Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (“Daiichi Sankyo,” President and CEO: Joji Nakayama) today announced the companies would form a compound library sharing partnership for approximately 400,000 selected compounds. The collaboration enables each party to promote innovative new medicine research and development. This is the first time that a compound library partnership of this scale has been formed in Japan.

Astellas and Daiichi Sankyo have compound libraries that are the basis for their drug discovery research, and through High Throughput Screening (HTS)<sup>1)</sup>, the companies can quickly and effectively search for potentially beneficial compounds to develop innovative new drugs. Extensive, diverse, and high-quality compound libraries, such as the joint Astellas/Daiichi Sankyo libraries, are crucial to successful drug discovery.

This partnership will give each company access to qualitatively different compound libraries—which have been developed based on the targeting disease strategies of each company—allowing both companies to implement broader HTS to generate innovative new drugs.

Under this partnership, Astellas and Daiichi Sankyo will exchange approximately 400,000 selected compounds, including a significant number of proprietary synthetic compounds, from their respective compound libraries. Beginning April 1, 2014, for a period of three years, both Astellas and Daiichi Sankyo will be able to implement broad

HTS using the shared compounds without restrictions on targeted disease areas. In line with the partnership, each company will disclose sufficient information to allow the receiving company to implement HTS independently.

If, as a result of HTS, the receiving company identifies a candidate compound to be used for a new drug discovery, the receiving company may carry out development and commercialization of the innovative new drug with an indication for any human diseases from the compound pursuant to the terms of agreement.

Astellas and Daiichi Sankyo have each set forth a corporate philosophy to contribute to the health of people around the world. Through this partnership, both companies aim to effectively utilize each other's assets and knowledge beyond the framework of one pharmaceutical company, and accelerate open innovation while taking advantage of their own internal strengths to provide innovative new drugs.

<sup>1)</sup> A method of high-speed screening of molecules that respond to potential drug targets from an extremely large number of compounds, through an advanced systemization method. HTS plays an important role in early drug discovery and is an effective technique for finding good candidate compounds that lead to new drugs.

Contact	
Astellas Pharma Inc. Corporate Communications TEL: 03-3244-3201 <a href="http://www.astellas.com/en">http://www.astellas.com/en</a>	Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited Corporate Communications Media: 03-6225-1126 IR related: 03-6225-1125 <a href="http://www.daiichisankyo.com">http://www.daiichisankyo.com</a>