Daiichi Sankyo and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Announce Lung Cancer Research Collaboration

Tokyo, Japan, Parsippany, NJ and Boston, MA – (October 12, 2016) – Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (hereafter, Daiichi Sankyo) and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute today announced a preclinical research collaboration focused on lung cancer.

A team of scientists led by Pasi A. Jänne, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Lowe Center for Thoracic Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Scientific Director, Belfer Center for Applied Cancer Science; and, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School will partner with Daiichi Sankyo on the development of a translational pharmacology package with unique experimental animal and patient derived xenograft models that were established at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The collaboration will leverage the translational medicine expertise of the Belfer Center. Financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

“We are excited to enter into this unique partnership with Daiichi Sankyo. Working together we can accelerate the development of new therapeutic strategies for patients with lung cancer,” said Dr. Jänne.

“Despite several recent significant advances in the treatment of lung cancer with EGFR mutations, many patients still die of this disease, hence our urgency and obligation to pursue swiftly great science,” said Antoine Yver, MD, MSc, Executive Vice President and Global Head, Oncology Research and Development, Daiichi Sankyo. “By partnering with scientists at Dana-Farber, we are looking to better understand drivers of disease as well as initial and secondary resistance to established targeted treatments with the ultimate goal of identifying a potential new treatment for patients with lung cancer.”

About Daiichi Sankyo Cancer Enterprise

The vision of Daiichi Sankyo Cancer Enterprise is to push beyond traditional thinking to align world-class science to create innovative treatments for patients with cancer. The oncology pipeline of Daiichi Sankyo continues to grow and currently includes more than 20 small molecules and monoclonal antibodies with novel targets in both solid and hematological cancers. Compounds in phase 3 development include: quizartinib, an oral FLT3-ITD inhibitor, for newly-diagnosed and relapsed/refractory FLT3-ITD+ acute myeloid leukemia (AML); pexidartinib, an oral CSF-1R inhibitor, for tenosynovial giant cell tumor (TGCT), also known as pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS) and giant cell tumor of the tendon sheath (GCT-TS), which also is being investigated in combination with anti-PD1 immunotherapy, pembrolizumab, in a range of solid tumors; and tivantinib, an oral MET inhibitor, for second-line treatment in patients with MET-high hepatocellular carcinoma in partnership with ArQule, Inc.

About Daiichi Sankyo
Daiichi Sankyo Group is dedicated to the creation and supply of innovative pharmaceutical products to address diversified, unmet medical needs of patients in both mature and emerging markets. With over 100 years of scientific expertise and a presence in more than 20 countries, Daiichi Sankyo and its 16,000 employees around the world draw upon a rich legacy of innovation and a robust pipeline of promising new medicines to help people. In addition to a strong portfolio of medicines for hypertension and thrombotic disorders, under the Group’s 2025 Vision to become a “Global Pharma Innovator with Competitive Advantage in Oncology,” Daiichi Sankyo research and development is primarily focused on bringing forth novel therapies in oncology, including immuno-oncology, with additional focus on new horizon areas, such as pain management, neurodegenerative diseases, heart and kidney diseases, and other rare diseases. For more information, please visit: www.daiichisankyo.com. Daiichi Sankyo, Inc., headquartered in Parsippany, New Jersey, is a member of the Daiichi Sankyo Group. For more information on Daiichi Sankyo, Inc., please visit: www.dsi.com.

About Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

From achieving the first remissions in childhood cancer with chemotherapy in 1948, to developing the very latest new therapies, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is one of the world’s leading centers of cancer research and treatment. It is the only center ranked in the top 4 of U.S. News and World Report’s Best Hospitals for both adult and pediatric cancer care.

Dana-Farber sits at the center of a wide range of collaborative efforts to reduce the burden of cancer through scientific inquiry, clinical care, education, community engagement, and advocacy. Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center provides the latest in cancer care for adults; Dana-Farber/Boston Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Center for children. The Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center unites the cancer research efforts of five Harvard academic medical centers and two graduate schools, while Dana-Farber Community Cancer Care provides high quality cancer treatment in communities outside Boston’s Longwood Medical Area.

Dana-Farber is dedicated to a unique, 50/50 balance between cancer research and care, and much of the Institute’s work is dedicated to translating the results of its discovery into new treatments for patients locally and around the world.

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