

# News release

## **Kyowa Kirin Received Prime Minister's Award for Japan Medical Research and Development Grand Prize**

**Tokyo, Japan, January 20, 2025** – Kyowa Kirin Co., Ltd. (Kyowa Kirin, TSE:4151) today announced that the company received the 7th Prime Minister's Award for Japan Medical Research and Development Grand Prize for "Development of T-cell lymphoma treatments based on the discovery of chemokines" with Professor Kouji Matsushima, M.D., Ph.D., of Tokyo University of Science and Professor Emeritus Osamu Yoshie, M.D., Ph.D., of Kindai University. The ceremony was held at the Prime Minister's official residence on January 17, 2025, and the award was presented by Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba.

The Japan Medical Research and Development Grand Prize honours one significant contribution to the advancement science each year, while also aiming to increase investment in and public understanding of medical research and development globally.

The Japan Medical Research and Development Grand Prize honours outstanding contributions to the advance of medical research and development around the world. The prize has been given since 2017 with the aim of deepening public interest and understanding, as well as providing an incentive for researchers. The Prime Minister's Award is given to one case that is recognised as having made an extremely significant contribution.

Dr Matsushima discovered the prototype of chemokines, which are proteins that control the migration of white blood cells, which play a role in the defence of the body in immune and inflammatory reactions, to specific tissues. Furthermore, Dr Matsushima and Dr Yoshie discovered that CC chemokine receptor 4 (CCR4) is highly expressed in adult T-Cell Leukemia/Lymphoma (ATL), and laid the foundation for the development of mogamulizumab, an anti-CCR4 antibody, as a novel ATL treatment. Kyowa Kirin created mogamulizumab, which utilizes the company's proprietary POTELLIGENT<sup>®</sup> technology to enhance antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity activity. The company conducted clinical trials for ATL in collaboration with Dr Ryuzo Ueda, a designated professor at Nagoya University (then at Nagoya City University) and succeeded in developing Japan's first antibody drug in the field of oncology. Since then, mogamulizumab has contributed to improving the outcome of patients with T-cell lymphoma in 58 countries and regions (as of the end of September 2024).

Masashi Miyamoto, Ph.D., President and CEO of Kyowa Kirin, commented, “We are honoured that our research and development approach has been recognised, as this award is the result of the combination of disease science and drug discovery technology based on an understanding of the needs of patients with T-cell lymphoma, in addition to the groundbreaking discoveries made by Dr Matsushima and Dr Yoshie. As a Japan based global specialty pharmaceutical company, we will continue to create and deliver life-changing value for people around the world by making full use of innovative drug discovery technologies.”



### **About Mogamulizumab**

Mogamulizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody directed against CCR4, which is frequently expressed on tumor cells of certain hematologic malignancies. Mogamulizumab was produced using Kyowa Kirin's proprietary POTELLIGENT® platform. It was approved first in Japan for treatment of relapsed or refractory CCR4 positive ATL in March 2012. The indication was later expanded to CCR4 positive ATL in December 2014. In addition, in view of the high efficacy of ATL, development was also conducted in CCR4-positive Peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) and Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL). And then it was also approved for the indications of relapsed or refractory CCR4-positive PTCL, and relapsed or refractory CTCL (partial change in 2018) in Japan. Furthermore, in August 2018 in the US and in November 2018 in Europe, it was approved for the treatment of mycosis fungoides and Sézary syndrome (main types of CTCL) after at least one prior systemic therapy.

### **About Kyowa Kirin**

Kyowa Kirin aims to discover and deliver novel medicines and treatments with lifechanging value. As a Japan-based Global Specialty Pharmaceutical Company, Kyowa Kirin has invested in drug discovery and biotechnology innovation for more than 70 years and is currently working to engineer the next generation of antibodies and cell and gene therapies with the potential to help patients with high unmet medical needs, such as bone & mineral, intractable hematological diseases/hemato-oncology and rare diseases. A shared commitment to Kyowa Kirin's values, to

sustainable growth, and to making people smile unites Kyowa Kirin across the globe. You can learn more about the business of Kyowa Kirin at [www.kyowakirin.com](http://www.kyowakirin.com).