



# News Release

## **Takeda Announces the Start of Operations for AXCELEAD at its Shonan Research Center**

*-First business model in the Japanese pharmaceutical industry that bridges basic and applied clinical research-  
-AXCELEAD provides industry with integrated research services for drug discovery-*

**Osaka and Kanagawa, Japan, July 10, 2017** — Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited [[TSE: 4502](#)] (Headquarters: Osaka, Japan; "Takeda") and Axcelead Drug Discovery Partners, Inc. (Headquarters: Kanagawa, Japan; former name: "PRE Business preparation Company," "AXCELEAD") today announced the start of operations for AXCELEAD occurred on July 1, 2017. AXCELEAD is the receiving company to which Takeda transferred a part of its research business, announced [on May 15, 2017](#).

AXCELEAD aims to bridge basic and applied clinical research, from exploratory research to optimizing candidate compounds. The newly formed company leverages Takeda's extensive drug discovery knowledge and its state-of-the-art research facility to offer high-value drug discovery services for a broad range of diseases and unmet medical needs. AXCELEAD will support not only the Takeda group businesses but also other life-science organizations such as other pharmaceutical companies, bio-technology ventures, and public and academic research institutions both within and outside Japan as part of its comprehensive integrated drug discovery services and consultation for the Shonan Health Innovation Park (SHIP) at Takeda's Shonan Research Center. AXCELEAD complements the existing value-added services available at SHIP and strengthens the park's potential for the co-creation and development of innovative medicines.

Yoshinori Ikeura, President of AXCELEAD, says "I'm very excited for the role I believe AXCELEAD will play in drug discovery. AXCELEAD has the capability to be a valuable partner by providing comprehensive and integrated expertise in areas like screening, synthesis, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and safety assessment. We are also able to draw on the scientific powerhouse of our personnel, who have gained extensive technical skills, knowledge, and experience through their work at Takeda. My vision is for our business to go beyond contracted research and provide optimized solutions that address each customers' unique needs. Every one of our staff is looking forward to the challenge of being the best partner for innovation-minded organizations and unlocking new approaches in drug discovery and healthcare."

**Outline of AXCELEAD**

(1) Company name	Axcelead Drug Discovery Partners, Inc.
(2) Location	26-1, Muraokahigashi 2-chome, Fujisawa, Kanagawa, 251-0012, Japan
(3) Representative	President: Yoshinori Ikeura
(4) Scope of business	Providing outsourced drug discovery research services, etc.
(5) Capital	100 million yen
(6) Date established	April 27, 2017
(7) Fiscal year end	March 31
(8) Major shareholders and ratio of shares held	Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited 100%

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