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(Securities code: 4587; TSE Prime Market)
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PeptiDream Announces the Initiation of Phase 1 Clinical Trial by Its Collaboration Partner

KANAGAWA, JAPAN – April 20, 2026 – PeptiDream Inc., a public Kanagawa, Japan-based biopharmaceutical company (President: Patrick C. Reid, hereinafter “PeptiDream”) today announced that Asahi Kasei Therapeutics (Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan; President: Daisuke Okajima, hereinafter “Asahi Kasei Therapeutics”), its collaboration partner, has initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial^{*1} of “AK1940”, a selective inhibitor of TNF receptor 1 (“TNFR1”).

AK1940 is a macrocyclic peptide discovered through a research collaboration between the two companies using PeptiDream’s proprietary Peptide Discovery Platform System (PDPS®).^{*2} AK1940 showed potent inhibitory activity and high selectivity for TNFR1 and exhibited efficacy in animal models of inflammatory disease, supporting its potential for the treatment of a broad range of autoimmune diseases.

PeptiDream and Asahi Kasei Therapeutics entered into a collaborative research and development agreement in March 2016, under which the two companies have advanced the discovery of macrocyclic peptides using PeptiDream’s PDPS® technology. Asahi Kasei Therapeutics focuses its drug discovery and development efforts on disease areas including autoimmune diseases, severe infections, transplantation, kidney diseases, and orthopedic conditions. AK1940 is well aligned with Asahi Kasei Therapeutics’ R&D strategy and is expected to contribute to the medium to long term growth of the company’s pharmaceuticals business.

With the initiation of the Phase 1 trial, PeptiDream will receive a milestone payment (amount undisclosed). Furthermore, PeptiDream is entitled to receive future clinical milestone payments, as well as royalties based on sales after launch.

*1: jRCT identifier: jRCT2071250141

*2: PDPS® (Peptide Discovery Platform System) is a drug discovery platform that enables the generation of highly diverse libraries —over ten trillion variations—of macrocyclic peptides which can be screened against almost any biological target of interest to rapidly discover hit compounds with a high success rate.

Future Outlook

This initiation of the Phase 1 trial has been factored in our consolidated financial forecasts for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2026, which was announced on February 16, 2026, and there are no changes to our forecast.