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tella Signs Joint Research Agreement with the National Center for Global Health and Medicine

For introduction of DC vaccine therapy to collect and analyze clinical data

tella, Inc. has signed a joint research agreement with the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo) ("NCGM" hereafter). The purpose of the research is to develop technologies and study clinical applications for the dendritic cell (DC) vaccine therapy*.

Under this agreement, tella will provide its cancer treatment technologies and know-how, primarily involving the DC vaccine therapy, to NCGM. This will allow NCGM to introduce the DC vaccine therapy at its medical center hospital (Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo) for the purpose of jointly collecting and analyzing clinical data.

NCGM is one of the six national centers for advanced and specialized medical care in Japan and plays a central role in policy-based medical services in Japan. The NCGM medical center is responsible for all areas of advanced health care. The center has a general hospital with a full range of medical departments in order to provide advanced comprehensive medical care, deal with international infections and extend cooperation for international medical care. In addition, there is a laboratory consisting of 14 departments and other activities. Since being transformed into an incorporated administrative agency in April 2010, the center has been engaged in clinical development and research programs to achieve several medium-term goals, including "promotion of clinically-oriented R&D" and "promotion of R&D in hospitals."

tella and the NCGM will collect and analyze clinical data obtained from the introduction of the DC vaccine therapy for cancer patients at the NCGM medical center. The objective is to use this joint research to seek safer and more effective cancer treatment methods. tella and the NCGM also plan to use this research to develop new types of cell therapies.

Supervision, collection and analysis of clinical data will be performed by Department of Clinical Research and Informatics of the International Clinical Research Center, which conducts clinical research primarily for the NCGM.

Technologies and know-how concerning the DC vaccine therapy, which is a primary activity of tella, are based on technologies resulting from research and development performed by The Institute of Medical Science at the University of Tokyo. Currently, tella provides the DC vaccine therapy to 18 medical institutions throughout Japan, including national medical institutions and university hospitals. tella's technical expertise in cell cultivation and the Company's accomplishments thus far led to this agreement with the NCGM. Signing this agreement makes the NCGM the 19th medical institution to introduce tella's technologies and expertise. tella plans to start providing its DC vaccine therapy to the NCGM in the spring

of 2012

To prepare to start offering the DC vaccine therapy, tella and the NCGM will take steps to establish the environment needed to ensure that patients can receive this treatment with confidence. Preparations include establishing the required facilities and training physicians, nurses and other health care professionals. In addition, tella and the NCGM will consider using professionals from other organizations in order to provide the comprehensive services needed to improve the quality of life of patients.

tella remains dedicated to improving cancer treatments for many patients by continuing to conduct R&D activities involving the DC vaccine therapy.

* dendritic cell (DC) vaccine therapy

Dendritic cell (DC) vaccine therapy is a new type of cancer immunotherapy. This therapy involves the production outside the patient's body of a large volume of monocytes (a special type of cell that is a key regulator of the immune system and capable of activating lymphocytes that defend the body from foreign substances), which normally exist in only small quantities in the blood. These cells are then processed so that they recognize the patient's cancer cells and a compound produced artificially (new cancer antigens) as a tumor marker. Next, the cells are returned to the patient's body so that the characteristics of the cancer are transferred from the dendritic cells to lymphocytes. The lymphocytes can then attack only the cancer cells.

◆Reference

National Center for Global Health and Medicine

Name:	National Center for Global Health and Medicine, an incorporated administrative agency
Address:	1-21-1 Toyama, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
Established:	1974 (became an incorporated administrative agency in April 2010)
Representative;	Takaaki Kirino, Director-General