

News Release

July 15, 2020

Initiatives Against COVID-19 in Canada - Initiated Phase 1 Clinical Trials of VLP Vaccine Candidate

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (Head Office: Osaka, Japan; President & Representative Director; Hiroaki Ueno) announced today that its affiliated company, Medicago Inc. (Head Office: Quebec, Canada; CEO; Bruce D. Clark) has announced the start of Phase I clinical trials for its plant-derived virus-like particle (VLP) vaccine candidate (project code: MT-2766) for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) which has being developed by Medicago.

Phase I clinical testing of MT-2766 will evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of three different dose levels of antigen alone or combined with GSK's pandemic adjuvant or Dynavax's adjuvant, administered on a one- and two-dose vaccination schedule, given 21 days apart.

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Group will work to develop and deliver MT-2766 to society as soon as possible, contributing even further to the prevention of COVID-19, a pressing social issue.

Medicago release (July 14, 2020, local time)

Medicago begins Phase I clinical trials for its COVID-19 vaccine candidate.

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About VLP Vaccine

A novel vaccine that employs virus-like particle (Virus Like Particle) manufacturing technology. VLP has the same external structure as viruses and are expected to have a high immune-acquisition effect (efficacy) when it adopted for vaccines. Since VLP does not have genetic information and viruses do not multiply in the body, VLP is expected to be a promising vaccine technology with excellent safety. Plant-based VLP manufacturing technology is also expected to enable large-scale production in a short period of time.