

PMDA's Support to Venture Companies



Pharmaceuticals and
Medical Devices Agency

<https://www.pmda.go.jp/english/index.html>

August, 2024

Key points for your development strategy in Japan

The 3rd Largest Market &
Key for Worldwide Development
of Medical Products!

& High Predictability
after Consultation!!

<PMDA's performance>

1. World Fastest Review
2. Gateway to regulatory approval in Asia
3. Internationally harmonized regulations

<Others>

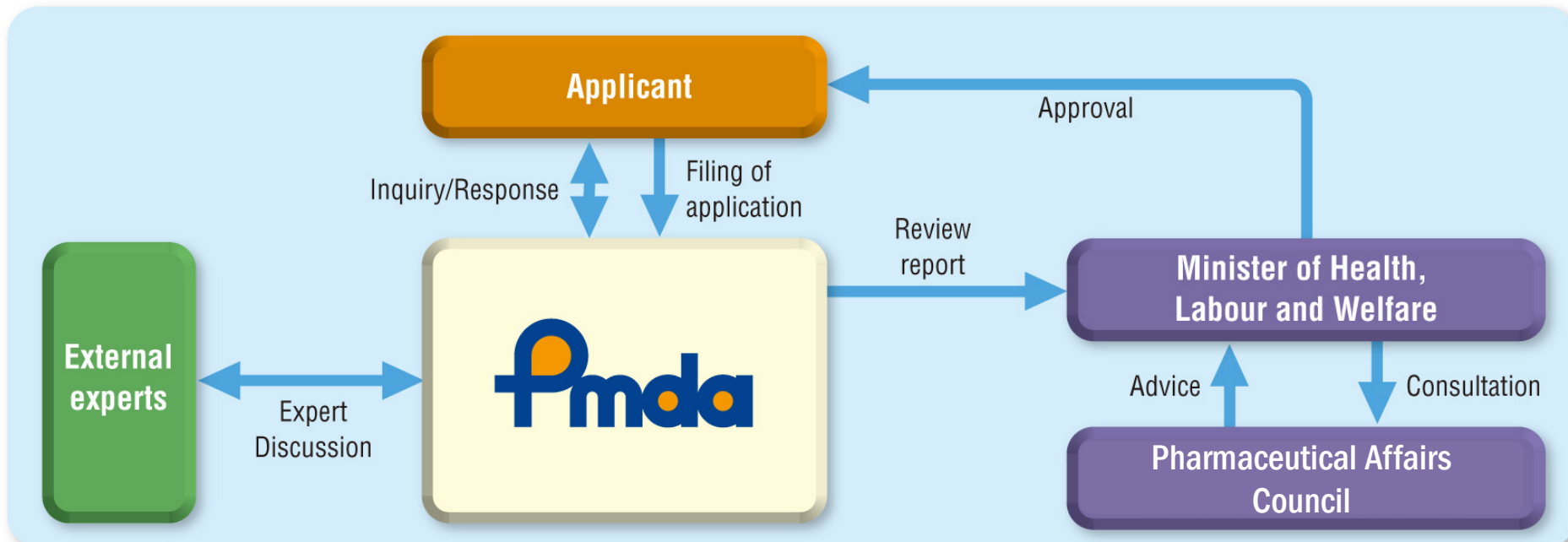
Universal health coverage system in Japan

- ✓ no HTA before listing in the NHI Drug Price Standard,
- ✓ 60-90 days from approval to the inclusion,

etc.

Introduction of PMDA

- ◆ Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) is a **Government Affiliated Organization** in Japan.
- ◆ PMDA is responsible for **scientific review and consultation** of medical products, which are approved in Japan.
- ◆ Location: Tokyo, Osaka, Toyama, Bangkok, Washington *expected by December 2024



The establishment of PMDA's Overseas Offices

Objective: Contribute to innovative medicines access in close collaboration with PMDA Tokyo Headquarters through enhanced on-site communication

Asia Office, Bangkok , Thailand, Opened in July 2024

- Strengthening cooperation with ASEAN regulators
- Supporting promotion of regulatory harmonisation among Asian countries
- Supporting the development of clinical research network to facilitate smooth clinical development

Washington D.C. Office, USA, Installed by the end of 2024

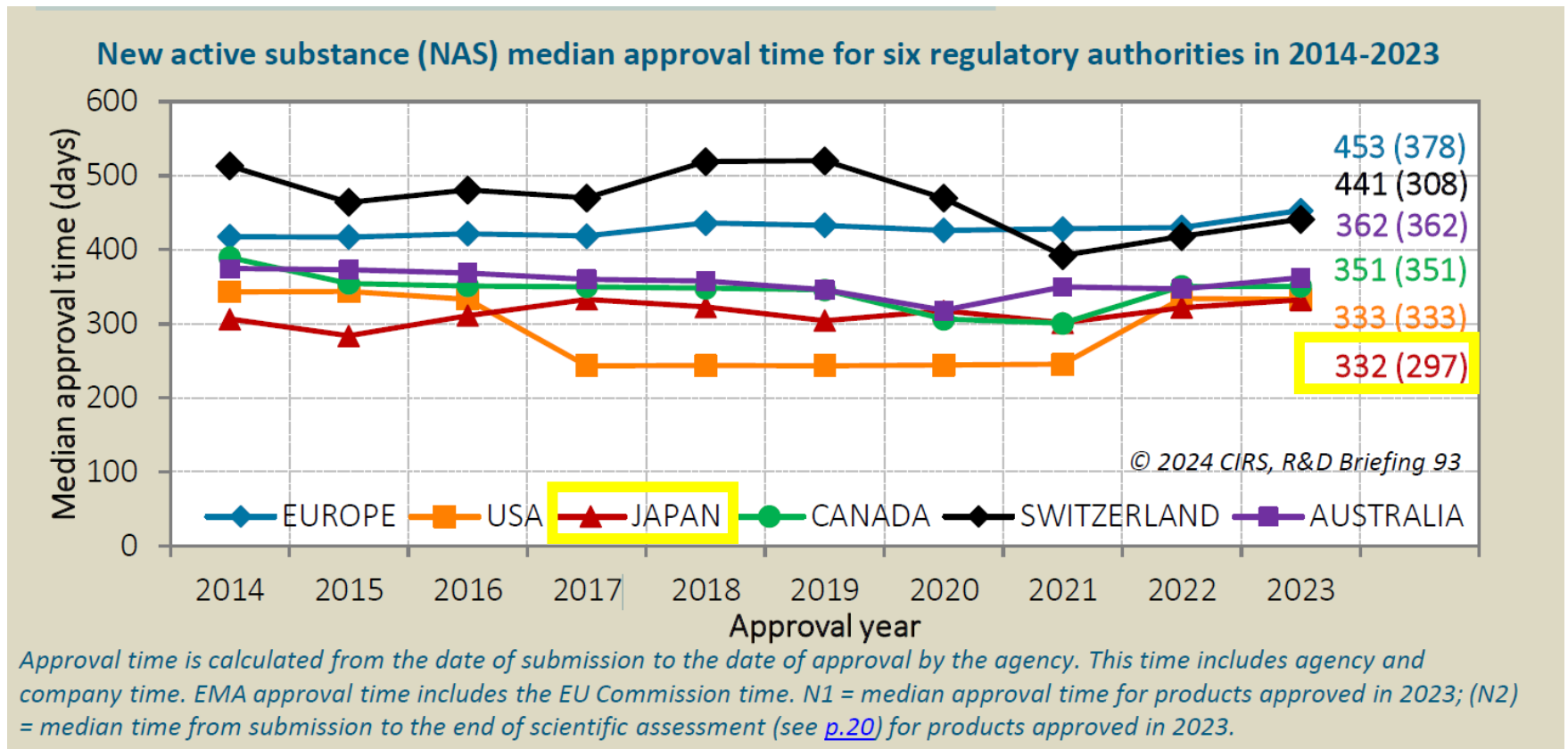
- Close collaboration with FDA
- Facilitate PMDA consultation which disseminate regulatory information for Industry in US who wants to develop innovative products in Japan

PMDA's performance

1. World fastest review
 - various fast track systems -

Median approval time for New Active Substance

PMDA is one of the fastest review organizations in the world!



Centre for Innovation in Regulatory Science (2024) R&D Briefing 93:

New drug approvals in six major authorities 2014–2023: Changing regulatory landscape and facilitated regulatory pathways

Accelerated review systems in Japan

Japan Offers **Various Supporting Schemes** for R&D Companies and Researchers.

Type	Area	Product features
Expedited review	Any product categories	In a particular situation requiring expedited review
Priority review		Designated as: 1. Orphan 2. Apparent improvement of medical care for severe diseases
SAKIGAKE (Forerunner designation)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative medical products • For serious diseases • Development & NDA in Japan: The NDA submission being the world's first or simultaneous with other countries • Prominent effectiveness expected based on non-clinical and early phase clinical study data
Conditional Early Approval	Drugs	Early application through confirmation of a certain degree of efficacy and safety in clinical trials other than confirmatory clinical trials
	Medical Devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High clinical needs • Balancing the pre- and post-market requirements
Conditional and Time-limited Approval	Regenerative Medical Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the clinical data from the limited number of patients, efficacy is predicted in a shorter time compared with the conventional process. • Early-phase adverse reactions, etc. can be evaluated for safety in a short period of time.

SAKIGAKE (Forerunner) drugs - Designation System

<Objective>

To put innovative products rapidly into medical practice in Japan

<Criteria for designation>

1. Innovativeness - new mode of action (in principle)
2. Severity of the target disease - life-threatening or no curative therapies
3. Prominent efficacy - no existing therapies or probable significant improvement in efficacy or safety compared to existing therapies
4. Plan/System - to submit the NDA in Japan first or at the same timing* as the first NDA submission to other national regulatory authority

<Incentive>

*within 3 months

Concierge service offered by senior review partner (PMDA)

Priority scientific advice (PMDA)

Pre-review in consultation (PMDA)

Priority review (6 months)(PMDA)

Premium drug pricing

Extension of re-examination period

**Fastest
Practical Use
in the world**



Orphan drug – Designation System

<Objective>

To promote the R&D of the products for rare diseases to provide the patients with safe and effective medicines/medical devices as early as possible

<Criteria for designation>

1. Number of patients (any of the following has to be met)
 - Less than 50,000 in Japan
 - The target disease is one of [the designated intractable diseases](#)
2. Medical needs
 - Serious diseases with high medical needs
3. Feasibility of development
 - Having organizations and plans for development in Japan.

<Incentive>

Grant-in-Aid for R&D of orphan designated drugs (NIBIOHN*)

Tax deduction for R&D expenses

Priority scientific consultation (PMDA)

Priority review (PMDA)

Premium drug pricing

Extension of re-examination period

Promoting R&D



orphan_drug@mhlw.go.jp

*National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition

Examples of the world-first approval granted in Japan

These were designated as SAKIGAKE and/or Orphan Drugs.

**First
approval in
Japan!**

PMDA would like to increase
the number of such
innovative products!

The
Oncologist[®]

Designation Products: Boron Neutron Capture Therapy for Head and Neck Carcinoma

Regulatory Issues: PMDA

The Oncologist 2023, XX, 1-7
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oncolo/oyad041>
Advance access publication 14 March 2023
Review Article

OXFORD

Regulatory Issues: PMDA – Review of Sakigake Designation Products: Oncolytic Virus Therapy with Delytact Injection (Tesperatrev) for Malignant Glioma

Yoshiaki Maruyama^{1,2,3,4}, Akira Sakurai⁵, Shinichi Noda⁶, Yasuhiro Fujiwara⁷, Narumi Okura⁸, Toshinori Takagi¹, Junichi Asano⁴, Futaba Honda¹

¹Office of Cellular and Tissue-based Products, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Tokyo, Japan

²Center for Product Evaluation, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Tokyo, Japan

³Office of New Drug V, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Tokyo, Japan

⁴Biostatistics Group, Center for Product Evaluation, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Tokyo, Japan

⁵Corresponding author: Yoshiaki Maruyama, PhD, Office of Cellular and Tissue-based Products, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Shin-kasumigaseki Building 3-3-2, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0013, Japan. Tel: +81 3 3506 9471; Fax: +81 3 3506 9495; Email: maruyama-yoshiaki@pmda.go.jp

Abstract

In June 2021, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare approved Delytact Injection as a regenerative medical product for oncolytic virus therapy. The active substance of Delytact Injection is tesperatrev, a genetically engineered herpes simplex virus type 1 (strain F1) in which the *gB* gene and both copies of the *gC* gene have been deleted and the infected cell protein 8 (ICP8) gene has been inactivated by the insertion of the *lacZ* gene from *Escherichia coli*. Delytact Injection, when intratumorally administered to patients with malignant glioma, is expected to exert the following effects: (1) the mutant virus selectively replicates in tumor cells and destroys the infected cells through the replication process, exerting a cytotoxic effect, and (2) the administration leads to induction of tumor-responsive T cells, which activates antitumor immunity and thus prolongs the survival of patients with malignant glioma. A Japanese phase II study (Study GD01) was conducted in patients with glioblastoma who had residual or recurrent tumors after radiotherapy with concomitant temozolomide. In Study GD01, however, stable disease continued for an extended period in some patients with glioblastoma. Hence, Delytact Injection is expected to be effective to a certain level. In line with this, Delytact Injection has been approved as an option for the treatment of malignant glioma, with one of the 3 approval conditions including conducting a use-results comparison survey and resubmission of the marketing authorization application within the granted time period of 7 years, under the conditional and time-limited approval scheme described in Article 23–26 of Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Products Including Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices.

Key words: oncolytic virus therapy; Delytact Injection; tesperatrev; glioma; Sakigake Designation System; conditional and time-limited approval scheme; Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA).

Implications for Practice

Delytact Injection, a regenerative medical product for oncolytic virus therapy, has demonstrated likely predicted efficacy for glioblastoma based on the results of an open-label, uncontrolled Japanese phase II study (Study GD01). Although the information on the efficacy and safety of Delytact Injection is limited at present, the Delytact Injection will become an effective treatment option for malignant glioma under an early approval scheme. The applicant is then required to conduct a post-marketing approval condition assessment to evaluate the predicted efficacy, including survival benefits and safety, and resubmit the marketing authorization application within 7 years.

Introduction Glioma

Glioma is primary brain tumor originating from glial cells that support neurons. Glioma is highly invasive and intractable with a very limited possibility of complete remission. Based on histopathological findings and clinical malignancy data, it can be classified into Grades I–IV. Glioma classified as highly malignant Grade III (anaplastic astrocytoma) and anaplastic oligodendroglioma) and Grade IV (glioblastoma) lesions are referred to as malignant glioma. Estimated

that approximately 20 000 individuals develop primary brain tumors annually in Japan.¹ When percentages of patients with brain tumors of each grade reported in the Brain Tumor Registry of The Japan Neurosurgical Society (2005–2008) are applied to the above number, approximately 1260 and 2400 individuals are presumed to develop Grade III malignant glioma and Grade IV glioblastoma annually, respectively. The standard of care for primary malignant glioma in Japan is multidisciplinary treatment including surgical resection, radiotherapy (RT), and chemotherapy (CT).^{2,3}

BRANUKI,^a SHINTARO NAKANO,^b TAKAHIRO NONAKA,^c KAKI,^d SHINICHI TAKAE,^e TETSUO NAKABAYASHI,^f HIROYUKI ARAI,^g

Promotion, ^hCenter for Product Evaluation, and ⁱCenter for Japan

this article.

• SAKIGAKE Designation System •

Neutron irradiation was performed using the devices at a single dose of 12 Gy-equivalent for oral, pharyngeal, or laryngeal mucosa for up to 60 minutes from 2 hours after the start of drug administration. The primary endpoint was the overall response rate (ORR). The results of Study 002 showed that the ORR based on an assessment of the Independent Central Review Committee per RECIST version 1.1 was 71.4% (90% confidence interval [CI], 51.3%–86.8%). The lower limit of the 90% CI exceeded the prespecified threshold for ORR. When BNCT is applied to patients with unresectable LA/UR head and neck cancer, precautions should be taken, and patients should be monitored for possible onset of dysphagia, brain abscess, skin disorder, crystal urine, cataract, and/or carotid hemorrhage. *The Oncologist* 2021;26:e1250–e1255

and a dose calculation program for boron neutron capture el, uncontrolled trial in which overall response rate was the ed or locally recurrent head and neck cancer. Although no come an effective treatment option that is expected to man- In addition, BNCT is expected to maintain quality of life of ectivity and low invasiveness.

carcinoma in situ) affect 21,601 and 5,285 individuals, respectively, in Japan [1, 2]. Drug therapies such as those with nivolumab (Genetic Recombination) and cetuximab (Genetic

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Kanno H, et al. *The Oncologist*. 2021; 26(7):e1250–55.

Maruyama Y, et al. *The Oncologist*. 2023; <https://doi.org/10.1093/oncolo/oyad041>

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2. Gateway to regulatory approval in Asia
 - utilization of the abbreviated review system -

Japan as reference country in Asia [As of July 2024]

Country/ region	System	Population* (million) (2018)	Market scale* (billion USD) (2018)
India	• Waiver of conducting Phase III trials in India	1,350	20.9
Indonesia	• Abridged assessment	270	7.3
Malaysia	• Verification process of additional indications	31.5	2.3
	• Abbreviated review		
Philippines	• Abridged and verification review pathways	106	3.2
Taiwan	• Acceptance of non-clinical study review results	23.3 (2013)	6.4 (estimate)
	• Abbreviated review		
Thailand	• Abridged review	69.4	5.5
	• Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP) as a reference pharmacopoeia		
Vietnam	• JP as a reference pharmacopoeia	95.5	5.9

*Source: <https://healthcare-international.meti.go.jp>

(Taiwan only: https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/mono_info_service/healthcare/iryou/downloadfiles/pdf/macrohealthdate_Taiwan.pdf)

Not only providing review reports
PMDA supports these RAs by responding to their queries!

3. Internationally harmonized Japanese regulations

- Considerate consultation on R&D -

- ✓ clinical data of Japanese population,
- ✓ fast track application,
- ✓ utilization of Real World Data/Evidence, etc.

Please contact:

rs-contact@pmda.go.jp

PMDA leads international cooperation in regulation

Recent international activities	
ICH <i>(International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use)</i>	Vice-Chair of MC, EWG rapporteurs
ICMRA <i>(International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities)</i>	Leads various discussions as Vice-Chair
MDSAP <i>(Medical Device Single Audit Program)</i>	Chair
APEC-RHSC <i>(APEC, Regulatory Harmonization Steering Committee)</i>	Co-Chair



PMDA proposed new topics such as E17 & S12, and led the discussion as rapporteur/regulatory chair.



PMDA chaired workshops to accelerate COVID-19-related product development and published the results on the website.

E17: General principles for planning & design of MRCT

S12: Nonclinical biodistribution considerations for gene therapy products

PMDA's Consultations on R&D Strategy

For Examples;

1. Facilitate the development of medical products by developing a more reliable roadmap.
2. Accelerate the clinical trials led by academia.
3. For regenerative medical products, ensure the quality of the products and confirm the nonclinical safety before the clinical trial notification.

1. Advice on Roadmap

Advice on the protocol of each study

Quality study

Non-clinical study

Clinical study

2. Exploratory trial

3. Regenerative medical products

Basic Research

Promising seeds



Bridge between seeds and products

Practical Use

Innovative drugs, medical devices, regenerative medical products



* In collaboration with **the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)**, PMDA is proactively supporting the establishment of an exit strategy via various Consultations e.g., Regulatory Science (RS) Strategy Consultations.

Examples of PMDA's Consultation Menu

- RS General Consultations and RS Strategy Consultations
 - Users of consultations : mainly academia and venture/start-up companies.
 - Scope of consultations: up to the initial stage of clinical development (proof of concept (POC) studies (early Phase II)).

Category	Objective	Consultant	Style	Period from application to consultation	Duration	Fee	Minutes
RS General Consultation	Introduction of general information on: -Consultation system -Pharmaceutical and Medical Device regulatory -Related guidelines	Technical Experts	F2F / Online	1 to 3 weeks	20min	Free	Not shared
Pre-consultation meeting for RS Strategy Consultation	Clarification of discussion points, consultation dossiers	Technical Experts and Reviewers	F2F / Online	2 to 5 weeks	30min	Free	Not shared
RS Strategy Consultation	Scientific discussion	Technical Experts and Reviewers	F2F / Online	2 to 3 months	Max. 2hr	Charged	Shared



Please contact:
rs-contact@pmda.go.jp

PMDA offers 90% reduction for this type of consultation to venture companies.

Prerequisites for fee reduction in RS Strategy Consultation

**In principle,
all of the following prerequisites have to be fulfilled.**

(Venture companies)

- An SME (i.e., the number of employees is 300 or less or the company's capital is JPY 300MM or less)
- Another corporate body does not hold shares or capital contributions equivalent to 1/2 or more of the total number of shares or the total amount of contributions.
- Two or more corporate bodies do not hold shares or capital contributions equivalent to 2/3 or more of the total number of shares or the total amount of contributions.
- Net profit is not recorded or is recorded without business revenue in the previous fiscal year.

Other support programs in Japan

1. MEDISO (MEDical Innovation Support Office)
2. Clinical Research Core Hospitals
3. Registry search system

MEDISO (MEDical Innovation Support Office)

What MEDISO Does



- **MEDISO provides support for venture companies, academia,** and individuals intending to put into practical use pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and regenerative medicinal products.

Typical Questions from Overseas

- What procedures are required to manufacture and supply pharmaceutical product in Japan?



Content of consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I would like to know the laws and regulations in case of manufacturing and selling pharmaceuticals in Japan.• I would like to introduce our pharmaceuticals into Japan.
Content of advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explained the definition of pharmaceuticals under the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act and the business license required for manufacturing and marketing• Explained the procedures for applying for approval of pharmaceuticals.• As additional information, we also explained regulations on advertising of pharmaceuticals.

MEDISO consultation is
available free of charge !!!



mediso@ml.mri.co.jp

Clinical Research Core Hospitals

Abundant experience in:

- Planning, implementation, and analysis of clinical research and trials
- Commercialisation of innovative seeds

Diverse human resources:

- Experts in clinical research and commercialisation
- Cooperation from various departments in the hospitals
- Biostatisticians and data managers
- CRC and other operational units
- Review committee bodies such as CRBs
- Staff experienced in PMDA

Support by making the most of features,

etc.

Similar difficulties and experiences with venture companies



"Clinical Research Core Hospitals" can provide **a range of support tailored to your needs!**

- ❖ National Cancer Centre Central Hospital
- ❖ Tohoku University Hospital
- ❖ Osaka University Hospital
- ❖ National Cancer Centre East Hospital
- ❖ Nagoya University Hospital

- ❖ Kyushu University Hospital
- ❖ University of Tokyo Hospital
- ❖ Keio University Hospital
- ❖ Chiba University Hospital
- ❖ Kyoto University Hospital

- ❖ Okayama University Hospital
- ❖ Hokkaido University Hospital
- ❖ Juntendo University Hospital
- ❖ Kobe University Hospital
- ❖ Nagasaki University Hospital

Registry search system

- ❑ NCGM; Registry Search System (patient registries in Japan)
- ❑ Total 585 (in Japanese) / 536 (in English) registries (as of October 2023)

NCGM: National Center for Global Health and Medicine

Registry Search System
<https://cinc.ncgm.go.jp/cin/en/G001.php>

Enter search conditions (example)



Search result (example)

Search by	•Objectives
•Target disease	•Inclusion / exclusion criteria, Recruitment area
• ICD-10 classification	•Number of registration, Type of collected data
•Racial diversity (Japanese and/or non-Japanese)	•Contact information, etc.

<div style="display: inline-block; width: 15%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; font-weight: bold;">CIN</div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 60%; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> Clinical Innovation Network Promotion Support Project Establishment of registry information integration base aiming at acceleration and promotion of CIN concept </div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 25%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">Registry search system</div>		
Home	Registry search	Message from the representative
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> Search conditions </div> <div style="width: 60%;"> * For the free text field, partial match/wildcard search (with asterisk "**") are available. </div> <div style="width: 10%; text-align: right;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Start search</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">Clear search conditions</div> </div> </div>		
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About Basic Information		
<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 25%; border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 10px;"> Activity status of patient registries or cohort studies Affiliation of principal investigator of patient registry or cohort study </div> <div style="width: 75%; padding-left: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <div style="width: 20px; text-align: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">Clear</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px; margin-top: 10px;">Clear</div> </div> <div> <input type="radio"/> Continuing/ongoing registry activities <input type="radio"/> Terminate registry activity </div> </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Academic society <input type="checkbox"/> Universities (including university hospitals) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical facilities (national/public hospitals/private hospitals) <input type="checkbox"/> National Cancer Center <input type="checkbox"/> National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center <input type="checkbox"/> National Center for Psychiatry and Neurology <input type="checkbox"/> National Center for Global Health and Medicine <input type="checkbox"/> National Center for Child Health and Development <input type="checkbox"/> National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology <input type="checkbox"/> Public research institutions (National Institute of Biomedical Innovation, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Academia (Other) <input type="checkbox"/> Companies that mainly develop pharmaceuticals <input type="checkbox"/> Companies that mainly develop medical devices <input type="checkbox"/> Companies mainly developing regenerative medicine <input type="checkbox"/> Company (Other) <input type="checkbox"/> Others </div> </div> </div>		
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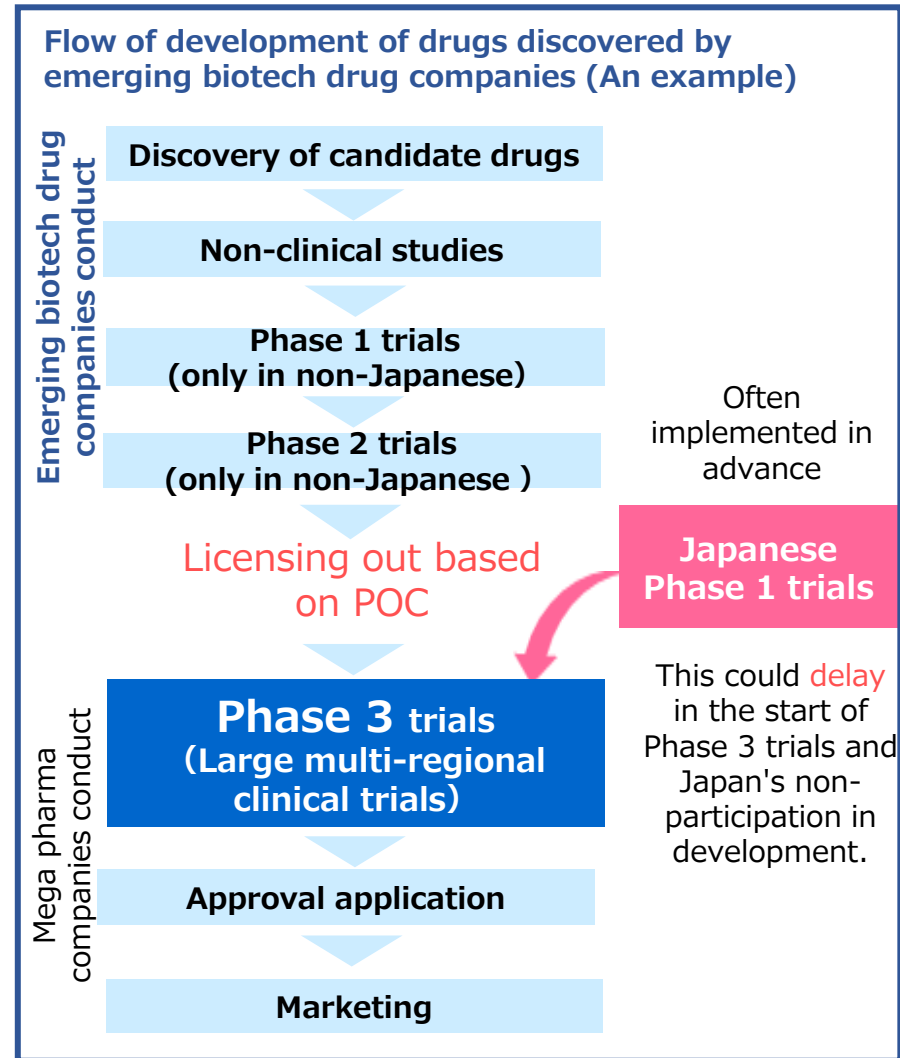
No.	Record No.	ICD-10 classification	Name of Registry	Abbreviation	Target disease (area) information	Information updated on:
1	1	M00-M99	Former Miyagawa village Cohort	Miyagawa Cohort Study	knee osteoarthritis	2022/04/11
2	2	M00-M99	Surveillance Study of Unplanned Surgery in Primary Malignant Bone Tumor Patients			
3	3	M00-M99	Yamagata prefectural committee of atypical femoral fractures study	YamaC study		
4	4	I00-199	Japan Association of Rehabilitation Database	JARD		
5	5	99999999	Japan Gerontological Evaluation Study	JAGES		
6	6	C00-D48	Study on the prognosis of cases confirmed of histopathological complete response (breast) after combination therapy of preoperative Trastuzumab + Cytotoxic Anticancer Drug	JBCRG		
7	8	C00-D48	Comprehensive Registry of Esophageal Cancer in Japan	Registr Esopha Cancer Japan		
8	10	C00-D48	Nationwide Registry	Breast Screen Nation Registr		
9	14	J00-J99	Single-institutional Prospective QOL assessment in patients underwent thoracic surgery	Prospe QOL assess Patient underv thorac		

- Necessity of Japanese Phase 1 Trial
- Universal health coverage system in Japan
- Medicine Spending and Usage Trends in Japan

Necessity of Japanese Phase 1 Trial

[Principles in Japan]

- If there are **ethnic differences** between Japanese and non-Japanese, we recognize that **the Japanese data are important in using drugs safely in Japan**
- We have not uniformly required Phase 1 trials in Japanese before participating in multi-regional clinical trials, and determines synthetically by considering multiple perspectives.
- It is desirable that **Japan participates in multi-regional clinical trials from early stage in development** and Japanese data are collected.



(only in Japanese) https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/other-iyaku_128701_00006.html

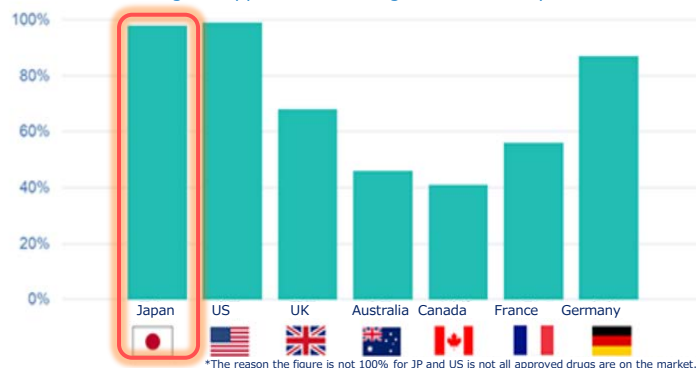
Universal Health Coverage system in Japan

- ❖ All citizens (125 million people) are publicly insured.
- ❖ The world's third largest pharmaceutical market.
- ❖ 60-90 days from approval to inclusion in the NHI Drug Price Standard and **no HTA** before the inclusion.

❖ Status of cost-effectiveness in other countries

In countries where HTA is used to determine reimbursement, patient access to medicines is limited.

Percentage of approved new drugs reimbursed by insurance



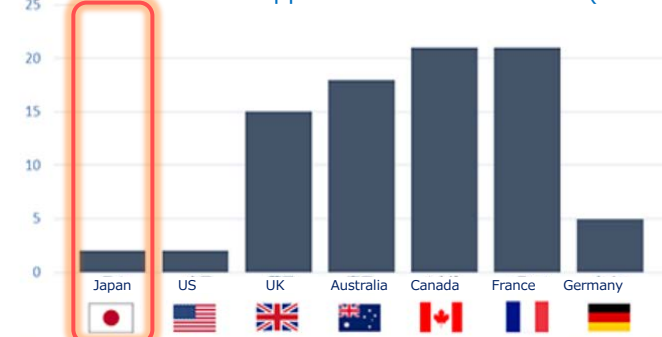
*The reason the figure is not 100% for JP and US is not all approved drugs are on the market.

Source: PHRMA analysis of IQVIA, Analytics Link, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, European Medicines Agency, Japan Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Health Canada, Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration, and government insurance coverage data on new active substances approved from 2011 to Q3 2019.

❖ Status of cost-effectiveness in other countries

In countries where HTA is used to determine reimbursement, patient access to new drugs is delayed.

Time from approval to reimbursement (months)



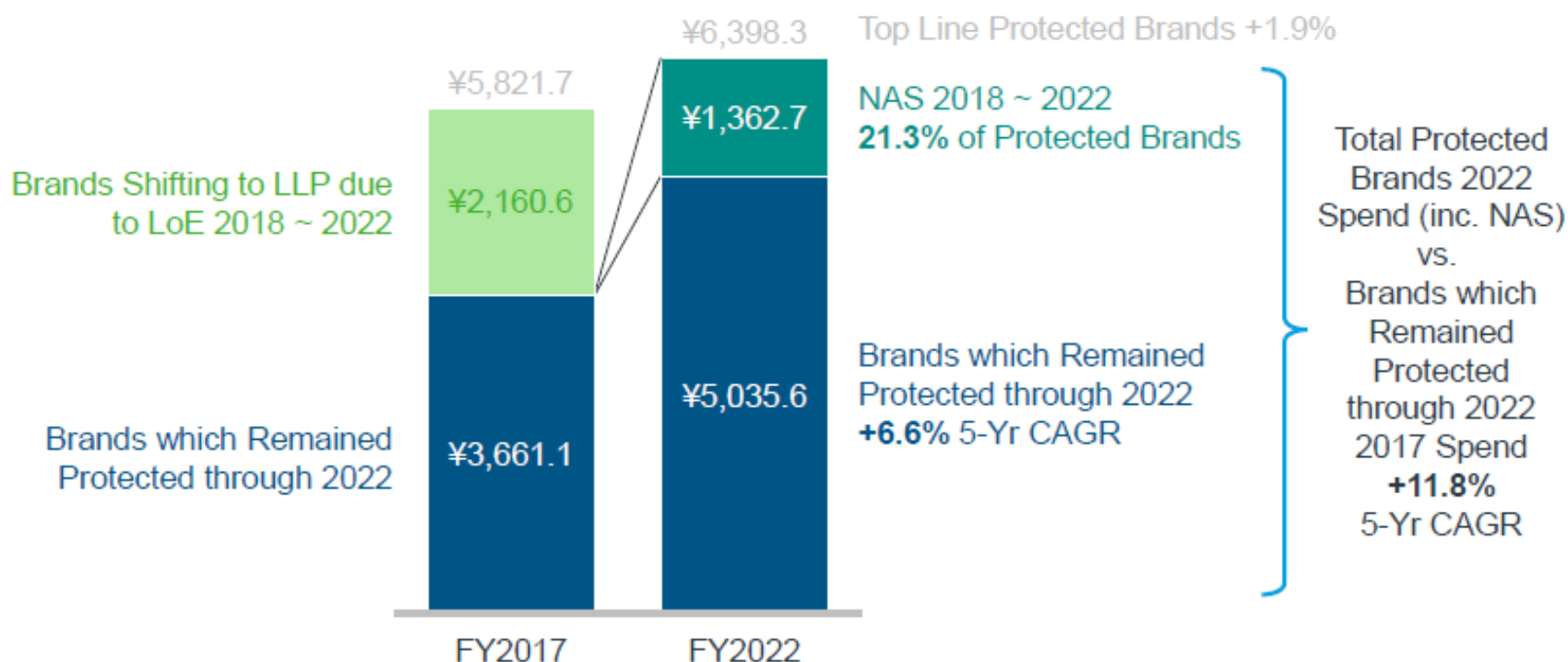
Source: PHRMA analysis of IQVIA, Analytics Link, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, European Medicines Agency, Japan Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, Health Canada, Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration, and government insurance coverage data on new active substances approved from 2011 to Q3 2019.

Spend of Protected Brands, LoE/LLP shift and NAS



Factoring for LLP shift, protected innovation continued to provide improved patient outcomes and treatment options

Protected Brands, LoE/LLP Shift and NAS (¥Billion)



Source: Copyright © 2023 IQVIA. Calculated based on 2023 Mar MAT, JPM
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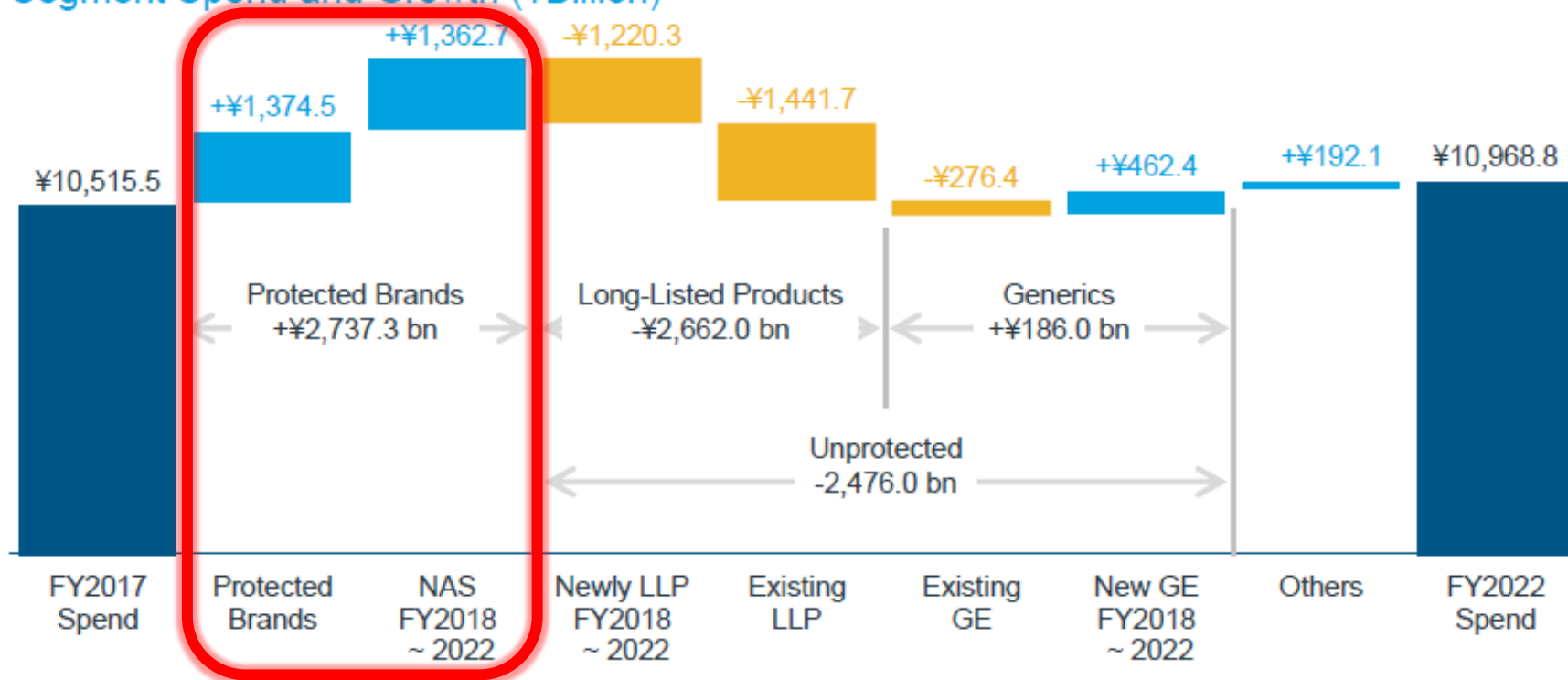
LoE: Lose of Exclusivity, LLP: Long Listed Products,
NAS: New Active Substances, CAGR: Compound Average Growth Rate

Spend and Growth by Segment



Innovation driving improved patient outcomes while healthcare savings continue to be made within the unprotected market

Segment Spend and Growth (¥Billion)



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LLP: Long Listed Products, NAS: New Active Substances