

Regulatory Updates on Regenerative Medical Products in Japan

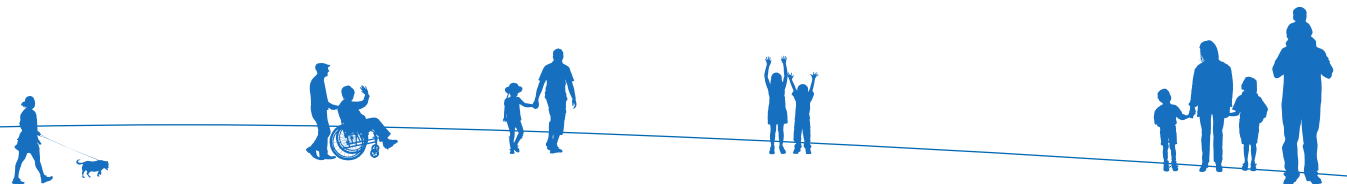
KISHIOKA Yasuhiro, Ph.D.

Review Director

Office of Cellular and Tissue-based Products

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA)

The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and should not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the PMDA.



Regenerative Medical Products approved in Japan

Brand name	Category	Orphan	SAKIGAKE	Conditional & Time-limited Approval
Abecma	CAR-T	✓		
Breyanzi	CAR-T	✓		
CARVYKTI	CAR-T	✓		
Delytact	Oncolytic virus	✓	✓	✓
Kymriah	CAR-T	✓		
YESCARTA	CAR-T	✓		
LUXTRNA	AAV	✓		
Nepic	Somatic stem cell	✓		
Ocural	Somatic stem cell	✓		
Sakracy	Somatic stem cell	✓		
Vyznova	Somatic cell	✓		
Akuugo	Somatic stem cell	✓	✓	✓
ELEVIDYS	AAV	✓		✓
STEMIRAC	Somatic stem cell		✓	✓
ZOLGENSMA	AAV	✓	✓	
Collategene	Plasmid vector			✓ (expired (27 June 2024))
HeartSheet	Somatic stem cell			✓ (withdrawn (25 July 2024))
JACE	Somatic cell	✓GCMN*, EB**		
JACEMIN	Somatic cell			
Vyjuvek	HSV	✓		
Aloficel	Somatic stem cell	✓		
JACC	Somatic cell			
TEMCELL	Somatic stem cell	✓		

Area of disease	No.
Oncology	6
Ophthalmology	5
Brain, Nerve	4
Circulation	(2)
Dermatology	3
Others	3

21(2)

*GCMN: Giant congenital melanocytic nevi, **EB: Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa



Orphan Designation

- Objective

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

- Criteria for designation

Notification in English: <https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000268408.pdf>

1. Number of patients (< 50,000 patients in Japan or one of [the designated intractable diseases](#))
(in Japanese)

2. Medical needs (Serious diseases with high medical needs)

3. Possibility of development

- Incentive (underlines; PMDA-related)

- Grant-in-Aid for R&D of orphan designated drugs
- Tax deduction for R&D expenses
- Priority scientific consultation
- Priority review (9 months; compared to 12 months for standard)
- Premium drug pricing
- Extension of re-examination period



SAKIGAKE Designation

- Objective

To put innovative products into medical practice faster in Japan

- Criteria for designation Notification in Japanese: <https://www.pmda.go.jp/files/000240376.pdf>

1. Innovativeness - Novel mode of action (in principle)

2. Severity of target disease - Life-threatening or no curative therapies available

3. Prominent efficacy - No existing therapies, or probable significant improvement in efficacy or safety compared to existing therapies

4. Plan / System - Submit the Marketing authorization application (MAA) in Japan first or at the same timing (within 3 months) as the first MAA submission in other regions

- Incentive (underlines; PMDA-related)

- Concierge service offered by senior review partner

- Priority scientific consultation

- Pre-assessment in consultation

- Priority review (6 months; compared to 12 months for standard)

- Premium drug pricing

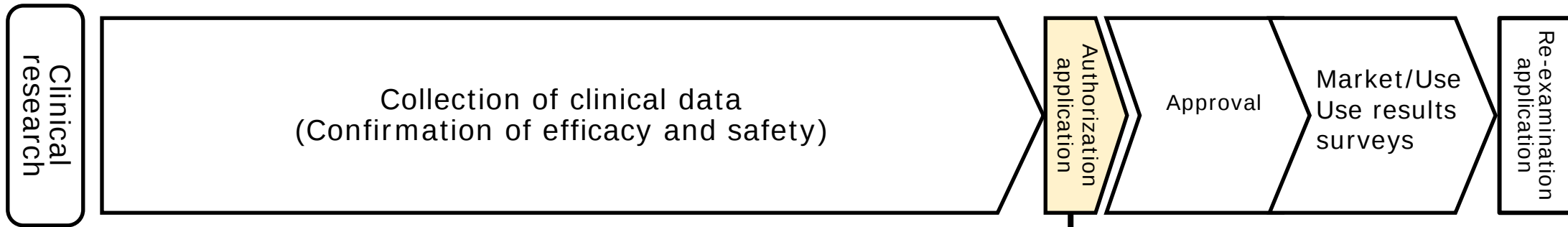
- Extension of re-examination period



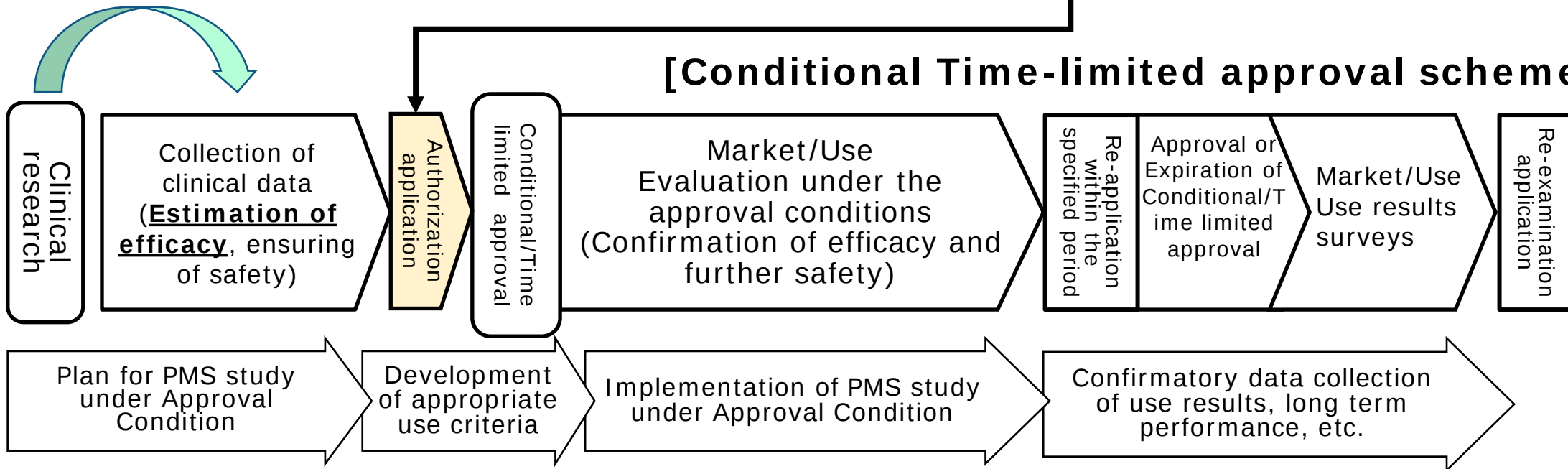
Conditional and Time-limited Approval Scheme

[Conventional approval scheme]

(CTL Approval Scheme)



[Conditional Time-limited approval scheme]



For development in Japan



独立行政法人 医薬品医療機器総合機構
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency

<https://www.pmda.go.jp/english/int-activities/industry/0001.html>



Safety Alert & Recalls/ Review Reports/ Package Inserts etc.



Formats DL

International Activities

For Industry - for development in Japan



Add this page

For Industry

for development in Japan

1.Overview



2.Regulations and Services of PMDA



3.Information for Approved Products in Japan



4.Procedures in Japan



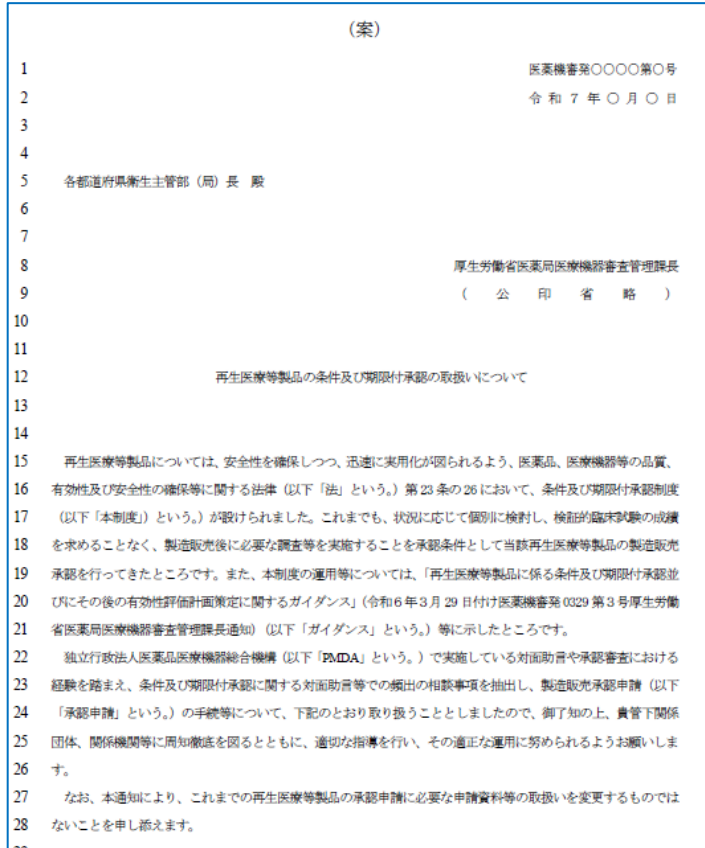
5.Advanced Efforts



6.Links



Draft Notification: Handling of Conditional and Time-limited Approval Scheme



<https://public-comment.e-gov.go.jp/pcm/detail?CLASSNAME=PCMMSTDDETAIL&id=495250120&Mode=0>
(in Japanese) (Published for public consultation on 25 July 2025)

- Public consultation ended on 25 August 2025
- To clarify the procedures of CTL Approval Scheme based on accumulated experience through scientific consultation and assessment
- Content
 1. Procedures for CTL Approval
 - (1) Scientific consultation for pre-application
 - (2) Marketing authorization application and assessment
 2. Procedures for post-approval
 3. Procedures for re-application within the specified period
 4. Utilization of the CTL Approval Scheme for already-approved products overseas for rare diseases, and basic perspective of Japanese clinical data in such cases
 5. Perspective of Quality Control Strategy considering Product Lifecycle



PMDA's International Hubs



Asia Office, Bangkok



PMDA Central Office,
Tokyo



Washington D.C
Office

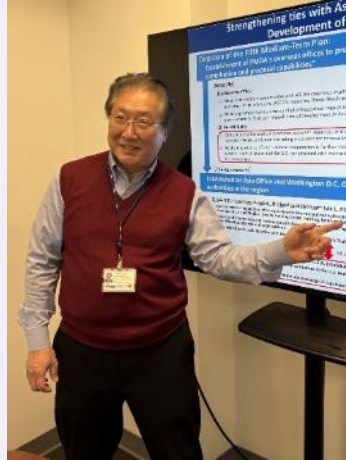
**Establishment of PMDA's international hubs
to enhance international contribution/capability for regulatory proposal
under PMDA's 5th mid-term plan**



PMDA Washington D.C. Office Staff Members



Akihiro Ishiguro
Head



Koki Fukuhara
Senior
Technical Officer



Hiroyuki Okayama
Administrative
Manager

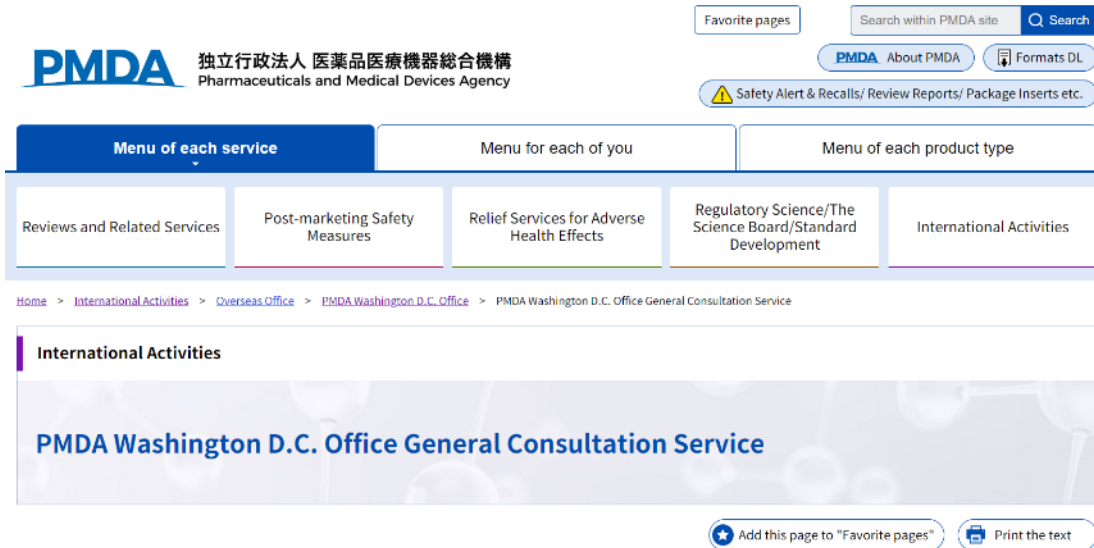


1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Suite 403,
Washington, D.C. 20036 USA

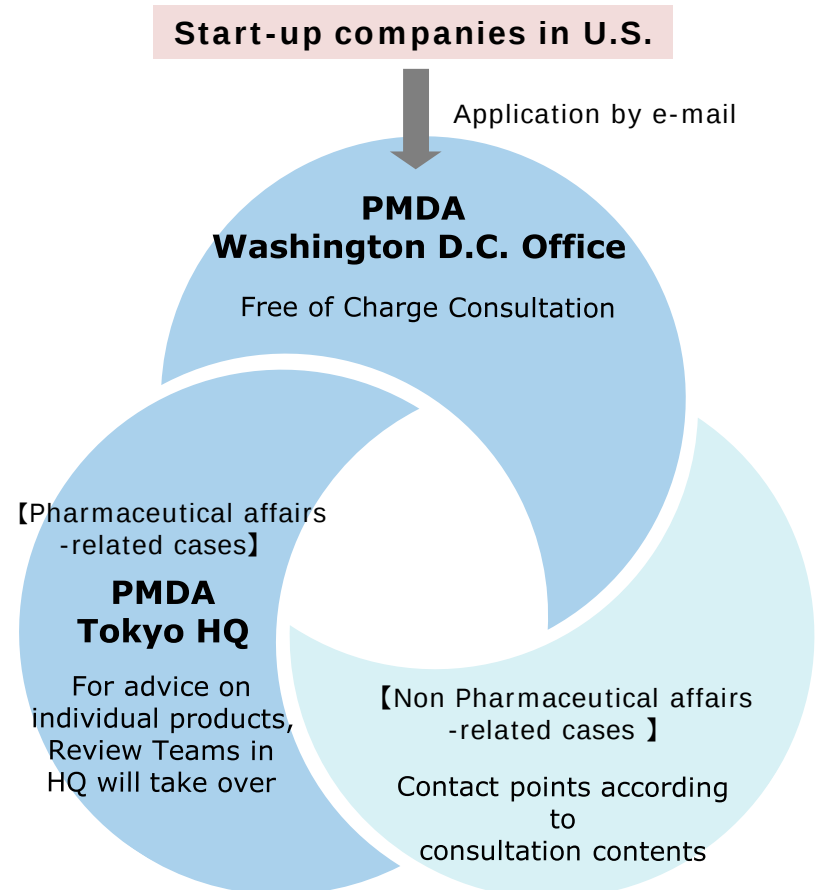


General Consultation Service at Washington D.C. Office

[Application for
General Consultation](#)



- Guide for better understanding PMD Act
- Provide initial general comment on Japanese regulatory information to U.S. start-up companies
- Support procedures for formal consultation at PMDA Tokyo Office



PMDA Asian Training Center



- Established in 2016
- contribute to universal health coverage in Asia through regulatory harmonization and capacity building

2016 – 2024

Participated from **76** countries/regions

All Participants **3,559** / Participants from Asia **3,067**

PMDA-ATC in numbers



Total number of seminars held by PMDA-ATC (FY2016-2024)

120 times



Total number of Pmda Channel (YouTube) videos released by PMDA-ATC

48 videos



Total number of e-learning course videos for overseas regulatory authorities released by PMDA-ATC

58 videos



PMDA-ATC Review of CGTPs Seminar 2025 for South-East Asian countries (15-17, July 2025)



Comments from the participants:

"I find the case studies interesting and so much I have learned from there."

"This seminar helped me deepen my understanding on CGTPs and learned key points for consideration in reviewing CGTPs in my home country."

"I will apply the knowledge from the seminar to develop CGTP guidelines on registration."

"As we have on-going review of a CGTP application, this seminar helped me to see the bigger picture of the evaluation of CGTPs."

<https://www.pmda.go.jp/english/symposia/0338.html>



Where to Find Information?

Regenerative Medical Products

2. Approved Regenerative Medical Products

- [List of Approved Products](#)
- [Review Reports](#)
- [Revisions of PRECAUTIONS](#)



3. Support to Venture Companies

- [PMDA's Support to Venture Companies \[2.1MB\]](#)
- [Doing business in Japan: What is attracting? \[1.4 MB\]](#)
- [Supports from Japanese government \(MHLW\)](#)

4. Related Guidelines and Notifications for Regenerative Medical Products

Marketing authorization application (MAA)

- Questions and answers (Q&A) on release testing of the imported regenerative medical products, PSB/MDED, PSB/CLD Administrative Notice, 2024. [\[Japanese \[144KB\]\]](#) [\[English \[143KB\]\]](#)
- Guideline for comparability of human cell-processed products subject to changes in their manufacturing process, PSB/MDED Notification No. 0329-1, 2024. [\[Japanese \[431KB\]\]](#) [\[English \[245KB\]\]](#)

Good tissue practice (GTP)

- Standards for biological raw materials, MHLW Notification No. 210, 2003. [\[Japanese \[315KB\]\]](#) [\[English \[73KB\]\]](#)

Making everyone's lives brighter together

Review Reports: Regenerative Medical Products

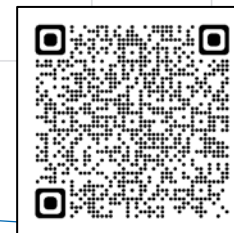
A

Brand Name	Non-proprietary Name	Approved In	English	Japanese
Abecma Initial Approval	Idecabtagene vicleucel	January 2022		
Abecma Partial Change Approval	Idecabtagene vicleucel	December 2023	English [607.25 KB]	Japanese [847.24 KB]
Alofisel	Darvadstrocel	September 2021		

[Back to Top](#)

B

Brand Name	Non-proprietary Name	Approved In	English	Japanese
Breyanzi Initial Approval	Lisocabtagene maraleucel	March 2021		
Breyanzi Partial Change Approval	Lisocabtagene maraleucel	December 2022		



Thank you for your attention!



Making everyone's lives brighter together

Acknowledgements

Colleagues in the Office of Cellular and Tissue-based Products, PMDA

