

November 29, 2022  
SanBio Co., Ltd.

### **Joint Research Agreement for SB623 Targeting Alzheimer's-Type Dementia**

SanBio Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director and President: Keita Mori; hereafter "SanBio") hereby announces that it concluded an agreement with the Keio University School of Medicine on joint research for SB623 targeting Alzheimer's-type dementia on November 21, 2022.

Alzheimer's-type dementia is characterized by amyloid- $\beta$  and tau protein aggregates, which lead to the formation within the brain of senile plaques and neurofibrillary tangles (NFTs), respectively. It is a progressive disease in which these senile plaques and NFTs are thought to cause neuronal dysfunction and eventually neuronal cell death. As the disease advances, patients exhibit impairment in cognitive functions such as memory, language, calculation, and judgment, which can adversely affect daily life and social activities. In Japan, Alzheimer's-type dementia is the most common form of dementia. The number of patients is expected to reach 4.5–5.0 million by 2025 and increase annually thereafter.<sup>1</sup>

This joint research will utilize a 3D cultured brain tissue model derived from human iPS cells to replicate the NFTs that are characteristic of Alzheimer's-type dementia, the goal being to evaluate the efficacy of SB623 in Alzheimer's-type dementia patients, analyze SB623's mechanism of action, and gather the data required for initiating clinical trials. Through collaborations such as this, SanBio aims to continue developing SB623 for Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

#### **About Keio University**

(1) Name	Keio University	
(2) Location	2-15-45 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo	
(3) Title and name of representative	President Kohei Itoh	
(4) Capital	Not applicable	
(5) Date of establishment	October 1858	
(6) Relationship of the Company with Keio University	Capital relationship	Not applicable
	Personnel relationship	Professor Hideyuki Okano, Department of Physiology, the Keio University School of Medicine, who is a founding scientist of SanBio, serves as an advisor to SanBio
	Business relationship	Not applicable
	Related party relationship	Not applicable

**About SB623**

SB623 (INN: vandefitemcel) is a human (allogeneic) bone marrow-derived modified mesenchymal stem cell that is produced by modifying and culturing mesenchymal stem cells derived from the bone marrow aspirate of healthy adults. Implantation of SB623 cells into injured nerve tissues in the brain is expected to trigger the brain's natural regenerative ability to restore lost functions. SB623 is currently being investigated for the treatment of several conditions including chronic neurological motor deficit resulting from traumatic brain injury and ischemic stroke.

**About SanBio**

SanBio is engaged in the regenerative cell medicine business, spanning research, development, manufacture, and sales of regenerative cell medicines. SanBio targets patients with high unmet medical needs that cannot be addressed by existing medical treatments, mainly in diseases of the central nervous system. SanBio is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, and has subsidiaries based in Mountain View, California, and Singapore. Additional information about SanBio Group is available at <https://www.sanbio.com/en/>.

**Sources:**

<sup>1</sup> Study on future estimates of the elderly population with dementia in Japan, Health and Labour Sciences Research Grant, Health and Labour Sciences Special Research Project FY2014 Research Report.  
<https://mhlw-grants.niph.go.jp/system/files/2014/141031/201405037A/201405037A0001.pdf>

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