

Kaken Pharmaceutical Announces Investment in a Venture Capital Fund

Kaken Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (“Kaken”, Head Office: Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo; President and Representative Director, Hiroyuki Horiuchi) announced today that it has entered into an agreement with Axil Capital Partners II LLP (Principal Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; headed by Frederick Shane) under which Kaken will invest up to JPY1.0 billion in Axil Life Science and Healthcare II, L.P. (the “Fund”), created by Axil Capital Partners LLP.

The Fund invests in unlisted venture companies in the pharmaceutical, regenerative medicine, and health tech areas mainly in Japan, including the U.S. and Asia where the biotech and healthcare industries are thriving.

Through the investment, Kaken will pursue to increase in-licensing opportunities for “expansion of the development pipeline”, a key measure of the growth strategy set forth in the “Long-Term Business Plan 2031”. Kaken also expects the investment will enable to efficiently collect information and extend networks with life science related venture companies in Japan and overseas.

[About the Fund]

Fund name	Axil Life Science and Healthcare II, L.P.
Creation	November 2022
Term	10 years (with an option to extend up to 12 years)
Investment areas	Pharmaceuticals, Regenerative Medicine, Health Tech
Investment regions	Mainly in Japan, but also invests in crossover in the U.S., Asia, and other regions.