



December 13, 2022

Name of Company: Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd.

Name of Representative: Kazuo Kawamura, CEO, President and Representative Director

Code Number: 2269, Prime Market, Tokyo Stock Exchange

Notice concerning Start of Phase III Trial of “ARCT-154,”
A Potential New Class of mRNA Vaccine for COVID-19, in Japan

Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd. announces that its subsidiary, Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd., started Phase III clinical trial of potential new class of mRNA vaccine, "ARCT-154" (development code) in Japan. ARCT-154 was developed by Arcturus Therapeutics Inc. The abovementioned clinical trial is partially funded by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan.

ARCT-154 is a new class of mRNA vaccine and is potentially effective against SARS-CoV-2 variants including the Omicron variant. It is also expected that the dose of inoculation is small and the effect of the vaccine is long-lasting. Also, we are going to establish a domestic production system with a subsidy from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

COVID-19 may spread due to new mutant strains repeatedly or may move from pandemic to endemic. In either case, we believe ARCT-154 could be a new option of vaccine for COVID-19.

Summary of the Phase III Clinical Trial for Adults

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| Objective | Comparative study on immunogenicity and safety of ARCT-154 when it is administered to healthy adults over 18 years of age, who have received three doses of approved mRNA COVID-19 vaccine, at least 3 months prior. |
| Target number of subjects | A total of 780 subjects ARCT-154 group: 390 subjects, COMIRNATY® group: 390 subjects |
| Study design | Multicenter, observer-blind, randomized, active-controlled comparative study |
| Intervention summary | ARCT-154: A dose of 5 µg (0.5 mL) administered via intramuscular injection. COMIRNATY®: A dose of 30 µg (0.3 mL) administered via intramuscular injection. |
| Trial period | November 2022 to April 2024 |

The impact of this matter on consolidated earnings forecasts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023 is expected to be minor.

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