



December 18, 2020

Our responses to the COVID-19

As a company involved in the food and health business, the Meiji Group is implementing various actions and initiatives in response to the COVID-19.

Our actions and initiatives include:

Customers matter

- We are responsible to supply products to our customers stably as a manufacturer of essential food and pharmaceutical products.
- We have been continuing production at all Japanese and overseas plants.

Cooperation with business partners

- We are strengthening partnerships with raw material suppliers, wholesalers and retailers; throughout the entire supply chain.

Infection prevention measures for employees

- To ensure safety of workers and their families, we are promoting working from home and staggered working hours as much as we can.
- Employees working in production, shipping, order, and supply sections are complying with hygiene management manuals and ensuring safe working environment.

Support for local community

- We continue donating our products to support food bank organizations and hospitals.

For our shareholders and investors

- We will disclose information appropriately and promptly when a significant impact on earnings occurs. Also, we will execute business plan maintaining financial soundness.

The Meiji Group is also engaged in the following initiatives to develop and supply potential vaccines.

Development of inactivated vaccine* in KM Biologics

- We were selected to participate in the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) to the COVID-19 Vaccine Development (Corporate-led) Public R&D Project in May 2020. We started basic research and non-clinical trials.
- In July 2020, we were selected to participate in the MHLW Vaccine Production Structure Emergency Development and received funding to establish production system to supply 35 million doses in six months by the end of FY2021.
- We were selected to participate in secondary AMED public project in August 2020 and received research grant for Phase III clinical trials.
- We will start clinical trials in FY2020 with goal of launch to market by FY2023.

Collaboration concerning domestic supply of vaccine developed by AstraZeneca

- KM Biologics receives active ingredient from AstraZeneca, after which it will complete formulation (vial filling and packaging), and then Meiji Seika Pharma will store and distribute. We will achieve a three-company collaboration for distribution in Japan.

* A vaccine created from a pathogen or pathogen component by collecting virus particles and bacterial cells from virus strains or bacterial cultivated in large amounts. These particles or cells are refined and then heat-treated or treated with formalin or another agent to eliminate infectiousness or toxicity.