

November 13, 2020

Company Name: HEALIOS K.K.
Representative: Hardy TS Kagimoto,
Chairman & CEO
(TSE Mothers Code: 4593)

Healios establishes Saisei Ventures New regenerative medicine venture capital fund

HEALIOS K.K. ('Healios') is pleased to announce that it has established Saisei Bioventures, L.P. (the "Fund"), a venture capital fund focused on generating attractive returns by investing in and building next-generation companies in the regenerative medicine industry. The Fund will be seeded by Healios and will hold its first closing in January 2021. A major sovereign wealth fund investor in the Asia region has agreed to commit capital to the Fund's investment program and will invest alongside Healios.

The Fund will have operations in Japan and the United States and will take a global approach to investing by linking these two major life sciences markets to tap into a broader deal pipeline, talent pool, scientific network, and capital market. To this end, Healios has established a fund management company in the United States, Saisei Ventures LLC ('Saisei Ventures'), that will be responsible for the Fund's investment and due diligence process. Recruited to Saisei Ventures is Dr. Jonathan Yeh, who has joined as the partner overseeing the Fund's investment efforts. Dr. Yeh is an experienced venture capital investor and scientist in the regenerative medicine and cell therapy field and brings tremendous expertise in regenerative medicine technology assessment along with an established, institutional framework for professionally evaluating and structuring venture capital investments.

"Through the venture fund's activities, we expect to make high return investments, gain important informational insights and foster business development opportunities, which will have a meaningful strategic benefit for Healios," says Dr. Hardy Kagimoto, Founder and CEO of Healios, "we are excited to work together with the Saisei team and the investee companies to drive amazing science forward for the benefit of patients."

"Regenerative medicine has shown itself to be an increasingly attractive modality to treat complex and intractable diseases," says Dr. Yeh, Partner at Saisei Ventures, "we believe that the timing is right to capitalize on transformative discoveries in the sector and to help accelerate these early-stage therapies forward in their development."

The Fund will combine the Saisei Ventures team's deep engagement with the global regenerative medicine venture business community, with Healios' world leading experience, expertise, and infrastructure related to the development and commercialization of regenerative medicine technologies and products in Japan. This synergistic relationship will allow the Fund to make attractive investments in regenerative medicine companies, as well as facilitate international growth and the achievement of value-adding milestones. Adds Dr. Yeh: "The Saisei Ventures team is uniquely positioned, in its partnership with Healios, to source, analyze, and successfully execute on investments in this rapidly growing and highly specialized field in Japan, the United States, and the rest of the world."

About Healios:

Healios is Japan's leading clinical stage biotechnology company harnessing the potential of stem cells for regenerative medicine. It aims to offer new therapies for patients suffering from diseases without effective treatment options. Healios is a pioneer in the development of regenerative medicines in Japan, where it has established a proprietary, gene-edited "universal donor" induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) line to develop next generation regenerative treatments in immuno-oncology, ophthalmology, liver diseases, and other areas of severe unmet medical need. Its near-term pipeline includes the somatic stem cell product HLCM051, which is currently being evaluated in Japan in Phase 2/3 and Phase 2 trials in ischemic stroke and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), respectively. Healios was established in 2011 and to date has raised over US\$300 million in funds to support its growth and development. The Company is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in 2015 (TSE Mothers: 4593). <https://www.healios.co.jp/en/>

About Saisei Ventures:

Saisei Ventures is a new venture capital firm focused on building next-generation companies based on transformative science and exceptional people in the regenerative medicine industry. Our aim is to partner with passionate bio-entrepreneurs to develop and implement business strategies that will generate strong proof of concept, clinical validation, and market value. With operations in Japan and the US, we take a global approach to building value in our portfolio by linking these two important life science markets and leveraging the respective advantages of each ecosystem. Our first fund's investment focus is on early-stage regenerative medicine companies located globally, but with a strong focus on investments in companies located or launching collaborations in Japan. For more information, visit <https://www.saiseiventures.com/>.

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