



December 22, 2020

PeptiDream Inc.

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

## **PeptiDream and Takeda Enter into a Collaborative Research and Exclusive License Agreement to Develop Peptide Drug Conjugates for Neuromuscular Diseases**

PeptiDream Inc. (Representative Director and President: Patrick C. Reid; Head Office: Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture; "PeptiDream") and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited ("Takeda") announced today that they have agreed to a collaborative research and exclusive license agreement to create peptide-drug conjugates (PDCs) for neuromuscular diseases.

Despite advances in the understanding of neuromuscular diseases, the broad biodistribution required to target key tissues throughout the body that contribute to disease remains a key challenge for drug development. The agreement aims to address these challenges by conjugating peptides developed by PeptiDream and JCR Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd. that bind to the transferrin receptor to specific drug payloads selected by Takeda to improve their profile of tissue distribution for treating neuromuscular diseases.

"Takeda is committed to developing new treatment options for patients suffering from rare neurologic and neuromuscular diseases," said Sarah Sheikh, Head, Neuroscience Therapeutic Area Unit at Takeda. "Combining PeptiDream's innovative peptide technology with Takeda's strength in drug discovery and development, this collaboration aims to tackle longstanding biodistribution challenges that have, to date, limited the ability to effectively treat many neuromuscular diseases."

Keiichi Masuya, Executive Vice President at PeptiDream, said, "We are looking forward to initiating our comprehensive research programs to create new PDC drug candidates for the treatment of neuromuscular diseases combining Takeda's compounds and our transferrin receptor binding peptide (carrier peptide). A growing number of potential disease targets have been identified in neuromuscular diseases with large unmet medical needs, and conventional approaches have failed to establish treatments in the space. We hope our new project utilizing carrier peptides developed by PeptiDream in collaboration with JCR Pharmaceuticals will enable the creation of innovative PDC drugs in these diseases."

Under the terms of the agreement, PeptiDream will receive an upfront payment from Takeda. PeptiDream may also receive milestone payments based on the achievements of specified pre-clinical research and clinical trial achievements. Financial terms of the collaboration were not disclosed.

### **About PeptiDream Inc.**

PeptiDream Inc. is a public (TSE: 4587) biopharmaceutical company founded in 2006 employing our proprietary Peptide Discovery Platform System (PDPS), a state-of-the-art highly versatile discovery platform which enables the production of highly diverse (trillions) non-standard peptide libraries with high efficiency, for the identification of highly potent and selective hit candidates, which then can be developed into peptide-based or small molecule-based therapeutics. PeptiDream aspires to be a world leader in drug discovery and development to address unmet medical needs and improve the quality of life of patients worldwide. For further information, please visit <https://www.peptidream.com>.

### **About Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited**

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited ( [HYPERLINK "https://www.takeda.com/investors/"](https://www.takeda.com/investors/) [TSE:4502/NYSE:TAK](#)) is a global, values-based, R&D-driven biopharmaceutical leader headquartered in Japan, committed to bringing Better Health and a Brighter Future to patients by translating science into highly-innovative medicines. Takeda focuses its R&D efforts on four therapeutic areas: Oncology, Rare Genetic and Hematology, Neuroscience, and Gastroenterology (GI). We also make targeted R&D investments in Plasma-Derived Therapies and Vaccines. We are focusing on developing highly innovative medicines that contribute to making a difference in people's lives by advancing the frontier of new treatment options and leveraging our enhanced collaborative R&D engine and capabilities to create a robust, modality-diverse pipeline. Our employees are committed to improving quality of life for patients and to working with our partners in health care in approximately 80 countries. For more information, visit <https://www.takeda.com/jp/>.

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