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PAREXEL, CHA to enhance early phase clinical research in Korea

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Collaboration combines best-in-class offerings from CHA and PAREXEL to enhance early phase clinical trials in growing hub for drug development.

PAREXEL International Corporation, the world's leading innovator of biopharmaceutical services, has announced an alliance with CHA Medical Group (CHA) to enhance early phase clinical development in Korea. The collaboration is designed to provide biopharmaceutical companies with comprehensive services that leverage PAREXEL's global clinical research and regulatory expertise with CHA's experience conducting early phase studies in Korea.

A growing hub for drug development, Korea is ranked sixth in the world for the number of clinical trials conducted in the country,[1] and is an attractive location for early phase trials due to government investment in the industry and access to patients. Additionally, Korea's regulatory requirements, modeled after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), enable sponsors to use the data from early clinical studies conducted in the country for global development.

"Enrollment challenges are a primary cause of delays in Phase I/II studies which involve target patient populations, and many companies struggle with gaining access to patients while conducting trials in a safe and controlled environment," said Stanford Jhee, PharmD, Corporate Vice President, Early Phase Scientific Affairs at PAREXEL. "With this partnership we are aiming to bring our biopharmaceutical clients interested in conducting trials in Korea not only broad access to patients, but the expertise necessary to conduct the trials from start to finish, generate quality Phase I data needed for global development and gain the market advantage essential to commercial success."

PAREXEL has 28 offices and 7,150 employees across the Asia Pacific region, and established operations in Korea in 2000. Through the partnership, PAREXEL and CHA have recently completed a Phase I First-in-Human clinical trial at CHA's flagship facility in Seoul, South Korea.