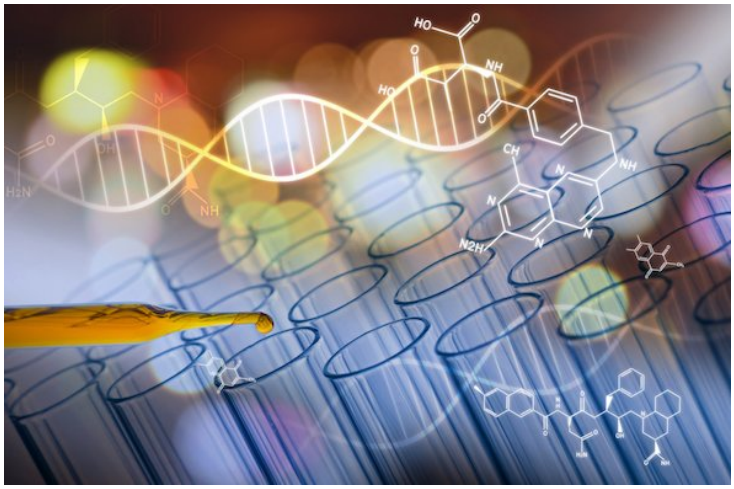
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ASIA EDITION

Japanese firms Teijin and Axcelead establish joint venture for drug discovery research

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For innovating and strengthening drug discovery research for the early launch of drugs with high medical need



Japan-based pharmaceutical companies Teijin Limited and Axcelead, Inc. have jointly announced their basic agreement on a capital and business alliance to establish a joint venture company that will primarily utilise the drug discovery research capabilities of Teijin Pharma, the Teijin Group's core healthcare company.

The new company will utilise Teijin's drug discovery research technologies, facilities, equipment and personnel. Axcelead aims to create synergies based on its proven expertise in drug-discovery support. The new company will investigate and acquire candidate compounds for new drugs as well as support drug discovery research.

It is expected to grow its drug discovery support services worldwide by leveraging the combined strengths of Teijin and Axcelead in drug-discovery know-how, knowledge, technology and assets.

Teijin Pharma carries out drug discovery research at the Teijin Institute for Bio-medical Research in Tokyo. In today's increasingly challenging environment for drug discovery research, the institute is accelerating innovation in drug discovery by leveraging its proprietary technologies and resources through collaborations and partnerships with universities and other companies in Japan and overseas.

Axcelead Drug Discovery Partners Inc. (Axcelead DDP) commenced operations in July 2017 succeeding Takeda Pharmaceutical's drug discovery platform business. Axcelead DDP, which possesses nearly all required capabilities for drug discovery, provides one-stop nonclinical drug discovery research services ranging from drug-target discovery to optimisation of drug candidate compounds as well as processes for bridging to clinical development.