

South Korea takes first anti-cancer drug cell therapy to Indonesia

11 September 2024 | News

Immuncell-LC, an anti-cancer immune cell therapy, has demonstrated significant efficacy in solid tumours, particularly liver cancer, and has been recognised as an US FDA-designated orphan drug



South Korea-based GC Cell, a leading innovator in cell therapy, has announced the execution of a landmark 'Technology Transfer and License Agreement' with PT Bifarma Adiluhung (Bifarma), a premier stem cell therapy company in Indonesia. This strategic partnership, which began in June, solidifies approximately three months later with the signing of the final license agreement.

Under the terms of the agreement, Bifarma will be granted the exclusive rights to develop, manufacture, and commercialise Immuncell-LC for 15 years.

Bifarma is recognised for operating Indonesia's first GMP-certified cell therapy production facility and possesses a comprehensive sales and marketing infrastructure focused on oncology, specialising in a cold chain distribution network that spans across Indonesia. This infrastructure is expected to maximise the accessibility and commercial success of Immuncell-LC.

James Park, CEO of GC Cell, said, "The initiation of technology transfer concurrent with the signing of the license agreement sets us on a path to introduce Immuncell-LC in Indonesia by next year, leveraging both our expertise and a firm partnership with Bifarma. This milestone is pivotal as we work to introduce Immuncell-LC, South Korea's first anticancer drug cell therapy, to a global audience, offering new treatment avenues to a broader patient demographic."

The Indonesian pharmaceutical market, the largest in Southeast Asia, is rapidly expanding with an average growth rate exceeding 8% annually, representing a significant opportunity for innovative treatments like Immuncell-LC. The introduction of the product is expected to mark a significant advancement in Indonesia's cancer treatment landscape, particularly for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC), which affects approximately 23,000 new patients annually in the country.