

Announcement on the agreement of co-development and commercialization with IWAKI SEIYAKU Co., Ltd.

KinoPharma, Inc. (KinoPharma) and IWAKI SEIYAKU CO., LTD. (IWAKI) announced the co-development and commercialization agreement for the treatment of warts caused by a virus called human papillomavirus (HPV).

IWAKI and KinoPharma have jointly developed the ointment with anti-HPV agent founded by KinoPharma since January 2021. IWAKI successfully created the ointment formulation to meet the target profile and confirmed its drug safety. In order to develop this formulation for the treatment of warts caused by HPV, KinoPharma and IWAKI entered into the co-development and commercialization agreement. Under the terms of this agreement, KinoPharma will receive an upfront payment and is eligible to receive additional development milestones as well as royalties on potential sales.

Warts are small proliferative lesions (benign tumors) of the skin caused by infection with the human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV enters the skin through small wounds and infects cells in the basal layer of the epidermis. Infected cells become actively dividing and form warts. Treatment generally involves cryotherapy using liquid nitrogen, but there are issues such as the need for repeated procedures and pain associated with the treatment. There are no approved drugs that have antiviral effects against HPV. Warts are relatively common in children, but can occur in all age groups, with an estimated prevalence of 3.4% (based on data from the 2021 Japan Social Insurance Medical Practice Survey).

IWAKI is a pharmaceutical company focused on manufacturing and distribution of the ethical and OTC drugs. The company is especially active in the market of medical care for dermatology. IWAKI expands its brand and product portfolio in the future and will make all the efforts to supply this product stably.

KinoPharma is a clinical stage biopharma to research and develop small-molecule drugs based on new concept in areas of high medical needs, such as antiviral drugs, and provide them to patients around the world who are waiting for them as quickly as possible. Its leading program is in the Phase 2 clinical trial for the treatment of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN) in Japan and South Korea. This partnership will lead to further acceleration and development of our research and development of anti-viral drugs based on our new concept.

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