News Release

RIBOMIC

**RIBOMIC Announces anti-COVID-19 Drug Program**

[New] TOKYO, May 12, 2020 - RIBOMIC, Inc., a clinical stage pharmaceutical company specializing in aptamer therapeutics (TYO:4591), today announced plans to develop a new anti-viral aptamer drug targeting the virus that causes COVID-19.

COVID-19 infection starts when the SARS-CoV-2 virus binds to ACE2 protein in the human body and begin to replicate. To block infections, RIBOMIC has initiated development of aptamers that disrupt how the “spikes” of the SARS-CoV-2 virus attach to ACE2 protein in human cells.

To accelerate the potential impact in the fight against COVID-19, RIBOMIC would like to invite leading researchers and clinicians to collaborate in the development and testing of candidate aptamers in cell lines that will progress rapidly into animal and human trials.

“RIBOMIC’s aptamer discovery and development platform technology allows researchers and clinicians to apply powerful treatments rapidly against the wide range of target proteins contributing towards the novel COVID-19 mechanisms.” said Yoshi Nakamura, Ph.D., CEO of RIBOMIC Inc., "To combat steady growth in cases worldwide, RIBOMIC is committed to putting powerful, innovative anti-viral treatments into the hands of the providers who can treat and cure COVID-19 infected patients safely and effectively.”

**ABOUT RIBOMIC**

RIBOMIC is a bio-venture company centered on drug discovery. The company develops aptamer therapeutics, within the fast-growing field of nucleic acid medicine. The RiboART system, the company’s core drug discovery platform, can be used for the discovery of many types of aptamer drugs. RIBOMIC is dedicated to the discovery and development of drugs that target the broad field of unmet medical needs, which encompasses eye disorders, pain and many other problems. See RIBOMIC website for more information.
https://www.ribomic.com/eng/

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This announcement contains forward-looking statements relating to current plans, estimates, strategies, belief and the future performance of Company. These statements are based on Company’s current expectations in light of the information and assumptions currently available so that Company does not promise the realization and these expectations may differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but not limited to, i) changes in general economic conditions and in laws and regulations, relating to pharmaceutical markets, ii) currency exchange rate fluctuations, iii) claims and concerns on the product safety and efficacy, iv) completion and discontinuation of clinical trials, v) infringement of Company’s intellectual property rights by third parties.
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Contacts for inquiries or additional information:
RIBOMIC Inc.
Corporate Planning Department
ir.inquiry@ribomic.com