



GEXVal Inc.  
Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Co., Ltd.  
TNP Threads of Light Co., Ltd.  
SMBC Venture Capital Co., Ltd.

**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

### **GEXVal Inc. allocates new shares in a seed funding round**

GEXVal Inc. (GEXVal; President & Chief Executive Officer: Juran Kato, Ph.D.) is a drug discovery startup located at Fujisawa, Kanagawa, focusing on orphan and intractable diseases. In a series A round, GEXVal has raised approximately 410 million yen. This series A round was led by Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Co., Ltd. and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited (Takeda), and was joined by TNP Threads of Light Co., Ltd. and SMBC Venture Capital Co., Ltd.

GEXVal has licensed candidate compounds and receives full R&D support from Takeda for the treatment of rare diseases in the psychiatry and neurology area and for pulmonary arterial hypertension. On April 1, 2018, GEXVal commenced business at Shonan Health Innovation Park (Shonan iPark).

“Shonan iPark not only provides companies with research facilities and equipment, but also provides a wide range of pharmaceutical industry’s know-how, including knowledge on the management of intellectual property and regulatory science,” said Toshio Fujimoto, MD, MBA, General Manager of Shonan iPark. “We hope that GEXVal will establish and benefit from partnership with other companies in the Shonan iPark’s ecosystem, bring innovative health solutions for patients, and create a big wave in the drug discovery.”

“Development of drugs for orphan and intractable diseases is quite challenging mission in drug discovery,” said Juran Kato, PhD, founder, president and CEO of GEXVal. “It is impossible to accomplish our mission without right talents with right expertise and experience, individuals who can take risks, high quality seeds and sufficient funding support. GEXVal was established by researchers who share the same vision and passion, through the “Entrepreneurship Venture Program” sponsored by Takeda. This program was dedicated to the establishment of drug discovery ecosystem at Shonan iPark. With this series A round, we are hoping to further accelerate the drug development in the vibrant environment of Shonan iPark. We are committed to the mission of delivering innovative drugs for patients and their families who have long been waiting for treatment that can improve their lives. We will put our best efforts towards accomplishing this mission.”

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