



For Immediate Release

CCRM and JSRM sign MOU to accelerate Canadian and Japanese advances in RM

September 7, 2018 (Toronto, ON and Tokyo, Japan) – CCRM and the Japanese Society for Regenerative Medicine (JSRM) have agreed to collaborate to advance the field of regenerative medicine (RM) and cell and gene therapies in Canada and Japan, signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) this week at the Annual Meeting of the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) in Kyoto, Japan.

“CCRM’s mission is to generate sustainable health and economic benefits through global collaboration in cell and gene therapy, and regenerative medicine,” says Michael May, President and CEO, CCRM. “CCRM is catalyzing a global network of highly integrated commercialization centres working together to enable viable and cost-effective patient access to revolutionary new treatments. The MOU with JSRM, through its vast research network and industry-enabling activities, is a positive step in that direction.”

“There are many obstacles to establish a sustainable business model for regenerative medicine in Japan, as it requires a whole new value chain. Canada’s CCRM has been fostering and promoting a successful commercialization model since its launch. JSRM is proud to announce that we have entered into a partnership with CCRM to develop sound industrialization pathways, learning from CCRM’s excellent model to make regenerative medicine an available treatment worldwide,” says Prof. Sawa, President of JSRM.

The MOU has been put in place to promote academic and industry collaboration in Japan, Canada and internationally to advance the field of regenerative medicine and cell and gene therapies. This will include supporting knowledge translation about technologies, policies (e.g., regulatory and health economics), legal and ethical issues.

Regenerative medicine, including cell and gene therapy, harnesses the power of (stem) cells, biomaterials, molecules and genetic modification to repair, regenerate or replace diseased cells, tissues and organs. This approach is disrupting the traditional biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries with the promise of revolutionary new cures for devastating and costly conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer.

The current global market for regenerative medicine is USD\$36B and forecasted to grow to reach USD\$49.41B by 2021.¹ There were 977 clinical trials in cell, gene and tissue therapy underway

¹ Regenerative Medicines Market by Therapy (Cell Therapy, Gene Therapy, Immunotherapy, Tissue Engineering), Product (Cell-based, Acellular), Application (Orthopaedic & Musculoskeletal Spine, Dermatology, Cardiovascular, Central Nervous System), Region - Global Forecast to 2021. marketsandmarkets.com. Website, July 2016.

worldwide at the close of the second quarter of 2018.² In 2017, the sector achieved the first global approvals and reimbursements for major cellular immunotherapies and gene therapies. This has resulted in record-breaking investment and acquisitions in the sector.

About CCRM

CCRM, a Canadian not-for-profit organization funded by the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and leading academic and industry partners, supports the development of regenerative medicines and associated enabling technologies, with a specific focus on cell and gene therapy. A network of researchers, leading companies, investors and entrepreneurs, CCRM aims to accelerate the translation of scientific discovery into new companies and marketable products for patients, with specialized teams, dedicated funding, and unique infrastructure. CCRM is the commercialization partner of the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine and the University of Toronto's Medicine by Design. CCRM is hosted by the University of Toronto. Visit us at ccrm.ca.

About the Japanese Society for Regenerative Medicine

The Japanese Society for Regenerative Medicine is the largest society for regenerative medicine in the world, with approximately 6000 members involved in research in a wide variety of fields in the natural sciences such as basic medicine/dentistry, clinical medicine/dentistry, tissue engineering, and cell biology, as well as fields in the humanities and in sociology such as bioethics, regulatory science, law, and medical economics. The participating members come from various domains of academia, industry, and government, and JSRM is recognized as the only platform beyond institutional borders where they can engage in discussions regarding a host of challenges brought about by the new field of Regenerative Medicine. Visit jsrm.jp

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² Alliance for Regenerative Medicine Q2 2018 Data Report