

COMMENCEMENT OF MAJOR RENOVATION OF TSUKUBA RESEARCH LABORATORIES AS EISAI GLOBAL DRUG DISCOVERY CENTER AIMING FOR CONNECTING HUMAN AND HUMAN, AND DATA, AND THE WORLD

Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, CEO: Haruo Naito, "Eisai") announced today that Eisai had a groundbreaking ceremony for a major renovation of its Tsukuba Research Laboratories (Ibaraki, Japan) as part of strategic investment to realize Eisai's medium-term business plan "EWAY2025."

Since the opening in 1982, the Tsukuba Research Laboratories has led the creation of innovation by discovering the cutting-edge drugs including Aricept®, Pariet®, Lenvima® and Fycompa® over the last approximate 40 years. In order for the Tsukuba Research laboratories to continue to play the central role also in the next generation innovation creation as Eisai's global drug discovery center, a major renovation is conducted with a key concept "Human Connected Laboratories : Laboratories Connecting Human and Human, and Data, and the World." This renovation aims to accelerate the further knowledge circulation by connecting each researcher with patients, other members at the Tsukuba Research Laboratories, the research sites in the world, and external researchers, as well as developing the environment for the further digitalization era.

[Connection with Patients]

In the Eisai Group, all employees around the world using 1% of their total business hours to interact with patients (socialization) to understand thoughts and feelings of patients. Accordingly, we have been working on the initiatives (*hhc* activities) for leading to the creation of values for patients.

The facility is established for enhancing communication by developing new places and spaces for a closer socialization with patients at the Tsukuba Research Laboratories.

[Connection with Other Members at Tsukuba Research Laboratories]

In order to accelerate the knowledge exchange in the Tsukuba Research Laboratories and to support the workstyle to increase the researchers' efficiency, the renovation for improving the traffic lines between workspaces or research buildings, as well as building the spaces for various co-creation are conducted.

[Connection with the World]

The facility and equipment for accelerating the interactions with our partners are also developed while developing the environment of meeting rooms for smooth communication with overseas bases.

[Connection with Data]

The facilities with safety, extensibility, and variability for further data driven and digitalization are built while renovating to enable the equipment layout to accelerate the effective usage of all research equipment of Tsukuba Research Laboratories.

In consideration of the environment, this construction is conducted as a renovation for more effective use of resources in comparison with demolition and new construction. Eisai is also planning to introduce an energy management system. The renovation is gradually carried out while maintaining the research function, and the final completion is scheduled in the fiscal year 2022.

The Tsukuba Research Laboratories is a core research center for drug discovery research in the neurology and oncology fields, which are our priority areas, and conducts the drug discovery activities with the aim of contributing to global health including neglected tropical diseases. In addition, the Tsukuba Research Laboratories will also play a central role as a base for Data Driven Drug Discovery & Development (5D drug discovery) to create a paradigm shift in drug discovery by digital technology. Through these initiatives, Eisai accelerates the drug discovery activities, and is striving to further contribute to satisfy unmet medical needs and to improve the benefits to patients and their families.

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[Notes to editors]

1. Outline of Major Renovation of Tsukuba Research Laboratories

Groundbreaking: December 2019

Renovation completion: End of Fiscal year 2022 (scheduled)

Total investment amount: 85 billion yen (planned)

Images for renovation



(Inside of Environment-Friendly Front Entrance with Wall Greening)



(Community Lounge for Interaction with Patients)

2. About Eisai's Research Sites

Eisai possesses abundant experiences in small molecules and strives for global exploratory development of research using various approaches by the following global research sites having characteristics such as productivity and speed of venture-type company with Tsukuba Research Laboratories, a central role of drug discovery research for Neurology and Oncology areas, as its hub:

<Neurology Area>

- Eisai Center for Genetics Guided Dementia Discovery (G2D2) (U.S.): Research on Immunodementia with the strengths in human genetics, data sciences and precision chemistry;
- KAN Research Institute (Kobe, Japan): Research on glial cell based on cellular biology;
- European Knowledge Centre (Hatfield, U.K.): Open innovation drug discovery through cooperation with U.K. academia; and
- Eisai-Keio Innovation Lab for Dementia (Japan): Brain defense mechanism research based on reverse translation.

<Oncology Area>

- H3 Biomedicine (U.S.): Oncology drug discovery based on data science and genetic research; and
- Epochal Precision Anti-Cancer Therapeutics (EPAT) (U.S.): Creation of Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC) and personalized medicine from latest biologics research.