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Kyorin and BioLeap Enter Research Collaboration
Fragment-based Molecular Design for Novel Drug Candidates

TOKYO, JAPAN, and PENNINGTON, N.J., Jan. 09, 2012 – Kyorin Pharmaceuticals Co., Ltd (Kyorin) and BioLeap, Inc. (BioLeap) have entered into a research collaboration that will use molecular design technology developed at BioLeap to produce novel drug candidates. Under the agreement, BioLeap will use their proprietary technology in computational fragment-based design to identify compounds aimed at biological targets of interest to Kyorin. A team of technical experts from both Kyorin and BioLeap will then select compounds for synthesis and *in vitro* and *in vivo* evaluation by Kyorin. Terms of the agreement including discovery milestones were not disclosed.

David Pompliano, chief executive officer of BioLeap, said, “We are pleased to be working with Kyorin to produce novel medicines. Our molecular design technology and Kyorin’s drug discovery experiences and know-how are a powerful combination.”

Masakatsu Komuro, executive director, R&D headquarters of Kyorin, said, “This investment allows us to properly evaluate a technology that could prove useful in leading to new drug candidates.”

BioLeap is a pioneer in computational fragment-based molecular design. In pharmaceutical applications, the company uses its proprietary software to design drug candidates both through its internal programs and in collaboration with partners. BioLeap thus addresses one of the biggest problems in drug discovery: the limitation of drug-like and patentable leads for important but often difficult biological targets. This *in silico* design capability also finds application in product development for the consumer-product and agriculture industries, promising to achieve greater speed, economy, and odds of success than traditional compound screening. In the first half of 2011, BioLeap has entered research agreements with DuPont, Syngenta, and Unilever. More information is available at www.bioleap.com. On the home page, a video offers an overview of the company by CEO David Pompliano.

Kyorin is a core company of the Kyorin Group, which focuses on the drug discovery business with the aim to provide people in the world with innovative breakthrough drugs, along with actively acquiring the licensing products for the enhancement of its development pipelines.

Kyorin’s in-house research is concentrated on respiratory, urology and infection. Kyorin enhances the relationship with healthcare professionals by well understanding their needs and responding to them more quickly through focusing its marketing resources on respiratory, ear-nose-throat and urology.

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