

April 1, 2022  
SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited  
Fuminori Yoshida  
Representative Director  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Securities Code: 4582)

## **Joint research agreement with the National Cancer Center on rare cancers**

TOKYO, Japan, April 1, 2022 -- SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited (Headquarters: Tokyo, "SymBio") today announced that it has entered into a joint research agreement with the National Cancer Center for the MASTER KEY Project\*, which is a collaborative industry-academia project mainly conducted by the National Cancer Center Hospital. SymBio will work with the National Center Cancer to develop pharmaceutical products for rare cancers\*\*.

The Company does not expect the information presented herein to have any material impact on its financial outlook for the fiscal year ending December 2022.

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### **About MASTER KEY Project\***

The "MASTER KEY Project" is an industry-academic collaborative project promoting the development of genomic medicine in rare cancers. The project is divided into two parts, a registry study and sub-study.

In the registry study, National Cancer Center (NCC) aims to characterize rare cancers, including molecular biological metrics (biomarkers), by accumulating a large database of rare cancer patients for whom no collective clinical information has been accumulated so far.

Also, although multiple clinical trials (sub-study) are conducted in this project, patients enrolled in registry studies can be offered the opportunity to be referred for optimal sub-trials depending on the results of individual biomarkers.

Sub-studies can be broadly divided into "trials with biomarkers" that use novel agents with specific potential efficacy for tumors with specific biomarkers, and "trials without biomarkers" that use agents that are expected to be effective regardless of the biomarker. Secondary trials that are classified into one of the two types of trials are conducted at the same time.

Individual rare cancers are difficult to conduct collective research due to the small number of patients, but NCC expects that this project will be able to efficiently advance research and development by selecting the optimal new drug according to the biomarker results, regardless of the cancer type.

NCC aims to deliver more new drugs to patients with rare cancers faster through this project.

\* [https://www.ncc.go.jp/en/information/press\\_release/20170731/index.html](https://www.ncc.go.jp/en/information/press_release/20170731/index.html)

### **About Rare cancers\*\***

Rare cancers are cancers with a low incidence (annual incidence <6 per 100,000 people), which makes it difficult to research and conduct clinical trials due to the limited amount of available clinical data.

\*\*<https://www.ncc.go.jp/jp/rcc/about/index.html>

### **About SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited**

SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited was established in March 2005 by Fuminori Yoshida who previously served concurrently as Corporate VP of Amgen Inc. and founding President of Amgen Japan. In May 2016, the Company incorporated its wholly-owned subsidiary in the U.S., called SymBio Pharma USA, Inc. (Headquarters: Durham, North Carolina, President: Mr. Fuminori Yoshida).

The Company's underlying corporate mission is to "deliver hope to patients in need" as it aspires to be a leading global specialty biopharmaceutical company dedicated to addressing underserved medical needs.