

March 30, 2026
Symbio Pharmaceuticals Limited
Fuminori Yoshida
Representative Director
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Securities Code: 4582)

**CRADA with NIH/NINDS for Multiple Sclerosis Extended for Three Years
— Following Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy, Symbio to Further Advance
Development in the Neurodegenerative Disease Field —**

TOKYO, Japan, March 30, 2026 -- Symbio Pharmaceuticals Limited (“Symbio” or the “Company”) today announced that it has extended for three years its Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (“CRADA”) with the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (“NINDS”), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (“NIH”), relating to multiple sclerosis (“MS”).

To date, Symbio has been advancing the development of a novel therapy that directly targets Epstein-Barr virus (“EBV”) for multiple sclerosis together with the NIH/NINDS research team. As published in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation* (“JCI”), the results of the collaborative research to date have confirmed that BCV has high antiviral activity against EBV and markedly suppresses reactivated EBV activity. Furthermore, results from non-clinical studies using marmosets indicate that the program has now entered the stage of evaluating efficacy and clinical potential in humans through clinical trials.

Because multiple sclerosis is a chronic disease, the development of more suitable routes of administration and formulations is important for the practical application of a therapeutic agent. Symbio is currently accelerating these development efforts and advancing the program toward clinical application.

In addition, under a separate CRADA with NIH/NINDS for progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (“PML”), Symbio has initiated a Proof of Concept clinical trial in humans for BCV, which has high antiviral activity against JCV. Going forward, while also leveraging insights obtained from PML, Symbio will further promote the research, development, and commercialization of BCV in the field of neurological diseases, including multiple sclerosis.

Statement from Fuminori Yoshida, President and CEO: “We have renewed our CRADA with NIH/NINDS for multiple sclerosis and will further advance our collaborative research toward clinical trials. We have also entered into a CRADA with NIH/NINDS for progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), under which we have already initiated a clinical trial. Together with the NINDS research team, we will steadily advance the development of BCV and accelerate our business

development in the field of neurological diseases.”

The Company does not expect this matter to have a material impact on its consolidated financial results for the fiscal year ending December 2026.

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Note

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with NIH/NINDS

In March 2023, Symbio entered into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), and initiated collaborative research on BCV to verify its potential anti-EBV activity and to obtain experimental evidence supporting its utility as an antiviral therapy for EBV-associated multiple sclerosis. With this renewal, the term of the CRADA has been extended to March 2029. The results of this collaborative research were published in January 2026 in the prestigious *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, confirming that BCV has high antiviral activity against EBV and markedly suppresses the activity of reactivated EBV.

Relationship Between EBV and Multiple Sclerosis

Recent studies have shown a strong association between EBV infection and the onset of multiple sclerosis. Whereas conventional therapies seek to improve symptoms by broadly depleting B cells, BCV may selectively inhibit EBV-positive B cells, and is therefore expected to offer a treatment approach that directly addresses disease causation.

Journal of Clinical Investigation

The *Journal of Clinical Investigation* is published by the American Society for Clinical Investigation and is one of the most prestigious medical journals in the world. All published papers undergo rigorous peer review by leading experts in the field, and the journal has had a major impact on medical research. For details of the publication in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, please refer to the press release dated January 29, 2026, entitled “A New Approach to Multiple Sclerosis Treatment Using IV BCV: Research Results from a Collaborative Study with the U.S. NIH Published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation”.

Press release: [here](#)

BCV's Business Strategy Based on Three Therapeutic Pillars

Since acquiring the global license to BCV in September 2019, Symbio has been conducting collaborative research with world-class research institutions to unlock BCV's potential in three

therapeutic areas. Currently, our management resources and development efforts are centered on three therapeutic pillars: (1) viral infections post-HSCT, (2) hematologic malignancies and solid tumors, and (3) neurodegenerative diseases. SymBio is focusing on its business globally to maximize the business value of BCV.