

June 2, 2026
SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited
Fuminori Yoshida
Representative Director
President and Chief Executive Officer

SymBio Presents Data on the Efficacy of Brincidofovir (BCV) in Combination with an Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor for Treatment of Epstein-Barr Virus–Associated Gastric Carcinoma at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO 2026)

BCV increases PD-L1 expression, a biomarker associated with the efficacy of immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs), indicating that use of BCV in combination with ICIs may enhance therapeutic efficacy

TOKYO, Japan, June 2, 2026 -- SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited (“SymBio” or the “Company”) today announced positive preclinical data on the therapeutic efficacy of brincidofovir (BCV) for Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)–associated gastric carcinoma (“EBVaGC”), which were presented on May 30, 2026, at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO 2026) Annual Meeting held in Chicago, USA.

Highlights from the preclinical study presentation include:

- In cell-based experiments, BCV effectively induced cell death in EBV-positive gastric carcinoma cells.
- BCV induced factors that enhance immune-related effects in Epstein-Barr virus–positive gastric cancer cells.
- In animal experiments, BCV in combination with an immune checkpoint inhibitor strongly suppressed tumor growth, exceeding the effects of either agent alone.

These results suggest that BCV in combination with an immune checkpoint inhibitor may have potential as a new treatment option for EBVaGC.

Statement from Tetsu Kamitani, MD, PhD, Head of Translational Research at SymBio: “While cisplatin is used in combination with an immune checkpoint inhibitor under the current standard of care, it is associated with nephrotoxicity and myelotoxicity. Because BCV lacks these toxicities, it has the potential to be used in combination with an immune checkpoint inhibitor in place of cisplatin.”

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Note

1. About EBV-Associated Gastric Carcinoma (EBVaGC)

Gastric cancer is one of the major cancers worldwide, with approximately one million new cases diagnosed each year. Approximately 10% of these are associated with EBV infection, corresponding to an estimated 90,000 cases worldwide and 13,000 cases in Japan annually. EBVaGC is a subtype of gastric cancer that arises in association with persistent EBV infection within tumor cells and is strongly influenced by EBV-derived gene expression and the host (patient) immune response. EBVaGC is not merely a clinical variant but a distinct subtype of gastric cancer involving a unique pathology driven by the interplay between EBV and the host, and understanding its molecular mechanisms and immunological characteristics is expected to lead to the development of effective therapies. Symbio will leverage the findings obtained from this preclinical study to the future clinical development of BCV.

2. About the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

Founded in 1964, ASCO is one of the world's leading professional organizations in the field of cancer treatment and research, with more than 50,000 members from over 150 countries. The ASCO Annual Meeting is one of the most important international forums for presenting the latest advances in cancer research and treatment, bringing together clinical oncologists, researchers, and healthcare professionals from around the world to share the latest knowledge.

3. Summary of the Presentation at ASCO 2026:

- **Title:** Preclinical efficacy of the anti-EBV agent brincidofovir (BCV) in EBV-associated gastric carcinoma (EBVaGC).
- **Presenter:** Tetsu Kamitani
- **Abstract number:** 4028
- **Poster:** Copies of the poster obtained through this QR code are permitted for personal use only. They may not be reproduced without written permission from ASCO or the authors.



About Symbio : BCV Business Strategy Based on Three Therapeutic Pillars

Since obtaining the global license for BCV in September 2019, Symbio has advanced collaborative research with world-class institutions to unlock IV BCV's potential across three strategic therapeutic areas where the Company is currently focusing its development resources: (1) viral infections following hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; (2) hematologic and solid tumors; and (3) neurodegenerative diseases. By concentrating management resources on these therapeutic areas and actively promoting global business expansion, Symbio aims to maximize the business value of BCV.