July 15 2020
ImmuniT Research Inc.

To all

Conclusion of the Collaborative Development and License Agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim, Germany

ImmuniT Research Inc. (Location: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Masafumi Yasukochi; hereinafter referred to as "our Company") wishes to announce that our Company has entered into a Collaborative Development and License Agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim, Germany on the research and development of diagnostic agents for immune checkpoint inhibitors.

As of August 3, 2017, our Company entered into an exclusive license agreement with Saitama Medical University, for the "IMMUNOLOGICAL BIOMARKER FOR PREDICTING CLINICAL EFFECT OF CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY (hereinafter referred to as the "Patent")", and has been aiming to commercialize the Patent.

Immune checkpoint inhibitors (CPIs) are known to be highly effective against a variety of cancers and have received a great deal of attention worldwide. However, there are patients that do not benefit from CPIs. While there are biomarkers like PD-L1 expression or high tumor mutational burden that enrich for responders, they are not perfect, and rely on invasive tumor biopsies. A liquid biopsy biomarker that would predict responders to CPIs might, therefore, greatly benefit patients.

Professor Hiroshi Kagamu, at Department of Respiratory Medicine, Saitama Medical University International Medical Center, has invented a method that is capable of predicting the effects of CPIs with high specificity and favorable sensitivity through the examination of lymphocytes in the blood. The results of this study were announced at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) held in June 2017, and due to its high prediction performance, the study has attracted strong interest from medical institutions and pharmaceutical companies as it contributes to the effective administration of CPIs and the effective administration of cancer treatments associated therewith.

The collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim incorporates not only testing the current biomarker in ongoing clinical studies, and also further advancing blood-based patient selection biomarkers for CPIs and CPI combinations in future clinical trials.

<Contact information>
Kei Yoneyama at ImmuniT Research Inc.
2-10-1 Yurakucho, Tokyo Kotsu Kaikan 6F, goodoffice Yurakucho
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0006, Japan
TEL: 03-6268-0787