



May 12, 2021

Updated: November 9, 2021

Our responses to the COVID-19

As a company involved in the food and health business, the Meiji Group is implementing various actions and initiatives in response to the COVID-19.

Our actions and initiatives include:

Customers matter

- We are responsible to supply products to our customers stably as a manufacturer of essential food and pharmaceutical products.
- We have been continuing production at all Japanese and overseas plants.

Cooperation with business partners

- We are strengthening partnerships with raw material suppliers, wholesalers and retailers; throughout the entire supply chain.

Infection prevention measures for employees

- To ensure safety of workers and their families, we are promoting working from home and staggered working hours as much as we can. We try to keep the attendance rate below around 50% in our office locations.
- Employees working in production, shipping, order, and supply sections are complying with hygiene management manuals and ensuring safe working environment.

Support for local community

- We continue donating our products to support food bank organizations and hospitals.

For our shareholders and investors

- We will disclose information appropriately and promptly when a significant impact on earnings occurs. Also, we will execute business plan maintaining financial soundness.

The Meiji Group is also engaged in the following initiatives to develop and supply COVID-19 vaccines.

Development of inactivated vaccine* in KM Biologics

- Currently, Group subsidiary KM Biologics is developing an inactivated vaccine for COVID-19. We began conducting non-clinical trials in September 2020, and domestic Phase 1/2 clinical trials in March 2021. We also started Phase 2/3 clinical trial in October 2021.
- We are organizing a production structure that will enable rapid provision in Japan for the inactivated vaccine.

* A vaccine created from a pathogen or pathogen component by collecting virus particles and bacterial cells from virus strains or bacterial cultivated in large amounts. These particles or cells are refined and then heat-treated or treated with formalin or another agent to eliminate infectiousness or toxicity.

Collaboration concerning domestic supply of Vaxzevria™, developed by AstraZeneca

- In June 2020, Group subsidiaries Meiji Seika Pharma and KM Biologics agreed with AstraZeneca PLC to hold discussions regarding the stable provision of the COVID-19 vaccine, allocated for Japan. KM Biologics received active ingredient from AstraZeneca and started formulation from March 2021. From August 2021, Meiji Seika Pharma has started handling product storage, transporting and collecting safety management information of the COVID-19 vaccine.

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