



Bridge Report Solasia Pharma K.K. (4597)

 President & CEO Yoshihiro Arai	Company	Solasia Pharma K.K.	
	Code No.	4597	
	Exchange	TSE Mothers	
	Industry	Pharmaceutical products (manufacturing)	
	President & CEO	Yoshihiro Arai	
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	Year-end	End of December	
	URL	https://solasia.co.jp/en/	

— Stock Information —

Share Price	Number of Shares Issued		Total Market Cap	ROE (Actual)	Trading Unit
¥245	88,376,650 shares		¥21,652 million	-	100 shares
DPS (Est.)	Dividend yield (Est.)	EPS (Est.)	PER (Est.)	BPS (Actual)	PBR (Actual)
¥0.00	-	¥-36.47	-	¥60.01	4.1 times

*The share price is the closing price on September 5. The number of shares issued, ROE and BPS were the values for the previous term. EPS represents the lower limit of the forecasted range.

— Earnings Trends —

(Units: Million yen or yen)

Fiscal Year	Revenue	Operating Profit	Profit before tax	Profit	EPS	DPS
Dec. 2014 (Actual)	11	-702	-701	-677	-26.90	0.00
Dec. 2015 (Actual)	229	-702	-710	-643	-24.83	0.00
Dec. 2016 (Actual)	501	-462	-494	-474	-18.46	0.00
Dec. 2017 (Actual)	410	-1,009	-1,016	-1,007	-12.24	0.00
Dec. 2018(Forecast)	100 ~600	-3,200 ~-3,000	-3,200 ~-3,000	-3,200 ~-3,000	-36.47 ~-34.19	0.00

*The forecast is from the company. IFRS adopted.

This report outlines Solasia Pharma's first half of fiscal year December 2018 earnings results and fiscal year December 2018 earnings estimates.

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Key Points

- As a specialty pharma* specializing in oncology, Solasia Pharma develops and sells medicine for cancer treatment and supportive care in Asia, mainly Japan and China, which has promising markets. Its significant strengths and features are the experienced clinical development team led by President Arai, high rate of successful development, the stable business foundation, early feasibility of business model, and so on.

- Solasia Pharma started selling “SP-03: episil® oral liquid” in Japan, which was introduced in the previous report. In addition, “SP-04: PledOx®” was decided to participate into global phase III study. “SP-01: Sancuso®” was approved by Chinese authorities in July 2018.

Business is steadily progressing. In August 2018, the company licensed to HB Human BioScience SAS in Columbia to exclusive commercialization rights of “SP-02: darinaparsin” in Latin America, and acquired exclusive development and commercialization rights of “SP-03” in Korea from Camurus AB, which is the originator of SP-03.

In Sept.-Oct. 2018, Solasia Pharma intends to raise up to approximately 3.7 billion yen for the development of “SP-04” by issuing new shares (through public offering & third-party allocation). They have established a system to strengthen their financial base and further accelerate development.

- Since its listing, the company’s progress has been smooth, and for the most part is proceeding according to their plans. In addition to the elimination "significant events regarding premise of going concern" note on financial statement” with the listing for National Health Insurance Reimbursement and start of sales of SP-03 in Japan, the company has succeeded to secure a total of 5.1 billion yen through indirect financing, and approximately 3.7 billion yen through direct financing (assumed to be the upper limit, including OA). The company is making steady progress towards business development and strengthening their business foundation. However, recently the stock price has remained at almost the same level as when it was initially listed in March 2017 (234 yen), and the stock market has evaluated it as such.

Although Solasia Pharma forecast loss of 3 billion yen or more in profits this term, it is clear that evaluating stock prices for a single year using PL (income statement) is not reasonable when dealing with a biotechnology venture company. For these so-called “bio-ventures,” the probability of success for new drugs should also be taken into account during each stage of their development when determining the discount rate for future income. In this case, obtaining approval is the biggest focus, but out of the four products, development has already been closed for “SP-01” and “SP-03,” and they have entered the sales stage, therefore the discount rate regarding the company’s development of new drugs should be considered lower than market average. While not overly eye-catching, the company is getting steady results from development. We would like to pay attention to how the market evaluation will change with regards to the dramatic increase in stability due to the company’s stronger financial base.

1. Company Overview

As a specialty pharma* specializing in cancer, Solasia Pharma develops and sells medicines for cancer treatment and supportive care, etc. in Asia, mainly Japan and China, which has promising markets.

Its significant strengths and features are the development staff with abundant practical experience led by President Arai, high rate of successful development, the stable business foundation, feasibility of business model, and so on.

*Specialty Pharma: A new drug developing enterprise possessing research and development capabilities which has a certain standard in its field of expertise, both domestically and internationally.

【1-1 Corporate history】

2006	Dec.	ITOCHU Corporation and MPM Capital, an American VC specializing in bio business, jointly established JapanBridge Inc. in the US as a preliminary base for pharmaceutical development projects.
2008	May	Acquired exclusive development and sales rights of the first product "SP-01" in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, and China (including Hong Kong and Macao) from Strakan International Ltd. (UK). (Furthermore, the rights in Japan were returned to Strakan International Ltd. in January 2011).
2008	Sep.	Changed the corporate name to Solasia Pharma K.K.
2010	Feb.	Out-licensed to Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd. exclusive development and sales rights of "SP-01" in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.
2011	Mar.	Acquired exclusive development and sales rights of "SP-02" in the Asia-Pacific region from ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. (USA).
	Dec.	Established a representative office in Beijing for development activities in China.
2013	Jan.	Established an office in Shanghai to prepare for sales activities in China.
2014	Jun.	Applied for new drug application in China for "SP-01."
	Jul.	Acquired exclusive development and sales rights of "SP-02" in the U.S. and Europe from ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. (USA).
	Dec.	Established the subsidiary Solasia Medical Information Consulting (Shanghai) Co. Ltd. to provide medical information on the company's products in Shanghai, China.
2015	Jan.	Out-licensed to Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd. exclusive development and sales rights of "SP-02" in Japan.
	Mar.	Acquired exclusive development and sales rights of "SP-03" in Japan and China from Camurus AB (Sweden).
	Nov.	Out-licensed to Lee's Pharmaceutical (HK) Limited exclusive sales rights of the developed product "SP-01" in China (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, and Macao).
2016	May	Applied for New Medical Device Application for "SP-03" in China.
	Oct.	Applied for New Medical Device Application for "SP-03" in Japan.
	Nov.	Out-licensed to Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd. exclusive sales rights of "SP-03" in Japan.
2017	Feb.	Out-licensed to Lee's Pharmaceutical (HK) Limited exclusive sales rights of "SP-03" in China (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou).
	Mar.	Listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Mothers (Market of High Growth and Emerging Stocks).
	Jul.	"SP-03" obtained approval for New Medical Device Application in Japan.
	Sep.	Entered into a contract for commercialization by agent of SP-01 and SP-03 in China with ITOCHU Corporation.
	Nov.	Acquired exclusive development and commercialization rights of "SP-04" in Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau from PledPharma AB (Sweden).
2018	May	Launched episil® (SP-03) in Japan
	Jul.	Obtained approval from Chinese authorities for SP-01: Sancuso®.
	Aug.	Acquired exclusive development and sales rights of SP-03 in South Korea from Camurus AB.
	Aug.	Licensed to HB Human BioScience SAS in Columbia to exclusive commercialization rights of SP-02 in Latin America.

【1-2 Corporate philosophy/management philosophy】

The company's name, SOLASIA, is a coined word combining Sol (the Sun in Spanish) and Asia (Asian countries). It represents the company's mission which is to be the Sun brightening the future of various people facing many challenges of cancer in Japan and other Asian countries.

The management philosophy adopts the following mission, vision, and values.

Role to Fulfill (Mission)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Better medicine for a brighter tomorrow
Ideal Situation (Vision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be recognized domestically and overseas, and gain a high level of trust from all stakeholders. ● To be recognized as a specialty pharma developing innovative medicine, where each employee possesses passion, ambition, and a sense of morality, strives to better themselves, maintains a high level of expertise, and continuously endeavors for new value and creation for the future. ● To meet the needs of people (medical practitioners and patients) who need our products, and contribute to them.
Shared Values (Value)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create value for patients. ● Have high ethical standards. ● Trust and respect each other. ● Work as a team.

In addition, the following two points are listed as management policy.

①	For the time being, we will continue the in-licensing of new products in cancer and rare disease field where major pharmaceutical companies do not emphasize from a performance-based approach, and contribute to patients without adequate medication.
②	Through the commercialization of existing four products, we will promptly establish the financial stability needed to realize our management philosophy, and secure independence.

The company will focus on developing new drugs to solve unmet medical needs (medical needs for diseases for which no treatment has been developed), which is a niche market but has many troubled patients.

As research and development is preceding, they will have to rely on financing CF now, but they plan to make operating CF positive soon and build a strong basis to achieve continuous growth.

【1-3 Environment surrounding Solasia Pharma】

According to "Vital Statistics, 2015" published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, in 2015, the leading cause of death was malignant neoplasm (cancer) of which 370,346 people died, accounting for 28.7% of the total of 1,290,444 deaths.

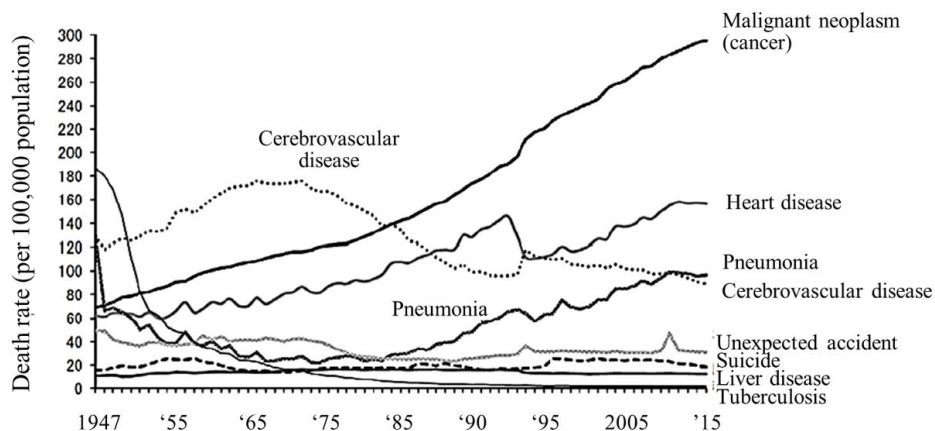
Regarding the "death rate (the number of deaths per 100,000 people)" which takes account of the change in the total population, in 1981, cancer overtook cerebrovascular diseases, the former number one cause of death, with the death rate from cancer being 142.0 and that from cerebrovascular diseases being 134.3. Since then, cancer has been the leading cause of death for the 30 consecutive years and keeps going up every year with the rate being 295.5 in 2015.

As it is said that the incidence rate of cancer is rising due to aging and changes in lifestyles including diet, the number of patients and deaths regarding cancer is rising in China as well.

Currently, the U.S. has the biggest pharmaceutical market, followed by China after it overtook Japan. In the future, it is said that the market in China will expand to the point where it will share the top position with the U.S.

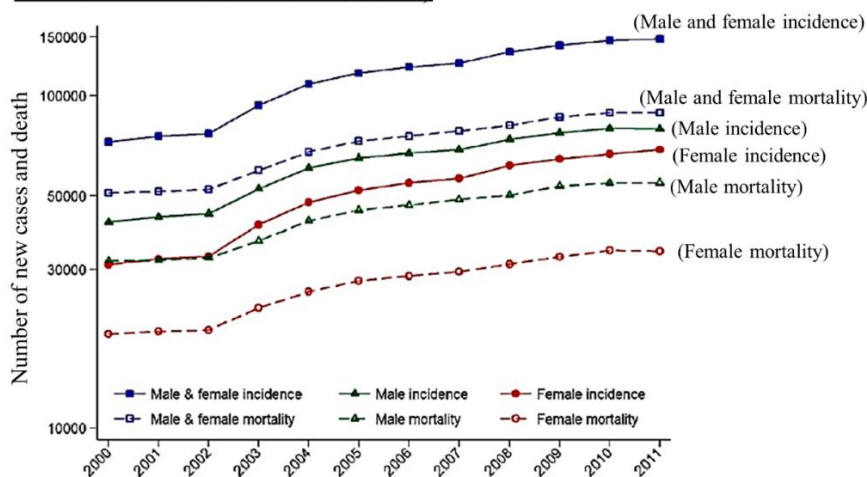


Annual Change in Death Rate for Each Major Cause in Japan
(per 100,000 population)



Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Number of Cancer Patients and Mortality in China
(Cancer Statistics in China, 2015)



(Taken from the reference material of the company)

As the death rate from cancer increases as shown above, expectations for “new anticancer drug” and “cancer supportive care” are growing.

(New anti-cancer drug)

In cancer treatment provided using anticancer drug, it is said that a majority of hospitals use the polytherapy which uses multiple anticancer more than the monotherapy which uses a single anticancer drug.

In addition, although it depends on cancer types, there is significant risk of relapses. Besides, in case of intractable cancers, it is difficult to cure such cancers only with a single treatment method, which means that a single medicine is not always an absolute cure, and therefore, other therapeutic medications will hardly be direct “competing products.”

Molecular targeted drugs and immunotherapy have also attracted attention in recent years, however chemotherapeutic agents still hold an important position for treatment of many cancer types. Standard therapy involves a regimen containing a cytotoxic anticancer drug, for which a high medical demand is expected in the future as well.

(Cancer supportive care)

Anticancer drugs are potent medicine that attacks cancer cells, and side effects are inevitable.

If the side effects on patients cannot be controlled, anticancer therapy through drug administration must be stopped, which has a risk of resulting in cancer progression.



As a result, expectations for drugs and medical devices which control such side effects are increasing in order to avoid treatment discontinuation and complete cancer treatment.

In addition, while therapeutic drugs for cancer must be approved for each cancer type, supportive care can be provided to a wide range of patients regardless of cancer types, which means that there will be strong needs and markets.

In summary, needs for cancer treatment in Japan and China are growing and there are great expectations for new anticancer drugs and cancer supportive care. Solasia Pharma is establishing business model and business strategy to incorporate such needs and boost earnings.

【1-4 Business contents】

(1) Business model

Before the launch of new medicines, it is usual to go through the processes spanning from “basic research” to “pharmaceutical research,” “nonclinical development (tests conducted using animals to examine medicinal and pharmacological action, in-vivo pharmacokinetic properties, adverse effects, etc.),” and “clinical development (scientific tests carried out to examine the effects of pharmaceuticals and treatment techniques on human beings), obtain approval from the authorities, and then conduct “manufacture” and “sale, marketing, and post-marketing surveillance.”

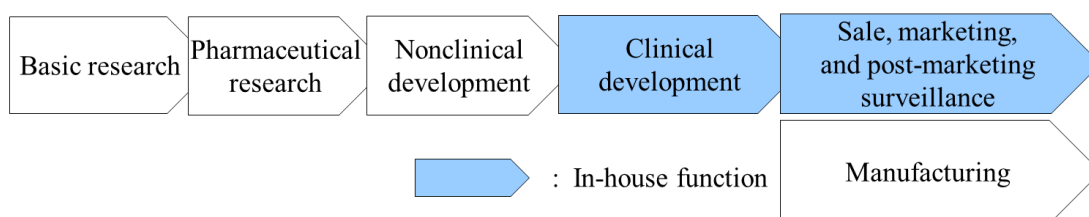
Although major pharmaceutical companies are propelling outsourcing to CROs at the stage of clinical development to make considerable amounts of research and development costs variable, they basically perform all of the above-mentioned processes internally.

Such a system has supported high profitability of pharmaceutical companies. The life science field, however, is currently advancing and becoming complicated and diverse at a rapid rate, and there is an increasing possibility that each company’s unique drug discovery technology quickly become obsolete.

In addition, there are a myriad of cases where practical application of new drugs is given up before clinical development, regardless of costs and time spent from the stage of basic research, and therefore new drug is not established in the end. In other words, pharmaceutical development is facing high risks at all times.

Accordingly, Solasia Pharma does not conduct the processes from basic research to nonclinical development on its own which has high failure rate. By in-licensing promising pharmaceuticals that are still under development from outside companies, it embarks on development starting from clinical development. It utilizes its strength and reduces risk by focusing management resources on the business activities subsequent to the development stage.

At the moment, it plans not to do manufacturing due to the large cost burden.



(Taken from the reference material of the company)

Regarding the sales and marketing structure, the company has set up a system that takes into account the balance between high profitability and risk control.

In general, pharmaceutical companies hold gross profit margins to high standards, which is considered to be attained by their in-house manufacture and sales activities.



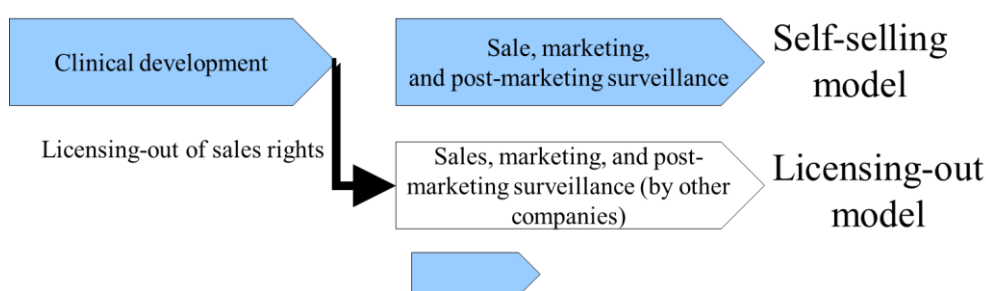
(unit: million yen)

	Sales revenue	Gross profit	Gross profit margin
Takeda Pharmaceutical	1,770,531	1,274,610	72.0%
Astellas Pharma	1,300,316	1,006,066	77.4%
Daiichi Sankyo	960,195	614,173	64.0%

*The values are the results from FY 18/3.

On the other hand, coverage of sales territories (e.g., to cover all over Japan) is required for pharmaceuticals, and therefore, a rise in fixed costs is inevitable for establishing a company’s own sales network.

Accordingly, Solasia Pharma uses both “self-selling model” and “licensing-out model” (sales rights are granted to other companies for pharmaceuticals that have completed clinical development).



(Taken from the reference material of the company)

(Self-selling model)

Solasia Pharma will establish its own sales channels and sales structure in “Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou,” the 3 major cities in China.

Although the total population of the 3 cities accounts for only about 5% of the entire population of China, a number of large hospitals with advanced medicine which uses anticancer drugs are located in the above 3 cities, making them huge markets which account for 30% of the Chinese anticancer drug market.

Furthermore, whether new pharmaceuticals are used and popularized depends highly on judgment and decision made by influential doctors, and thus, it is extremely important to make sales activities targeting large hospitals where such influential doctors work.

In addition, such self-selling activities will be done not in a large scale throughout China but in a small scale in each of the 3 cities, which makes it possible to cover with a relatively small number of staff. Currently, the company is endeavoring to increase the number of sales staff to perform sales activities toward about 50 – 60 large hospitals.

(Licensing-out model)

The major partners to which Solasia Pharma has currently granted rights include the following 2 companies:

Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A pharmaceutical company of the Meiji Group, which is a specialty pharma in the fields of cancer, infections, and the central nervous system and has yielded sales results of multifarious products in the cancer field ◇ A shareholder of Solasia Pharma (which holds 4.3% of Solasia Pharma’s shares as of Jun. 2018) ◇ Japanese partner with the rights of SP-02 ◇ Japanese partner with the rights of SP-03
Lee’s Pharmaceutical Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ A Chinese pharmaceutical company listed on the Hong Kong market, which sells pharmaceuticals for a multitude of fields including the cancer field across China through about 30 bases ◇ A shareholder of Solasia Pharma (which holds 2.6% of Solasia Pharma’s shares as of Jun. 2018)



	◇ Chinese partner with the rights of SP-01 (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou) Chinese partner with the rights of SP-03 (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou)
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Solasia Pharma plans to create licensing-out partnerships with a focus on mid-sized pharmaceutical companies which it can fall in line easily and forge win-win relationships.

(2) Products/Development pipeline

Solasia Pharma currently owns the following 4 products/development pipelines in accordance with the above-mentioned management policy:

History of development pipeline and operationalization, current situation and future projection are as follows. (As of August 2018)

Pipeline Code Estimated Initial indication	Originator / Partner	Pre-clinical	Clinical Study			NDA	Approval	Launch
			Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3			
SP-01 Sancuso® Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting	Originator: Kyowa Kirin Partner: Lee's Pharma Kyowa Hakko Kirin	China (Approval in July 2018, Preparation for Launch)						
		Taiwan, Singapore, HK etc. (by Kyowa Hakko Kirin)						
		US, EU, over 10 countries (Sancuso® by other companies)						
SP-02 darinaparsin Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma	Originator: ZIOPHARM Partner: Meiji Seika Pharma HB Human BioScience	Japan, Korea, Taiwan, HK			(Phase II, pivotal Study)			
		China			(Phase II/III, pivotal study preparation)			
		US			(Phase IIA, completion)			
		EU			(Pre-clinical, completion)			
SP-03 episil® [Medical Device] Pain associated oral mucositis	Originator: Camurus Partner: Meiji Seika Pharma Lee's Pharma	Japan (Launched in May 2018)						
		China						
		Korea						
		US, EU, over 9 countries (episil® by other companies)						
SP-04 PledOx® Chemotherapy Induced Peripheral Neuropathy	Originator: PledPharma	Japan, Korea, Taiwan, HK			(Preparation for Phase III)			
		China						
		US and EU (by Originator)						

(Taken from the reference material of the company)

① “SP-01: Sancuso®” (Brand Name in China: 善可舒®)

Item	Overview
Indication	Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting (CINV)
Characteristics/Strength compared with competitive drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The world’s only transdermal patch type 5-HT3 receptor antagonist ● The effect per administration (patch) lasts for 5 days, which covers the administration period of the general chemotherapy regimen (provided for 1 - 5 days). It can also be used for outpatients.

- It is already recommended as one of the standard of care for nausea and vomiting in the NCCN (*) guideline with regard to cancer treatment that are referred to at clinical sites and also in the Chinese version of the NCCN guidelines.

(*) NCCN: National Comprehensive Cancer Network, which is an organization that formulates guidelines for cancer treatment.

(Overview of indications)

Nausea and vomiting are widely known as typical side effects caused by anticancer drug.

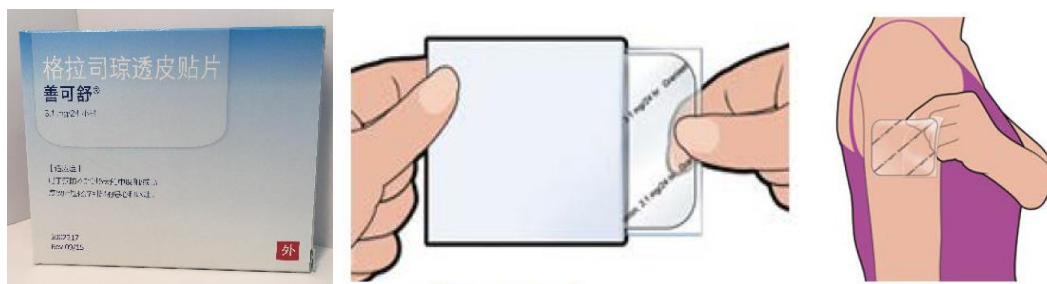
Administration of anticancer drug damage cells called Chromaffin cells in the small intestine.

The damaged Chromaffin cells produce serotonin, a neurotransmitter, which is taken in by the 5-HT₃ receptors in the peripheral vagus nerve. This stimulus is transmitted through the peripheral vagus nerve to the medulla oblongata via the chemoreceptor trigger zone (CTZ) in the area postrema of the fourth ventricle of the brain, stimulating the vomiting center which gives living organisms commands to develop nausea and vomiting, and then symptoms of nausea and vomiting appear.

It is necessary to disrupt the stimuli generated by serotonin to the 5-HT₃ receptors in order to control nausea and vomiting. There are a variety of “5-HT₃ receptor antagonists” which are drugs used for the above purpose, and one of the representative agent is Granisetron.

(Overview of “SP-01”)

“SP-01” is a transdermal 5-HT₃ receptor antagonist containing Granisetron and is the world’s only patch-type antagonist.



(Chinese package of Sancuso®)

(Taken from the reference material of the company)

Anticancer drugs are administered over 5 days in most cases, but injections and oral antiemetic agents are effective only for about 1 to 2 days and must be injected multiple times within the anticancer drug administration period. On the other hand, “SP-01” maintains the concentration level of Granisetron in blood on a stable basis for 5 days. Therefore, once a patch of “SP-01” is attached, there is no need to add antiemetics, which enables cancer treatment not through hospitalization but through outpatient care, and contributes significantly to the improvement of patients’ quality of life.

Another advantage is that transdermal type drugs can be administered even to patients who are facing difficulty in taking oral medicines due to various symptoms including nausea, vomiting, and stomatitis. Earning reputation for the above-mentioned advantages, “SP-01” is recommended for prescription in the American NCCN clinical practice guidelines and the Chinese clinical practice guidelines.

(Current situation of development and commercialization)

Development Areas where “SP-01” has currently been launched or approved include America, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, the Philippines (sold by originators and others), as well as Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Macau (sold by a sublicensee, Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd.).

Solasia Pharma is planning potential extension of indication of “SP-01” from current CINV (Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting) to RINV (Radiotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting).

In China, the company finalized their application for approval in June 2014, and obtained approval in July 2018, along with permission to import drug license.

After obtaining approval for SP-01, the company adopted a sales manager and has been promoting the development of the sales marketing structure in order to maximize profit; that is to say, an independent sales structure managed by approximately 30 MRs in the large cities of Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou.

Using the characteristics and advantages to the competitive drugs listed above, the company aims to increase a share in the CINV market in China (said to be worth roughly 75-80 billion yen) through two-way sales activities, by providing knowledge to the physician, and by approaching top-level doctors (also called Key Opinion Leaders).

② “SP-02: darinaparsin”

Item	Overview
Indication	Relapsed or Refractory Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma (PTCL)
Characteristics/Strength compared with competitive drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no approved drugs for PTCL indication in Europe (3 drugs approved in Japan and America). ● Compared to the drugs approved in Japan and America, no severe side effect (myelosuppression, stomatitis) has been reported, which means that “SP-02” is highly safe and can be expected for a longer period of time of administration or co-administration.

(Overview of indications)

Malignant lymphoma is one type of hematologic cancer where lymphocytes in white blood cells become cancerous.

The types of lymphocytes include B cells, T cells, and NK cells, and when these cells become cancerous and continues uncontrolled growth, malignant lymphoma develops.

Peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) is one kind of malignant lymphoma which arises from T cells in lymphocytes and is categorized into the “intermediate-grade lymphoma” where the disease progresses monthly, and it is said to account for 10 - 15% of the intermediate-grade lymphoma. The five-year survival rate from malignant lymphoma is lower than that from B-cell lymphoma, with the ratio being around 25%.

(Current situation of development and commercialization)

The development of “SP-02” started aiming for recurring/intractable peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL) indication as mentioned above. There are already results showed that injections were administered to 187 subjects in the U.S., Japan and Korea by October 2015.

The early second phase clinical trials in the U.S. were completed in April, 2012 and have shown certain efficacy in Caucasians.

In the first phase clinical trial completed in April 2015 in Japan and Korea, safety and tolerability of the drug were confirmed, with certain efficacy in Asians suggested.

The global phase II clinical trial, which is to be the final trial, was started in 2016 in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong and is currently in progress for 65 patients (as planned) with peripheral T-cell lymphoma. The trial will close by the end of 2018, and Solasia Pharma plans to announce the results in 2019. If the results are promising, they intend to submit an application for approval to the authorities.

In China, the second and third phase clinical trial, which is the final trial, is in preparation.

It is known that malignant lymphoma often relapses. Accordingly, Solasia Pharma believes that multiple medicines with different mechanisms of action are necessary and the market scale is significant.

In addition, the company is aiming to extend indication of “SP-02” not only to peripheral T-cell lymphoma but also to other hematologic cancers (lymphoma, leukemia) and solid carcinoma and planning to start development in or after 2019.

The company has already out-licensed the development and sales rights in Japan to Meiji Seika Pharma, and is discussing to which companies in the United States, Europe, and China it should out-license the rights.

In August 2018, the company out-licensed the exclusive commercialization rights of “SP-02: darinaparsin” in Columbia,



Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Chile, Panama, Costa Rica and Guatemala to the Colombia-based company HB Human BioScience SAS.

③ “SP-03 : epiril® oral liquid”

Item	Overview
Purpose of its use	Control and relief pain of oral mucositis caused by chemotherapy or radiotherapy – Medical Device
Characteristics/Strength compared with competitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As there is no standard treatment for stomatitis caused by chemotherapy and radiotherapy, how to relieve the symptom relies on symptomatic treatment by each hospital. There is strong demand for new treatment. ● “SP-03” contains no pharmaceutical agent, so there is no side effect nor interaction with anticancer agents.

(Overview of indications)

In addition to nausea and vomiting due to anticancer agents, oral mucositis are also serious side effects caused by chemotherapy or radiotherapy.

Stomatitis can be divided into 2 types: the primary stomatitis, which is “stomatitis caused by chemotherapy directly affecting the oral mucosa” or “stomatitis resulted from local infection due to the salivary gland tissue disorder and deterioration of intraoral self-cleansing action because of impaired saliva secretion attributed to radiation exposure” and the secondary stomatitis, which is “attributed to intraoral infection due to myelosuppression resulting from a decline in the number of white blood cells.”

The incident rate of stomatitis developing during treatment using anticancer drugs is 30-40%, and that of stomatitis developing during anticancer drug treatment provided together with radiotherapy to the head and neck is nearly 100%.

Stomatitis occurs together with 300-500 inflammations arising in the course of chemotherapy or radiotherapy. The pain makes oral intake of food and water by patients difficult, which results in a decrease in physical strength. In case the symptom is severe, it will adversely affect or halt the progress of cancer treatment. Up until now, the majority of hospitals conducted palliative treatment.

(Overview of “SP-03”)

“SP-03” is a lipid-based liquid, which is dropped and applied on the oral mucosa, which the company has been developing under the category of medical device.



(Taken from the reference material of the company)

In a few minutes after application of a proper dose to the oral mucosa, the liquid absorbs the water in the oral cavity and transforms to a bioadhesive gel which mechanically protects the affected area. The effect of mitigating the pain of stomatitis has been clinically shown to last for 8 hours.

(Current situation of development and commercialization)

Solasia Pharma submitted an application for approval in Japan in 2016 and obtained an approval of “SP-03” as new medical device in Japan by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare on July 6, 2017. In January 2018, SP-03 was approved at the 388th general meeting of the Central Social Insurance Medical Council for being covered by insurance, starting in April 2018. Following reimbursement listing, in May 2018, it was launched by Meiji Seika Pharma, which is the licensee who holds the exclusive sales rights of “SP-03” in Japan.

The company submitted the New Medical Device Application to the authorities in May 2016 in China, and is planning to obtain the approval of SP-03 within 2018, and launch SP-03 after approval.

Solasia Pharma is selling “SP-03” by itself in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, while in other regions in China, the sales right has been out-licensed to Lee's Pharmaceutical.

In August 2018, the company signed a contract with Camurus AB in which they were granted exclusive development and sales rights for “SP-03” in Korea.

In other regions than Japan, which include the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and France, SP-03 has been sold by other companies and the originator.

④ “SP-04: PledOx®”

Item	Overview
Indication	Chemotherapy induced peripheral neuropathy (CIPN)
Characteristics/Strength compared with competitive drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is currently no approved drug to prevent or treat CIPN. ● Superoxide dismutase mimetics to discompose and remove superoxide as one of reactive oxygen substance (ROS)

While steady progress in general was being made in development of the three preceding products, the company, which had been considering in-licensing the fourth pipeline since it became listed, sought for a new drug that satisfies the following three criteria: “it is aimed for the oncology,” “certain progress has been made in clinical trials,” and “the company can gain the development right both in Japan and in China.” Then, in November 2017, the company was granted the exclusive rights to development and commercialization of “PledOx®,” a drug for treating CIPN, in Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau by PledPharma AB (hereinafter referred to as “PledPharma”) of Sweden. Aiming to obtain the approval as early as possible, the company will forge ahead with clinical development in Eastern Asia, such as Japan and China, with an initial focus on peripheral neuropathy caused by administering “oxaliplatin,” a typical anticancer drug for treatment of colorectal cancer.

(Overview of indications)

Chemotherapy-induced side effects occur not only nausea and vomiting, and oral mucositis, but also peripheral neuropathy. It is known that peripheral neuropathy is caused pronouncedly by major drugs for chemotherapy, such as platinum- and taxane-containing drugs.

The FOLFOX treatment, which is a typical medical treatment in chemotherapy and adjuvant chemotherapy against advanced and recurrent colorectal cancer (stage III and IV) that is difficult to cure by surgery, uses three drugs, including fluorouracil, folinic acid, and oxaliplatin. About 90% of patients have reported that prescription of oxaliplatin caused peripheral neuropathy accompanied by the following symptoms: “dysesthesia on hands and feet, parts around the lips, and others,” “tightness in the pharynx and larynx accompanied by difficulty in breathing and dysphagia,” “numbness of hands and feet,” “hypoesthesia,” and “sensory ataxia.”

If these side effects appear, by suspension of administering the drugs, some of the symptoms are alleviated in 80% of the cases and completely recovered in 6 to 8 months in 40% of the case; however, as discontinuation of administration of the drugs may mean suspension of cancer chemotherapy and change in the treatment policy, treatment of peripheral neuropathy is one of the crucial medical issues. There is currently no approved drug to prevent or treat CIPN.

(Overview of “SP-04”)

PledPharma, the originator of “SP-04: PledOx®” is listed on Stockholm Stock Exchange and has strengths in development of pharmaceuticals against oxidative stress-related diseases.

“PledOx®” (commonly known as Calmangafodipir) is a new active ingredient created based on “Mangafodipir,” an MRI contrast medium, which had sold in the United States and Europe.

As described later, “SP-04: PledOx®” is a drug for treatment of peripheral neuropathy with the most forward progress as the phase IIb study was completed and the global phase III study is scheduled. Success in its development will not only bring considerable first-mover advantage but also make enormous social contributions, such as improvement of cancer patients’ quality of life (QOL).

***Marketability**

According to Solasia Pharma, the number of colorectal cancer patients who undergo the FOLFOX treatment is estimated to be around 60,000 – 100,000 in Japan and about 200,000 in China per year.

The FOLFOX treatment is made up with a treatment cycle that continues for 14 days in total, including “3 days for medical care and 11 days as a washout period,” and patients are required to repeat the cycle 12 times.

Although the indication which the FOLFOX treatment is aimed at is colorectal cancer whose patients receive cancer chemotherapy, including administration of oxaliplatin, it is known that peripheral neuropathy is caused conspicuously by other major pharmaceuticals used in cancer chemotherapy, such as platinum- and taxane-containing drugs. The company expects that, if other solid cancers than colorectal cancer, such as breast, lung, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers, are added to the indication, the marketability will become higher.

(Current situation of development and commercialization)

PledPharma has carried out research and development of PledOx® against peripheral neuropathy in the United States and Europe and it has been suggested, based on the results of the phase II study and the preceding trials, that PledOx® is effective and safe in advanced colorectal cancer patients who are receiving the FOLFOX treatment; in other words, it improves peripheral neuropathy and does not influence the cancer treatment using the FOLFOX treatment. Upon consideration of out-licensing “SP-04” to Japan, PledPharma was convinced of the necessity to hold study involving Japanese, therefore, it conducted the phase I study of PledOx® in the United States with Japanese as the subjects. The trial was closed in Feb. 2018, and excellent safety and tolerability of SP-04 in Japanese has been confirmed.

Solasia Pharma is intended to take over subsequent study together with the results of other research and development done by PledPharma; therefore, it will embark on the next phase study in this term based on the results of the phase I study. Although discussion as to pharmacokinetic properties is also included in the objectives of the trial, such properties are currently being analyzed.

Meanwhile, PledPharma has announced that it will, in the second half (July to Dec.) of 2018, start the enrollment of the global phase III study finalized the design which consulted with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA).

Solasia Pharma, which closed the phase I study of Japanese, is considering participating into the global phase III study subject to the consultation with the Japanese authorities.

Based on the consultation with the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) in June 2018, SP-04 was permitted to participate into the global study in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

The trial overview is as follows.

Study description	Phase III, International, multicenter, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study (*)
Purpose of the study	The effect of suppressing the peripheral neuropathy associated with administration of oxaliplatin by PledOx® administration compared with placebo.
Study design	(POLAR-M study) Colorectal cancer patients who undergo FOLFOX therapy with distant metastases are included.

	(POLAR-A study) Colorectal cancer patients who undergo FOLFOX therapy as an adjuvant therapy for postoperative surgery are included.
Primary outcome measures	Both the POLAR-M and POLAR-A studies will include subjects with moderate or higher chronic peripheral neuropathy at 9 months after (first day of FOLFOX therapy) the initial administration of PledOx® is evaluated.
Estimated enrollment	(POLAR-M study) 420 patients (of which 120 patients in Asian region) (POLAR-A study) 280 patients (of which 80 patients in Asian region)

※ Placebo-controlled study

In clinical study for medicine, subjects are divided into a control group and a treatment group, and the control group is given a placebo. A “placebo” resembles the test drug as much as possible, including color, weight, taste and smell, and does not contain pharmaceutical agents.

By participating into the global phase III study, the time and cost required to commercialize SP-04 is expected to be far less than if Solasia were to conduct study on its own. Solasia also plans to conduct clinical study in China in the future.

【1-5 6 Characteristics as a Biotech Company】

The following 6 points characterize Solasia Pharma as a biotech company:

① History of establishment

Solasia Pharma started as “JapanBridge (Ireland) Limited” established jointly by ITOCHU Corporation and MPM Capital, an American VC specializing in bio business, and set up its business by licensing-in new drugs from several biotech companies and propelling development of such drugs.

At first, it mainly considered business transfer to pharmaceutical companies as its exit plan; however, 4 – 5 years ago, taking account of the business potential and promise, the company shifted its business strategy to persistent business expansion as an independent company and took the path to public stock offering because it was essential to raise funds for research and development. As the company’s original plan was to sell the company to other companies, the pipelines it owned were comprised of prime assets that could potentially be sold to other companies for encashment even during clinical development. This means that Solasia Pharma has already established a firm business foundation since its inception.

② Experienced Clinical development team

Solasia Pharma does not conduct basic research or preclinical trials but in-license assets and specializes in drug creation processes carried out subsequent to the clinical development phase. The most essential thing to achieve in the process of research and development toward commercialization of pharmaceuticals is to eventually obtain approval from the authorities. This requires skills and know-how in the stage of clinical development, especially clinical trials after phase II. Although there are a number of biotech companies in Japan, President Arai stands out with his deep experience and knowledge in clinical development.

The experienced clinical development team, led by President Arai, is a significant factor in differentiating Solasia Pharma from other companies and plays a role as a competitive edge.

③ High rate of successful development

Prior to the latest “SP-04,” Solasia Pharma has introduced 3 pipelines including “SP-01,” “SP-02” and “SP-03” without suspending or failing at any development process, and all of the 3 pipelines have reached the final stage towards commercialization (one pipeline has already entered into sales phase in Japan, application for approval of another pipeline was obtained in China, and the other pipeline is undergoing the final clinical trial).

Such a high rate of successful development is made possible due to the following 2 points: its business model that handles

only in-licensed products with a low risk of failure, and its in-house team which can handle all kinds of roles in clinical development. As mentioned above, the development staff is well aware of what are necessary for obtaining approval and therefore can conduct screening of whether or not an in-licensed product will be approved.

Their so-called “connoisseur (for screening pipelines)” has been realized by the combination of the above 2 strengths, and lowers the risk of abandoning development which is the source of such a high success rate.

Analysis of the cash inflow of a new drug based on the discount cash flow (DCF) model has indicated what comprise of a majority of the total cash inflow is not contract money or milestone income, but royalties which, obviously, will be earned only after successful development of the new drug and expansion of the sales volume.

When making a proposal to PledPharma, Solasia Pharma did not necessarily have advantages over a number of its competitors in terms of prices, including contract money; nevertheless, it succeeded in in-licensing “SP-04.” The reason behind the success is that PledPharma has thought highly of Solasia Pharma’s capabilities, including the strength of the team for producing distinct clinical trial designs, the results of development of the three preceding products, and the business performance in Asia, including Japan and China, reaching a decision that Solasia Pharma will be the best partner that will bring success in “PledOx®” in Asia.

④ Stable business foundation

Solasia Pharma, as mentioned above, has successfully conducted licensing-out of the sales rights of all of the aforementioned 3 pipelines to pharmaceutical companies, which means that in combination with the self-selling system, a portfolio for risk hedge has already been established.

⑤ Self-selling system for securing large profit

The reason why pharmaceutical companies have succeeded in securing large profit is that they engage in both manufacturing and selling.

At the moment, Solasia Pharma does not own any manufacturing equipment but is building a self-selling system to increase profitability in the 3 major cities in China (Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou) which has a large market scale and allows effective sales activities.

⑥ Early feasibility of business

Because biotech companies in general post losses in the stage of new drug development, it is not rational to use profit and loss statements for calculating stock prices and enterprise value, and thus the DCF model is used. In case of biotech companies, however, in addition to the discount rate based on “time” which is used in the general DCF model, the success rate for each stage of clinical trials of new drugs is used as another discount rate.

In this case, the most important point is when approval will be gained. Among the four products, “SP-01” was approved in China and “SP-03” was launched in Japan, and so the discount rate regarding the company’s development of new drugs should be estimated lower than that of other bio-ventures.

In addition to the above 6 points, the high potential for growth in the Chinese market, too, is one of the characteristics of Solasia Pharma.

Understandably, large-scale pharmaceutical companies all over the world have established bases in various Asian countries including China; however, as described in its management policy, Solasia Pharma’s target of development is new products in the field of cancer and rare diseases which major pharmaceutical companies do not enter from the performance-based perspective.

Such products, which nowadays attract high attention, were originally developed by biotech companies, and because major companies do not engage in this area, Solasia Pharma will become an invaluable company that can offer access to the thriving Asian market with its self-selling structure in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou. What is more, the company has entered into a contract for sales by agent in China, excluding Hong Kong and Macau, with ITOCHU Corporation, the largest shareholder that has strengths in business in China. This contract conclusion has offered Solasia Pharma an enormous advantage, that is, it can use ITOCHU Corporation’s network.

2. First half of Fiscal Year December 2018 Earnings Results

(1) Overview of consolidated results

(unit: million yen)

	FY 12/17 2Q	FY 12/18 2Q	YOY change
Revenue	5	84	+79
Gross profit	5	12	+7
R&D expenses	285	483	+198
SG&A expenses	272	452	+180
Operating profit	-553	-923	-370
Profit before tax	-558	-926	-368
Profit	-545	-916	-371

Revenue was 84 million yen, consisting of 82 million yen from sale of SP-03 (including sample products in Japan via Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.), and a net revenue of 2 million yen from sale of SP-01 to Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd. Research and development expenses include the cost of the phase II clinical trial (final trial) for SP-02, and the cost of the phase III clinical trial (final trial) for SP-04.

SG&A expenses consist of marketing costs in China, such as the development of a marketing structure and preparation for the launch of SP-01 and SP-03, and a 13 million yen depreciation of intangible assets, including depreciation due to the launch of SP-03 sample products in Japan.

(2) Financial standing and cash flows

◎ Major BS

(unit: million yen)

	End of Dec. 2017	End of Jun. 2018		End of Dec. 2017	End of Jun. 2018
Current assets	3,525	2,360	Current liabilities	411	338
Cash, etc.	3,370	2,070	Trade payables	372	299
Trade receivables	18	59	Noncurrent liabilities	34	35
Inventories	93	189	Total liabilities	446	373
Noncurrent assets	3,129	3,316	Equity	6,208	5,303
Property, plant and equipment	0	41	Retained earnings	-5,553	-6,470
Intangible assets	3,085	3,231	Total liabilities and net assets	6,655	5,676
Total assets	6,655	5,676	Bank Financing Limit	2,600	5,100

*“Cash, etc.” means cash and cash equivalents. “Trade receivables” means trade receivables and other receivables. “Trade payables” mean trade payables and other payables.

Inventories increased due to preparing for the launch of SP-01 in China. The figure for intangible assets is the cumulative total of development expenses for SP-01 and SP-03; in-license contracts for SP-01, SP-02, SP-03, and SP-04; and milestone payments. Total assets decreased 979 million yen from the end of the previous term to 5,676 million yen. The 5.1 billion yen in bank loans consists of an overdraft agreement of 2.6 billion yen and a commitment line contract of 2.5 billion yen. Equity ratio (attributable to owners of the parent company) was 93.4%.

◎ Cash Flow

(unit: million yen)

	FY 12/17 2Q	FY 12/18 2Q	Increase/decrease
Operating CF	-628	-1,157	-529
Investing CF	-125	-150	-25
Free CF	-753	-1,307	-554
Financing CF	3,780	11	-3,769
Cash and equivalents	4,062	2,070	-1,992

The cash position declined 1.9 billion yen year on year, due to a decrease in income from the issue of new shares that took place in the same period last term.

(3) Topics

◎ Obtained approval for SP-01 in China

In July 2018, the company obtained approval for SP-01 from the Chinese authorities. It is the company's first product to be approved in mainland China.

◎ Conclusion of an agreement to out-license sales rights of SP-02 in Latin America

In August 2018, the company entered into an agreement licensing exclusive sales rights of SP-02 in Columbia, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Chile, Panama, Costa Rica, and Guatemala to the Colombia-based company HB Human BioScience SAS (hereinafter "HB").

Regarding the monetization of SP-02, the company has already signed an exclusive development and sales agreement in Japan with Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.; therefore this will be the second out-licensed contract aiming for monetization.

Considering the results of the currently-in-progress global phase II clinical trial in Asia, Solasia Pharma plans to actively out-license product rights in regions such as Europe and the U.S. in the future.

With this contract, after SP-02 is obtained approval for the manufacture and launch in Japan, HB will take the necessary steps to obtain approval from the local authorities in Latin America as well, and will launch SP-02.

Since the number of peripheral T-cell lymphoma patients in the areas listed above is roughly the same as in Japan, Solasia Pharma anticipates steady marketability if the price of the drug is set about the same as in Japan.

In terms of profit, Solasia Pharma will receive part of HB's operating income (profit sharing) after the commercialization of SP-02, in addition to a lump sum payment and milestone payments based on development progress, as per the contract.

In the pharmaceutical business, most value is created after products are launched. In this contract, Solasia Pharma set economic terms which focus on profit sharing after HB launches SP-02, rather than the lump sum payment of and development milestones.

For this reason, by concluding this contract, the company expects that once sales begin, they will be a major factor influencing business performance over the mid-to-long term.

◎ Concluded an agreement to in-license rights to SP-03 in Korea

In August 2018, the company concluded an agreement to in-license exclusive development and sales rights of SP-03 in Korea with Camurus AB (hereinafter "Camurus"), which is the originator of developed SP-03.

As stated above, SP-03 was launched in Japan in May 2018. It has also already submitted an application to the Chinese authorities, and is currently undergoing review for approval.

After considering the situation in regard to oral mucositis associated with anticancer drugs and future business potential in Korea (including the possibility of obtaining approval based on the product's approval in Japan), Solasia Pharma decided to in-license Korean rights and begin development and commercialization.

Under this agreement, Solasia Pharma does not make a lump sum contract payment to Camurus, but will make milestone payments according to future development progress. In regard to this contract, the company expects that the major influence on business performance will extend over mid-to-long term after development and commercialization is completed.

◎ Resolved to issue new shares and make a secondary offering of shares

At a board of directors meeting on August 28, 2018, the company decided to issue new shares.

(Overview of fund procurement)

The number of new shares to be issued is 14,782,700 by public offering and 2,217,300 by third party allotment (SMBC

NIKKO SECURITIES INC), for a total of 17 million. This accounts for about 19% of the total number of issued shares as of the end of July 2018.

The issue price is 237.0 yen/share (paid-in amount is 222.3 yen/share), and the company is estimated to procure up to 3.7 billion yen (from the revised statement on Sep. 5, 2018).

(Purpose of fund procurement)

Funds will be used for milestone payments to licensors, and for investing in the development to approval of SP-04, which began after obtaining exclusive development and sales rights in November 2017 and focuses mainly on the phase III clinical trials.

Out of the company's four developed products, the development of SP-01 and SP-03 has already been completed. With the sales of SP-01 and SP-03 and current liquidity of about 7.2 billion yen (as of June 30, 2018, this consists of cash and cash equivalents of 2.07 billion yen and a 5.1 billion yen unused balance in bank overdraft and commitment line), it is possible to manage business with a certain degree of growth even without new funding, provided future investment into the development of SP-04 is excluded. However, the company came to the conclusion that promoting the development of SP-04 is indispensable to the company from a social standpoint, as well as greater business growth over the mid-to-long term and maximizing corporate value. The company decided to conduct this financing to secure long-term and stable financial resources for the phase III clinical trial, which will be the final trial.

(Use of procured funds)

The allocation of up to about 3.7 billion yen in procured funds is as follows (From the revised statement on Sep. 5, 2018).

Usage	Amount	Period of spending
Development of SP-04 (by 2021)	3,151 million yen	2018-2021
Milestone payment for SP-04	600 million yen	Until 2021

These funds will be allocated towards the 4.2 billion yen needed for the development of global phase III study (final study) in Japan and other countries and separately planned study in China from 2018 to 2021.

Because of the progress that has been made towards development, Solasia Pharma will pay 600 million yen in milestone expenses to Pled by 2021, as per their contract.

3. Fiscal Year December 2018 Earnings Estimates

(1) Full-year earnings forecast

(unit: million yen)

	FY 12/17	FY 12/18 (Estimate)	YOY change
Revenue	410	100~600	-75.60%~+46.3%
Gross profit	410	50~200	-87.8%~-51.2%
R&D expenses	773	1,300~1,450	+68.2%~+87.6%
SG&A expenses	647	1,800~1,900	+178.2%~+193.7%
Operating profit	-1,009	-3,200~-3,000	-
Profit before tax	-1,016	-3,200~-3,000	-
Profit	-1,007	-3,200~-3,000	-

There is no change in the earnings forecast. Operating loss grew further due to the rising development expenses, while revenue increased thanks to the launch of SP-01 and SP-03.

The timing of launch, and the timing of starting and closing clinical trials are not clear with regard to sales and costs, respectively. Since it is difficult to determine the earnings forecast for the term ending Dec. 2018, the company has announced the earnings forecast with ranges.

(Revenue)

The company expects to raise revenue from a milestone income of 23 million yen after obtaining approval in China, which was not achieved in the previous fiscal year, and product commercialization regarding SP-01, as well as revenue from product commercialization in Japan and a milestone income, after obtaining approval, from the Chinese licensee, Lee's Pharma, concerning SP-03.

(R&D costs)

R&D costs consist mainly of expenses required up until the end of the global phase II study of SP-02, which is the final study in Asia, and expenses for the next phase study of SP-04 in Japan and China. Other expenses, such as ones for post-marketing surveillance of SP-01 and ones for approval review in China, too, are included.

(SG&A expenses)

SG&A expenses are composed chiefly of ones for marketing activities in China for SP-01 and SP-03, ones for establishment of a commercialization structure in China and maintenance of the whole corporate structure, and expenses for amortization of intangible assets for SP-01 and SP-03. Amortization expenses of intangible assets are adjusted equally and proportionately over the period from the year when SP-01 or SP-03 was launched to the patent expiration date, which is 2024 for SP-01 and 2025 for SP-03 under the current intellectual property portfolio.

4. Future Business Goals

The status of developed products and the company's future prospects and goals are summarized as follows.

(SP-01)

Approval was obtained in China in July 2018. Solasia plans to launch so that it will deliver to patients within six months. If successful, part of the proceeds will be recorded in the sales for this term.

Development has been completed. Moving forward, the company plans to increase sales amounts by building their own marketing structures in Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou.

(SP-02)

The results of phase II clinical trials (final trials) in Japan and other parts of Asia are expected to be announced in 2019, followed by applications for approval.

Solasia will then begin clinical development in China.

After announcing these results, the company will also work on expanding indications for other diseases and licensing out in Europe, the U.S., and China. In this case, the company would receive a lump-sum deposit when it enters into a contract.

(SP-03)

Development has been closed in Japan and China. Solasia has offered exclusive sales rights in Japan to Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd., who began sales in May 2018. SP-03 procured 82 million yen in the first half of fiscal year, and we would like to take notice of how much more it will grow in its first year.

The company plans to obtain approval in China in 2018, and begin sales thereafter.

They also in-licensed exclusive development and sales rights in Korea in August 2018, and will apply for approval in the future.

(SP-04)

Although SP-04 is currently the most recent product, global phase III study will start in the second half of 2018 in Japan and other countries. If all goes well, the study is scheduled to close in 2020.

The company will also begin study in China as soon as possible.

(New product development)

Results for SP-02 are scheduled to be announced in 2019, followed by applications for approval and the closing of development. With this in mind, Solasia is planning the development of new products.

Solasia obtained approval for SP-01 and SP-03 in rapid succession, and continues to progress steadily with development. They are being evaluated higher and higher in the pharmaceutical industry as time goes on. There is a large demand for the company's products both in Japan and overseas, further strengthening their ability to create promising business connections.

(Goal as a company)

Solasia aims to achieve a positive operating income by 2020 (excluding R&D expenses).

Expenses in the December 2018 term include R&D costs of 1.5 billion yen and SG&A costs of 1.5 billion yen, for an estimated total of 3 billion yen. As such, it is necessary to raise gross profit by 1.5 billion yen.

The company plans to manage this by securing income from SP-01 and SP-03 (which are out of development and have entered the sales stage), and by out-licensing SP-02 based on the success of its trials.

5. Conclusions

Looking back on the company's progress since it was listed,

- ◇ SP-01 and SP-03, which existed before the company was listed, have already closed development and entered the sales stage. We are beginning to see results for sales of SP-03.
- ◇ SP-02 is also nearing the end of development.
- ◇ After the company was listed, it was decided that the newly in-licensed SP-04 would be included in the global phase III study, resulting in a substantial reduction in the length and cost of development.

Aside from the December 2017 date change for approval of SP-01 in China, business is progressing very smoothly, as per the company's expectations.

In addition to the elimination "significant events regarding premise of going concern" note on financial statement" with the listing for National Health Insurance Reimbursement and start of sales of SP-03 in Japan, the company has succeeded in raising a total of 5.1 billion yen through indirect financing, and approximately 3.7 billion yen (as of Sep. 5, 2018) through direct financing (assumed to be the upper limit, including OA). The company is making steady progress towards business development and strengthening their business foundation.

However, recently the stock price (245 yen at market close on Sep. 5, 2018) has remained at almost the same level as when it was initially listed in March 2017 (234 yen, opening price on March 24), and the stock market has evaluated it as such.

Solasia estimates that it will lose 3 billion yen or more in profits this term. In order to achieve a positive operating income (excluding R&D expenses), it is necessary to secure a gross profit of roughly 1.5 billion yen or more. Among other factors, this requires sales of SP-01 and SP-03 to steadily increase and development of SP-02 to be successful, which is difficult to achieve in the short term.

However, as mentioned in Section 1-5 "Six Characteristics of Bio Ventures," it is clear that evaluating stock prices for a single year using PL (income statement) is not reasonable when dealing with a biotechnology venture company. For bio-ventures, in addition to the time-based discount rate used in ordinary DCF, the probability of success for new drugs should be taken into account during each clinical stage.

In this case, obtaining approval is the biggest focus. "SP-01" has been approved in China, and "SP-03" is already on the market in Japan. As such, the discount rate regarding the company's development of new drugs should be considered lower than market average.

While not overly eye-catching, the company is getting steady results from development. We would like to pay attention to how the market evaluation will change with regards to the dramatic increase in stability due to the company's stronger financial base.



<Reference: Regarding Corporate Governance>

◎ Organization type and the composition of directors and auditors

Organization type	Company with an audit and supervisory board
Directors	6 directors, including 4 outside ones
Auditors	3 auditors, including 3 outside ones

◎ Corporate Governance Report

Last update date: April 2, 2018

<Reasons for Non-compliance with the Principles of the Corporate Governance Code (Excerpts)>

Solasia Pharma has stated, “Our company implements all the basic principles stipulated in the Corporate Governance Code.”

This report is intended solely for information purposes and is not intended as a solicitation to invest in the shares of this company. The information and opinions contained within this report are based on data made publicly available by the company, and comes from sources that we judge to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the data. This report is not a guarantee of the accuracy, completeness or validity of said information and or opinions, nor do we bear any responsibility for the same. All rights pertaining to this report belong to Investment Bridge Co., Ltd., which may change the contents thereof at any time without prior notice. All investment decisions are the responsibility of the individual and should be made only after proper consideration.

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