

 President & CEO, Yoshihiro Arai	Solasia Pharma K.K. (4597)
	<i>Solasia</i>

Company Information

Market	TSE Mothers
Industry	Pharmaceutical products (manufacturing)
President	Yoshihiro Arai
HQ Address	4F SUMITOMO FUDOSAN SHIBA-KOEN TOWER, 2-11-1, Shiba-koen, Minato-ku, Tokyo
Year-end	December
Homepage	https://solasia.co.jp/en/

Stock Information

Share Price	Shares Outstanding		Total market cap	ROE Act.	Trading Unit
¥152	105,450,795 shares		JPY 16,028 million	-	100 shares
DPS Est.	Dividend yield Est.	EPS Est.	PER Est.	BPS Act.	PBR (x)
0.00	-	JPY -28.54	-	JPY 57.11	2.7 x

*The share price is the closing price on September 13. The number of shares issued and BPS were the value from the first half of FY 12/19. ROE was the value from the previous term. EPS represents the lower limit of the forecasted range.

Earnings Trend

Fiscal Year	Sales	Operating Profit	Ordinary Profit	Net Profit	EPS	DPS
December 2014 Act.	11	-702	-701	-677	-26.90	0.00
December 2015 Act.	229	-702	-710	-643	-24.83	0.00
December 2016 Act.	501	-462	-494	-474	-18.46	0.00
December 2017 Act.	410	-1,009	-1,016	-1,007	-12.24	0.00
December 2018 Act.	318	-2,420	-2,445	-2,422	-25.98	0.00
December 2019 Est.	500 ~1,700	-3,000 ~-2,000	-3,000 ~-2,000	-3,000 ~-2,000	-28.54 ~-19.02	0.00

*Unit: million yen. *The forecast is from the company. Net income is profit attributable to owners of the parent. Hereinafter the same shall apply.

This report outlines Solasia Pharma's First Half of Fiscal Year December 2019 earnings results,

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Key Points

- In the second quarter of FY December 2019, sales revenue increased 46 million yen year on year to 130 million yen. The sources of the revenue include the product sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)”, and milestone and loyalty income upon the approval of “episil® (SP-03)” in China. Research and Development (R&D) expenses decreased 27 million yen year on year to 455 million yen. The R&D expenses included the clinical development through the global phase II study (final clinical trial) of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” and the global phase III study (final clinical trial) of “PledOx® (SP-04)” that started in December 2018. SG&A expenses increased 213 million yen year on year to 666 million yen. The SG&A expenses were generated building of an independent sales and marketing structure associated with the start of sales in China, and 199 million yen for the amortization of intangible assets that were initiated by the business progress of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03).” Operating loss increased 86 million yen year on year to 1,010 million yen.
- There is no change to the earnings forecasts. While sales revenue increased due to the sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03),” the loss for the current term is on the rise due to increasing upfront investment. In terms of sales, the range of forecasts was announced, because the market penetration rate is uncertain as each product has just begun sales and also it is difficult to determine the costs at this point because the starting and ending times of clinical trials are uncertain.
- Product development-type bio-venture is a business model in which a company gains profit by keeping the right to develop and sell pharmaceuticals and other products and commercialize them. As the product life of pharmaceuticals and other products is considerably long, if a certain number of products are successfully commercialized, long-term stability of business can be expected. As a result, American product development bio-ventures such as Amgen have realized tremendous growth in their corporate value as the total market cap grew by a factor of 300 to 1,000 from the time when they were listed. Furthermore, although the scale is not as large as the US companies, the total market cap of a Japanese company “Sosei Group (4565, Mothers market)” shows four-fold growth from the time when it got listed.
- Among the four pipelines, sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” began. We would like to pay attention to the future of Solasia Pharma, which is evolving to a true product development-type bio-venture as not only “development,” but also “sales” began.

1. Company Overview

As a specialty pharma* specializing in oncology, 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 CEO 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.
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.
	Nov.	Shipping of "SP-01 Sancuso®" to China began.
2019	Feb.	Obtained approval from Chinese authorities for "SP-03: episil® oral liquid."
	Mar.	Applied for New Medical Device Application for "SP-03: episil® oral liquid" in Korea. Launched "Sancuso® (SP-01)" in China.
	July	Launched "episil® oral liquid (SP-03)" in China.

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.

BRIDGE REPORT



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

Role to Fulfill (Mission)	* Better medicine for a brighter tomorrow
Ideal Situation (Vision)	* 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)	* 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 proceeding, 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.

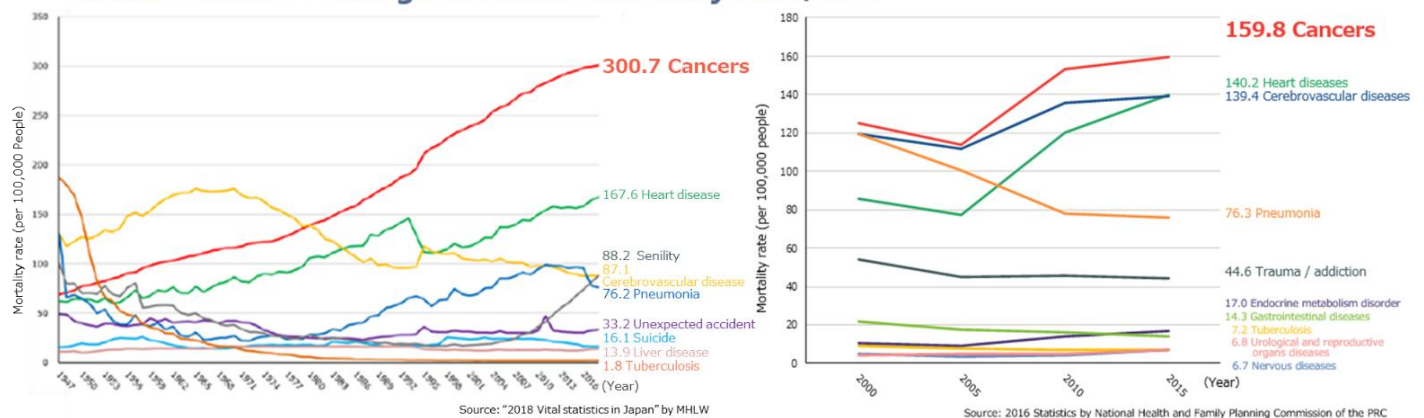
1-3 Environment Surrounding Solasia Pharma

According to “Vital Statistics, 2018” published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, in 2016, the leading cause of death was malignant neoplasm (cancer), 300.7 per 100,000 people.

In 1981, cancer overtook cerebrovascular diseases, the former number one cause of death, with the mortality rates 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.

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.

Market Trends - Change in Cancer Mortality Rate, etc.



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

Currently, the U.S. has the biggest pharmaceutical market, followed by China after it overtook Japan. The global pharmaceutical market grew by about 24% over the past 6 years (2010-2016), but the Chinese market grew by about 113%, well above the overall

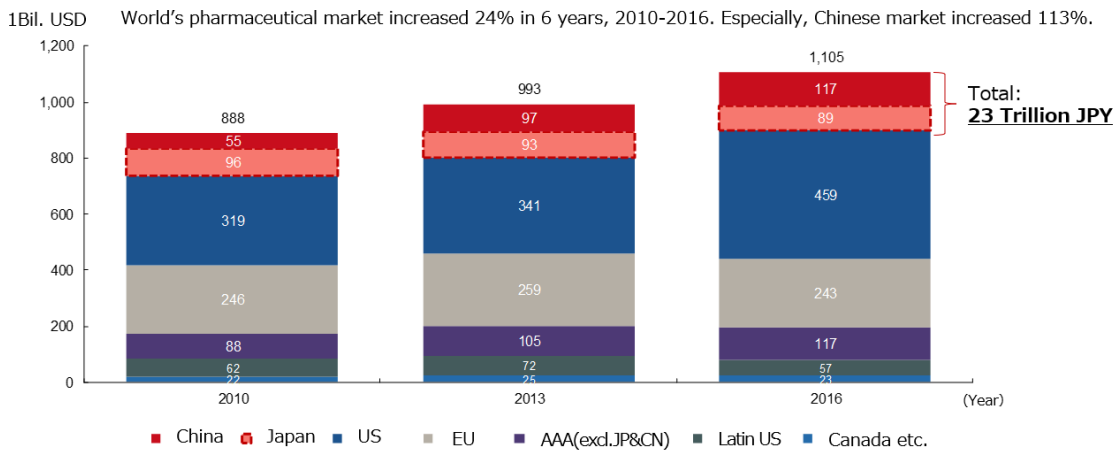
market. In the future, it is said that the market in China will expand to the point where it will share the top position with the U.S.

The total market size of China, the second biggest country, and Japan, the third biggest country, is 23 trillion yen. For the time being, this huge market will be the company's main target.

World's pharmaceutical market ranking

No.1-US, No.2-**China**, No.3-**Japan**

Change in pharmaceutical sales market

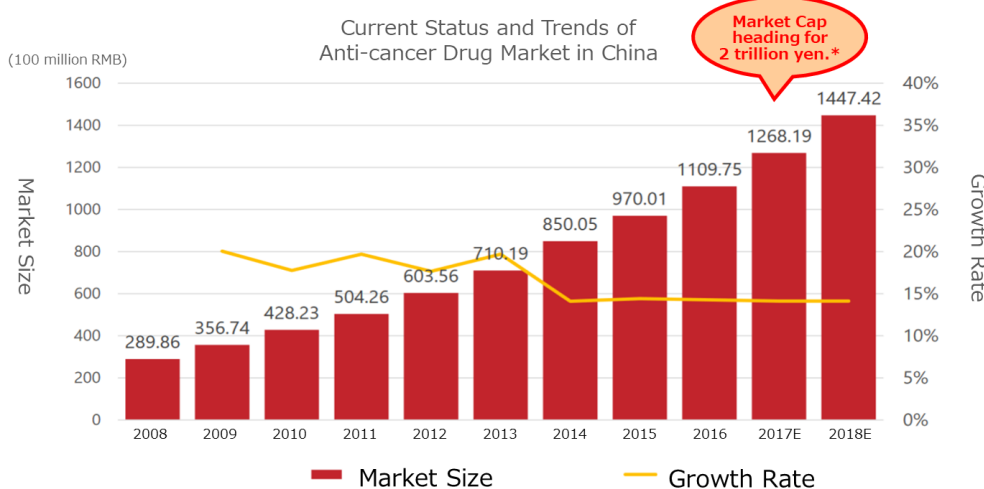


※Rate : 1 USD = 110.81 JPY
 Source : Office of Pharmaceutical Industry Research All Rights Reserved. Copyright©2018IQVIA. World Review Analyst
 Source : Solasia created based on "Comprehensive Strategy for Strengthening the Pharmaceutical Industry" by MHLW (Reference Material) and Pharmaceutical Cooperative DATA BOOK 2018

(Source: Solasia Pharma)

The anticancer drug market in China is approximately 2 trillion yen, accounting for approximately 10% of the total pharmaceutical market, and it has grown at a CAGR of approximately 14% over the past five years.

Current Status of Anti-cancer Drug Market in China



Solasia Pharma made the graph based on the statistics IMS and CFDA South Medical Economic Institute.

- 4.2 million new cancer patients increase every year in China.
- The size of anti-cancer market in China is larger than 2 trillion yen and accounts for 10% of the whole medicine market.
- The anti-cancer market in China has been growing around 14% per year in the past 5 years.

*Converted as 1RMB = 16JPY

(Source: Solasia Pharma)

As the mortality rates from cancer increases as shown above, expectations for “new anticancer drug” and “cancer supportive care” are growing all over the world.

(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 Description

(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.”

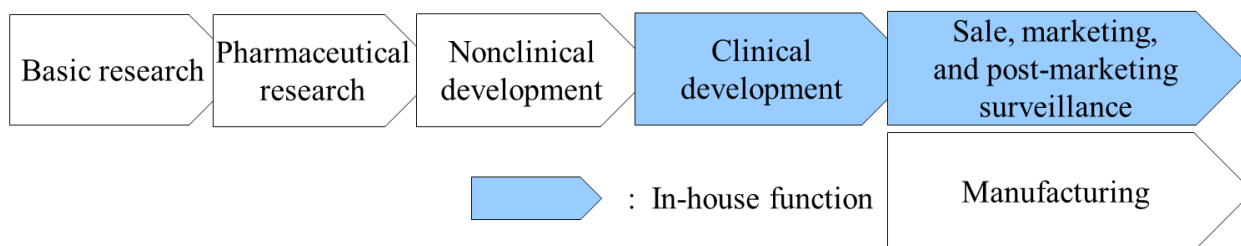
Although major pharmaceutical companies are propelling outsourcing to CROs at the stage of clinical development to make considerable amounts of research and development costs variable, they basically perform all of the above-mentioned processes internally.

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.



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

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.

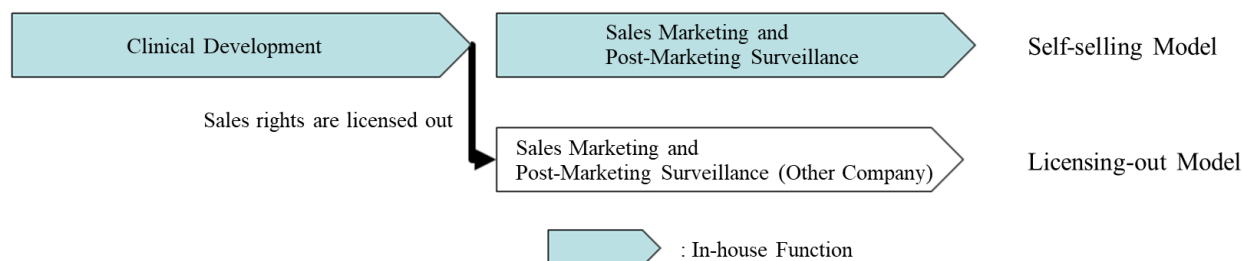
In general, pharmaceutical companies hold gross profit margins to high standards, which is considered to be attained by their in-house manufacture and sales activities.

	Sales revenue	Gross profit	Gross profit margin
Astellas Pharma	1,306,348	1,014,299	77.6%
Daiichi Sankyo	929,717	565,112	60.8%

* Unit: million yen. The values are the results from FY March 2019.

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).



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

(Self-selling model)

The current major licensing-out partners are the following two companies.

Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A pharmaceutical company of the Meiji Group. It 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 (Holding 3.6% of Solasia Pharma’s shares: June 2019) * Japanese partner with the rights of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” * Japanese partner with the rights of “episil® (SP-03)”
Lee’s Pharmaceutical (HK) Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A Chinese pharmaceutical company listed on the Hong Kong market. It sells multiple pharmaceutical products in fields including the cancer field across China through about 30 bases. * A shareholder of Solasia Pharma (Holding 2.1% of Solasia Pharma’s shares: June 2019) * Chinese partner with the rights of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou) * Chinese partner with the rights of “episil® (SP-03)” (excluding Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou)

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) Marketing structure in China

The company, which is aiming to develop a huge Chinese pharmaceutical market, will build a self-selling structure and carry out the self-selling business model with an aim of maximizing product sales profit and managing fixed costs in three major cities in China, “Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou.”

Self-selling activities in China are handled by Solasia Medical Information Consulting (Shanghai) Co. Ltd., which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Solasia Pharma.

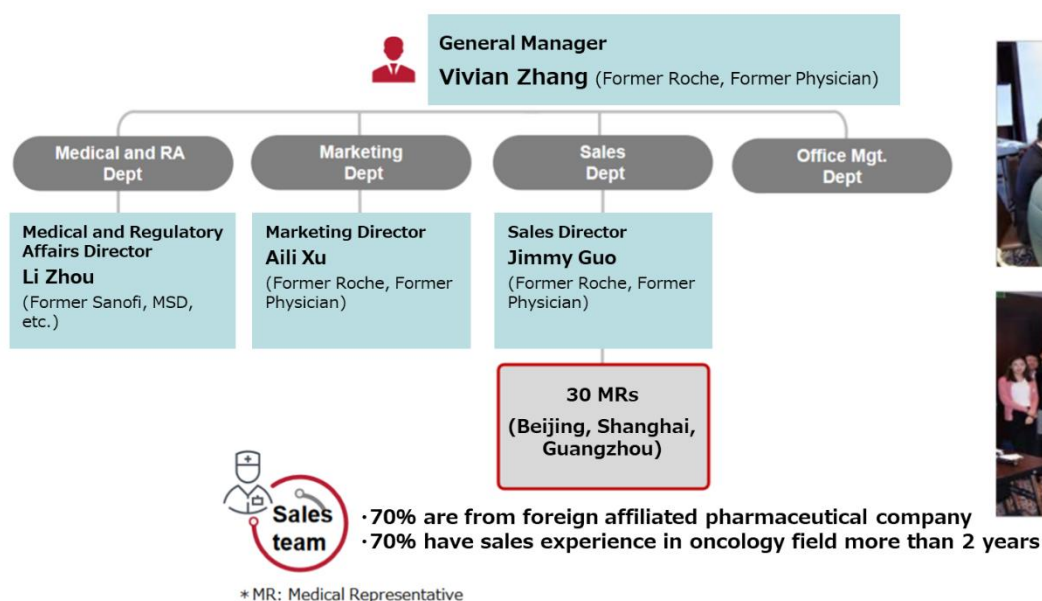
Although the total population of the 3 cities accounts for only about 5% of the entire population of China, a number of large hospitals with advanced medicine which uses anticancer drugs are located in the above 3 cities, making them huge markets which account for 30% of the Chinese anticancer drug market.

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.

Point 1: Experienced management team

The marketing and sales departments of the company’s wholly owned subsidiary Solasia Medical Information Consulting (Shanghai) Co. Ltd., which was established in 2014 and engages in company’s own marketing in China, are led by the following 4 people in charge.



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

Position	Name	Background
General Manager	Vivian Zhang	Former Roche, Director of Oncology Business Unit, etc., Physician (former Shanghai Ninth People’s Hospital)
Marketing Director	Aili Xu	Former Roche, BMS, Sanofi, etc. Physician (former Shanghai First People Hospital, Emergency department)
Sales Director	Jimmy Guo	Former Roche, BI, etc. Physician (former Suzhou City Hospital, Cardiac Surgeon)
Medical and Regulatory Affairs Director	Li Zhou	Former Sanofi, MSD

Dr. Vivian Zhang, the president of the subsidiary, worked at a university hospital for 4 years as a clinician, and then worked at a pharmaceutical company for 26 years, gaining a wealth of experience mainly in the oncology field. Above all, at Roche, a global pharmaceutical company, she achieved excellent sales results with well-known, powerful anticancer drugs that are leaving their names on the history of anticancer drugs such as Herceptin (antineoplastic drug), Tarceva (antineoplastic drug), and Avastin (antineoplastic drug) as well as antiemetics Kytril (granisetron hydrochloride) that prevents side effects in anticancer drug treatment. She was in charge of the anticancer drug business.

Dr. Aili Xu, Dr. Jimmy Guo, and Mr. Li Zhou are also from Mega Pharma and have extensive experience.

Under these experts, approximately 10 MRs are employed at each location in Shanghai, Beijing, and Guangzhou, totaling approximately 30 MRs. 70% of them are from major foreign-affiliated pharmaceutical companies and have an average of more than two years of sales experience in the cancer field.

The company operates a strong marketing and sales force under an experienced management team.

Point 2: Highly regarded by Chinese medical community

The judgement and decision of influential physicians greatly affect the outcome of the use and distribution of new medicines, and China is no exception.

Under these circumstances, “Sancuso® (SP-01)” is already recommended as one of the standard treatments for nausea and vomiting in the Chinese version of the NCCN guidelines for cancer treatment, which is referenced in the clinical sites.

In addition, at Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CSCO), prominent clinicians who are leading the field of cancer treatment in China highly valued “Sancuso® (SP-01)” for its feature of easily suppressing nausea and vomiting in the entire chemotherapy process. In response to this, “Sancuso® (SP-01)” is listed as a standard antiemetic treatment option for cancer treatment in the first guideline for proper use of antiemetics issued by CSCO.

The company is receiving such a high rating because of the superior efficacy of “Sancuso® (SP-01)”. But it is obvious that the strong relationship with the Chinese clinical network that the management team had been building since their times with Roche is also playing a key role, and it is a major advantage of the company that other bio-ventures do not have.

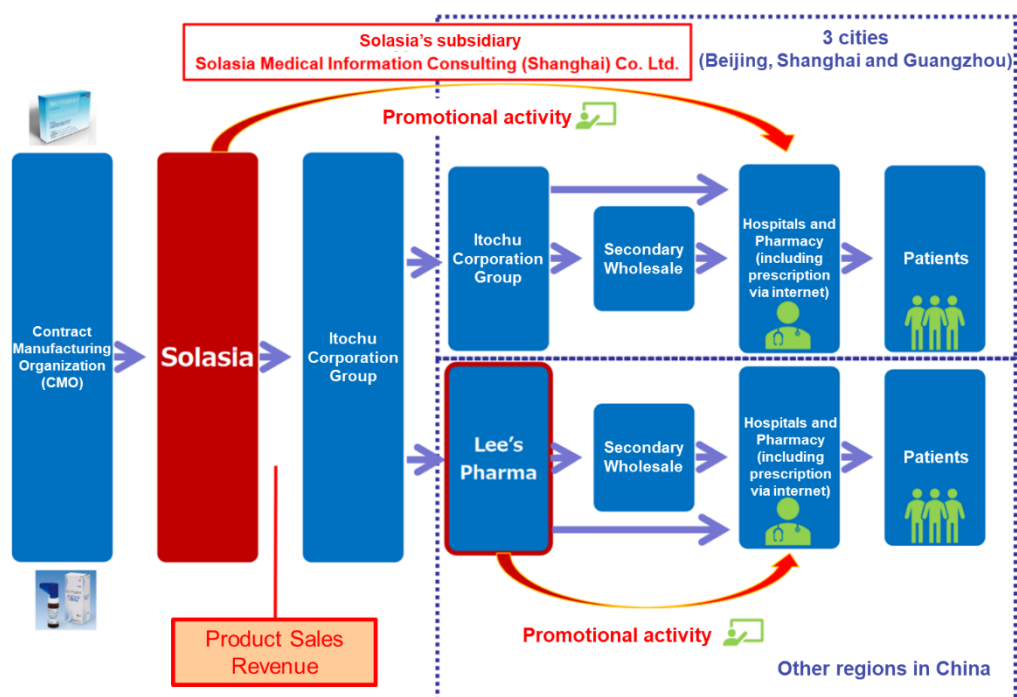
Point 3: Current status and the future of marketing activities

The company has already established the self-selling system for “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” by placing bases in 3 cities and employing a total of 30 MRs.

In these cities, the company will cover over 70 large hospitals where influential physicians work and promote sales expansion by diffusing information.

First of all, it is necessary to open an account in each hospital or hospital pharmacy, and general pharmacy. So far, accounts have been opened in about half of these targets. Both products have not yet been covered by NRDL (China's National Reimbursement Drug List), so the rise in sales amount is still slow, but the company is expecting to accelerate the speed as more accounts are opened in the future.

“Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” in other Chinese regions will be sold by Lee's Pharma, the sales contract partner.



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

(3) 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, 14 2019)

Pipeline Code Estimated Initial Indication	Originator	Pre-clinical	Clinical Study			NDA	Approval	Launch	Out-licensed Partner (Region)
			Phase I	Phase II	Phase III				
SP-01 Sancuso® Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting	Kyowa Kirin (UK)	China (Launched in Mar. 2019)						- Kyowa Kirin (TW etc.), - Lee's Pharma (China*) *excl. BJ, SH and GZ - Solasia sales force (above 3 big cities in China) Distribution partner: Itochu Corp.	
		Taiwan, HK etc. (by Kyowa Kirin)							
SP-02 darinaparsin Peripheral T-Cell Lymphoma	ZIOPHARM Oncology (US)	Japan, Korea, TW, HK			(Phase II, pivotal study)			- Meiji Seika Pharma (Japan), - HB Human BioScience (Latin America)	
		China			(Phase II/III, pivotal study preparation)				
		US			(Phase IIA, completion)				
		EU			(Pre-clinical, completion)				
SP-03 episil® [Medical Device] Pain associated oral mucositis	Camurus (Sweden)	Japan (Launched in May 2018)						- Meiji Seika Pharma (Japan), - Lee's Pharma (China*) *excl. BJ, SH and GZ - Solasia sales force (above 3 big cities in China) Distribution partner: Itochu Corp.	
		China (Launched in Jul. 2019)							
		Korea (NDA in Mar. 2019)							
SP-04 PledOx® Chemotherapy Induced Peripheral Neuropathy	PledPharma (Sweden)	Japan, Korea, TW, HK			(Initiated Phase III, pivotal study)			-	
		China			(Clinical study preparation)				

(Source: Solasia Pharma)

1) “SP-01: Sancuso®”

Item	Overview
Efficacy/effect	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. * In June 2019 (3 months after its launch), it was listed as a standard antiemetic treatment option for cancer treatment in the first guideline for proper use of antiemetics issued by CSCO.

(※)CSCO(Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology) : The most prominent and largest academic conference related to cancer in China

◎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.

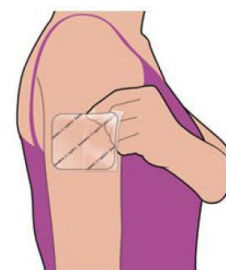
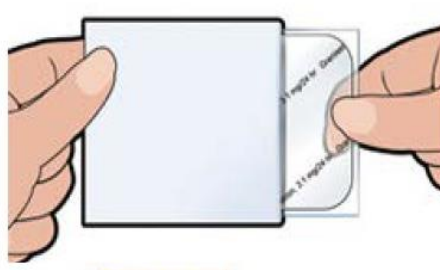
It is necessary to disrupt the stimuli generated by serotonin to the 5-HT₃ receptors in order to control nausea and vomiting. There are a variety of “5-HT₃ receptor antagonists” which are drugs used for the above purpose, and one of the representative agent is Granisetron.

◎Overview of “Sancuso® (SP-01)”

“Sancuso® (SP-01)” is a transdermal 5-HT₃ receptor antagonist containing Granisetron and is the world's only patch-type antagonist.



*Chinese package of Sancuso®



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

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, “Sancuso® (SP-01)” maintains the concentration level of Granisetron in blood on a stable basis for 5 days. Therefore, once a patch of “Sancuso® (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, “Sancuso® (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

Currently, it is marketed in more than 20 countries and regions such as the U.S., Europe, South Korea, etc. (sold by licensing-out companies and sublicensee, Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd.). Solasia Pharma is planning potential extension of indication of “Sancuso® (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.

It received milestone payments in the third quarter of FY December 2018, and the sales revenue was recorded.

Thereafter, the manufacturing process for commercial products was established, and manufacturing the products for the first shipment completed. In November 2018, the company began shipping the products to the direct sales destination, ITOCHU Corporation, with which the company entered into a dealership contract for the Chinese market.

Then, the Chinese customs clearance procedures also completed, and sales began as planned in March 2019.

The company will conduct sales activities through a self-selling structure in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, and through Lee's Pharma, which is the licensed distributor, in other regions of China.

Evaluation comments from major Chinese clinicians

On March 16, 2019, the company held (co-sponsored) the "Sancuso® China national launching meeting" in Shanghai.

The chairman of Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CSCO), Professor Li Jin, and the vice chairman, Professor Qin Shukui and Professor Ma Jun were chairmen of the meeting, a total of approximately 200 oncologists from all over China attended the meeting. At that meeting, Chinese key opinion leaders made remarks on "SP-01: Sancuso®" as follows.

Professor Qin Shukui (Vice Chairman of CSCO)

"Without any anti-emetic measures, 70%-80% of chemotherapy patients would experience CINV1 which would severely affect their quality of life. Often, patients will have to be treated with reduced dosage or even withdrawn from chemotherapy, with negative impacts on the treatment outcomes². The traditional CINV prevention methods are mainly short-term intravenous injection, which due to great fluctuation in blood concentration, requires repeated administration which is inconvenient for patients. With unique transdermal system, Sancuso® gradually releases granisetron into blood every day for up to 7days. With one patch per one chemotherapy cycle, it is a new non-invasive treatment choice for chemotherapy patients."

Professor Ma Jun (Vice Chairman of CSCO)

"The emetic risk in patients receiving HEC and MEC chemotherapy will continue for 2-3 days after last dose of chemotherapy. For multi-day chemotherapy, there is an overlap between acute and delayed vomiting, which requires more stable and long-lasting drug. Sancuso® covers different emetic stages including expected, acute and delayed nausea and vomiting. The 7day stable efficacy makes the whole process CINV management possible and allows patients to feel at ease throughout the entire chemotherapy cycle."

Professor Li Jin (Chairman of CSCO)

"The successful launching of Sancuso provides a long-lasting, stable and non-invasive new choice for the prevention of nausea and vomiting in Chinese chemotherapy patients. As a new choice for the prevention and treatment of chemotherapy related vomiting, with one patch, which is simple and easy, it makes CINV whole process management more convenient, it helps to standardize clinical treatment of CINV and further improves the treatment rate of CINV."

CSCO's first guideline for proper use of antiemetics was issued.

In June 2019, three months after Sancuso® (SP-01) was launched, CSCO issued the first guideline for proper use of antiemetics, and it was listed as a standard antiemetic treatment option for cancer treatment.

Prof. Qin Shukui, deputy director of CSCO and Guideline team leader, said, "This guideline recommends Sancuso® for an antiemetic treatment against highly and moderately emetogenic chemotherapy, providing a non-invasive and tolerable treatment option to cancer patients."

The company plans to grow 6% on the basis of quantity and aims to increase share in China's 5-HT3 RA antiemetic market, which is said to be 80 billion yen or more, through upper and lower streams of sales activities, including gaining recognition from the leading clinicians called Key Opinion Leaders on the characteristics of "Sancuso® (SP-01)" and its advantage over competitors and providing the information to clinicians.

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 “Darinaparsin (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 Asia global phase II clinical trial, which is positioned as the final study started in Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong in 2016, is ongoing targeting 65 patients (as planned) with relapsed or refractory Peripheral T-cell Lymphoma (PTCL). The patient registration is expected to end soon.

The trial will close by the end of 2019. If the results are promising, they intend to submit an application for approval to the authorities in 2020. In China, the phase II 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 currently, non-clinical trials are being conducted in parallel.

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.

With regard to the rights in Europe, the United States, and China, the company is considering to out-licensing based on the timing of both before and after announcement of the results of the Asian global phase II study. The company is receiving many inquiries.

3) “SP-03: episil® 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	* 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.

	* “episil® (SP-03)” contains no pharmaceutical agent, so there is no side effect nor interaction with anticancer agents.
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(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, there is no established standard treatment therefore the majority of hospitals conducted palliative treatment.

(Overview of “episil® (SP-03)”)

“Episil® (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.



(Source: Solasia Pharma)

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 “episil® (SP-03)” as new medical device in Japan by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare on July 6, 2017. In January 2018, “episil® (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, 7,520 yen per bottle(10ml) as of April in 2018, in May 2018, it was launched by Meiji Seika Pharma, which is the licensee who holds the exclusive sales rights of “episil® (SP-03)” in Japan.

In China, the company applied for approval in May 2016 and obtained the approval to import and sell medical equipment in February 2019. It began sales of the products in July 2019.

The company will conduct sales activities in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, and through Lee’s Pharma, which is a licensed distributor, will conduct sales activities in other regions of China.

Due to the product characteristics of “episil® (SP-03),” the company will “create a market” instead of entering into the existing market. The market is estimated to be 20 to 30 billion yen in Japan and China, and the company is aiming to acquire a 30-50% market share.

As for Korea, in August 2018, the company signed a contract with Camurus AB to which the company granted exclusive development and sales rights in Korea for “episil® (SP-03),” and in March 2019, it submitted an application for approval to the authorities. In other regions than Japan/China/Korea, which include the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and France, “episil® (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 decompose 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 (CIPN). It is known that CIPN 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 CIPN 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 CIPN is one of the crucial medical issues. There is currently no approved drug to prevent or treat CIPN.

(Overview of “PledOx® (SP-04)”)

PledPharma, the originator of “PledOx®(SP-04)” 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, “PledOx®(SP-04)” is a drug for treatment of CIPN with the most forward progress. 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 CIPN 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 CIPN 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 CIPN 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, in November 2018, PledPharma has started the global phase III study after consulting with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA).

Solasia Pharma, which completed the phase I study targeting Japanese, was considering participating into the global phase III study, avoiding the phase II study. Based on the consultation with the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) in June 2018, it decided to participate in the global phase III study in countries and regions where the company has the right, namely Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong, and began the study, which will be the final clinical trial, in December 2018. The trial is expected to end in 2020 and the results are expected to be announced in 2021.

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®(SP-04) administration compared with placebo.
Study design	(POLAR-M study) Colorectal cancer patients who undergo mFOLFOX therapy with distant metastases are included. (POLAR-A study) Colorectal cancer patients who undergo mFOLFOX 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®(SP-04) is evaluated.
Estimated enrollment	(POLAR-M study) 420 patients (Developed with PledPharma) (POLAR-A study) 280 patients (Developed with PledPharma)

※ 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.

With the start of the global phase III study, which is the final clinical trial, commercialization of “PledOx®(SP-04)” will move forward. Solasia Pharma plans to conduct clinical trials in China in the future. It also plans to license-out in Japan and Asia.

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, 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. Later, in March 2017, it made a public offering. 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, CEO Arai stands out with his deep experience and knowledge in clinical development.

The experienced clinical development team, led by CEO 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 “PledOx® (SP-04),” which was introduced in 2017, three products including “Sancuso® (SP-01),” “darinaparsin (SP-02)” and “episil® (SP-03)” were introduced without suspending or failing at any development process. All of the products are commercialized or have reached the final stage towards commercialization (i.e. “Sancuso® (SP-01)” was launched in China, “darinaparsin (SP-02)” is in the middle of the final clinical trial, and “episil® (SP-03)” was launched in Japan and China).

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 “PledOx®(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 the company established 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 the company gains approval. Of the four products, “episil® (SP-03)” was already launched in Japan and China, and “Sancuso® (SP-01)” was also launched in China, 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 ending December 2019 Earnings Results

2-1 Overview of consolidated results

	1H FY 12/ 18	1H FY 12/ 19	YoY
Revenue	84	130	+46
Gross profit	12	111	+98
R&D expenses	483	455	-27
SG&A expenses	452	666	+213
Operating profit	-923	-1,010	-86
Profit before tax	-926	-1,036	-110
Net Profit	-916	-1,093	-176

* Unit: million yen. Net profit is profit attributable to owners of the parent.

The revenue increased 46 million yen year on year to 130 million yen. The sources of the revenue include the product sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03),” and milestone and loyalty income upon the approval of “episil® (SP-03)” in China.

R&D expenses decreased 27 million yen year on year to 455 million yen. The expenses included the clinical development through the global phase II study (final clinical trial) of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” and the global phase III study (final clinical trial) of “PledOx® (SP-04)” that started in December 2018.

SG&A expenses increased 213 million yen year on year to 666 million yen. The expenses were generated building of an independent

sales and marketing structure associated with the start of sales in China, and 199 million yen for the amortization of intangible assets that were initiated by the business progress of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03).”

Operating loss increased 86 million yen year on year to 1,010 million yen.

2-2 Financial standing and cash flows

◎Main Balance Sheet

	End of December 2018	End of June 2019		End of December 2018	End of June 2019
Current assets	4,504	2,913	Current liabilities	619	565
Cash, etc.	4,046	2,541	Trade payables	580	479
Trade receivables	193	95	Noncurrent liabilities	21	119
Inventories	122	124	Total liabilities	641	684
Noncurrent assets	3,224	3,774	Equity	7,087	6,003
Intangible assets	3,123	3,598	Retained earnings	-7,975	2,175
Total assets	7,728	6,688	Total liabilities and net assets	7,728	6,688

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

Total assets decreased 1,040 million yen from the end of the previous term to 6,688 million yen due to a decline in cash and deposits.

In order to compensate for the deficit, become closer to the situation where shareholder return measures such as dividends of surplus and share acquisition are possible, and improve the flexibility and mobility of future capital policies, the decrease in the amount of capital reserve (3,712 million yen) and disposal of surplus (to compensate for deficit of retained earnings carried forward, 11,244 million yen) (including an increase due to a decrease in the amount of capital reserve and capital) were decided by the Board of Directors and approved by the general meeting of shareholders. Equity ratio (attributable to owners of the parent company) was 89.8%.

3. Fiscal Year December 2019 Earnings Forecasts

3-1 Full-year earnings forecast

	FY 12/ 18	FY 12/ 19 Est.
Revenue	318	500~1,700
Cost of sales	213	200~300
Gross profit	105	-
R&D expenses	1,463	1,500
SG&A expenses	1,061	1,800~1,900
Operating profit	-2,420	-2,000~-3,000
Profit before tax	-2,445	-2,000~-3,000
Profit	-2,422	-2,000~-3,000

* Unit: million yen. Net profit is profit attributable to owners of the parent.

There is no change in the earnings forecasts. Sales revenue will increase thanks to sales of SP-01 and SP-03. Losses tend to expand due to expansion of upfront investment.

There is no change in the earnings forecasts. As for sales, the market penetration speed is not clear as each product is just launched. As for costs, the timing of starting and closing clinical trials are not clear. Since it is difficult to determine the earnings forecast for the term ending Dec. 2019, the company has announced the earnings forecast with ranges.

(Revenue)

The company expects to gain sales revenues from “episil® (SP-03)” (Japan), which was launched in FY December 2018, “Sancuso®(SP-01)”(China), which was launched during the current fiscal year, and “episil® (SP-03)” (China), which will be launched during the current fiscal year.

However, it anticipates that the market penetration at the initial stage of sales will be limited relative to the assumed business scale. Furthermore, the company expects licensing-out revenue of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” or “PledOx® (SP-04)” to a certain extent as revenues from product licensing-out.

* Case in which sales revenues is 500 million yen (the lower limit of forecast).

Sales are expected to be 50% each for “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03).”

* Case in which sales revenues is 1,700 million yen (the upper limit of forecast).

A portion of the revenues derived from the sales licensing of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” or “PledOx® (SP-04)” is expected to be around 500 million yen.

Sales of “Sancuso®(SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” are estimated to be 600 million yen, respectively.

The keys to the growth in sales in Japan include progress with collaboration with the medical and dental fields and enhancing recognition of the products.

(Operating costs)

The following items are mainly recorded.

- * Cost of sales from the sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03).”
- * Investments in management of the self-selling system for “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” in China and marketing activities including post-marketing surveys.
- * Investment in the phase II study that will be the final clinical trial for “darinaparsin (SP-02)” and investment in the phase III study that will be the final clinical trial for “PledOx® (SP-04)”.
- * Amortization expense for intangible assets will be incurred in the full year following the launch of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)”. However, the amortization expense corresponds to the expenditure of the previous fiscal year, and thus, there is no expenditure in FY December 2019.

(Operating profit or loss)

It is expected that losses of 2 to 3 billion yen will occur at each stage, as the company continues to make upfront investments.

Operating loss excluding R&D expenses is estimated to be 500 to 1,500 million yen.

(Goal as a company)

In addition to achieving the goals of each pipeline, the company is promoting the introduction of newly developed products to strengthen the pipelines.

In addition, as a numerical target, it is aiming to achieve profitability of operating profit excluding R&D expenses in early stage after 2020.

Even if the pipelines remain the current 4 items (no increase in sales and marketing costs) and there is no licensing-out of “darinaparsin (SP-02)” and “PledOx® (SP-04),” the company believes that the business becomes profitable in 2021, if sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” increase steadily.

Meanwhile, it is also placing importance on the timing of turning the profit and loss excluding amortization expenses into black.

4. Conclusions

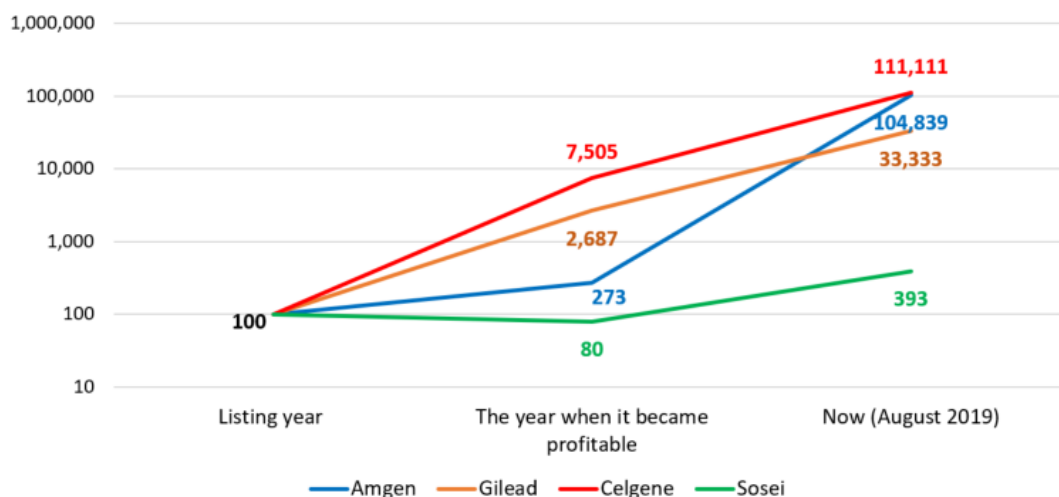
The graph and table below show the comparison of the total market cap trends of Japanese and US product development-type bio-ventures.

Product development-type bio-venture is a business model in which a company gains profit by keeping the right to develop and sell pharmaceuticals and other products and commercialize them. As the product life of pharmaceuticals and other products is considerably long, if a certain number of products are successfully commercialized, long-term stability of business can be expected. As a result,

American product development bio-ventures such as Amgen have realized tremendous growth in their corporate value as the total market cap grew by a factor of 300 to 1,000 from the time when they were listed. Furthermore, although the scale is not as large as the US companies, the total market cap of a Japanese company “Sosei Group (4565, Mothers market)” shows four-fold growth from the time when it got listed.

Among the four pipelines, sales of “Sancuso® (SP-01)” and “episil® (SP-03)” began. We would like to pay attention to the future of Solasia Pharma, which is evolving to a true product development-type bio-venture as not only “development,” but also “sales” began.

Trends in the Market Cap of Product Development-Type Bio-Venture



* Logarithmic graph with the market capitalization when listed as 100.
 * Made by Investment Bridge Co., Ltd. based on the material from Solasia.

	Year of establishment	Listing year	Total market cap at the time of listing (billion yen)	Year when business turned profitable	Total market cap in the year when business turned profitable (billion yen)	Current total market cap (August 2019) (billion yen)
Amgen(USA)	1980	1983	12.4	1986	33.9	13,000
Celgene(USA)	1986	1987	6.3	2004	472.8	7,000
Gilead(USA)	1987	1992	27.0	2002	725.5	9,000
Sosei Group	1990	2004	48.9	2013	39.1	192.2
Solasia Pharma	2007	2017	15.5	-	-	17.1

(Source: Solasia Pharma) The total market cap at the time of listing as of April 1984 for Amgen and March 1992 for Gilead. Converted at 1USD = 108 yen.

<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	4 auditors, including 4 outside ones

◎ Corporate Governance Report

Last update date: April 1, 2019

<Basic policy>

We believe that our mission is to contribute to the medical front including patients through our business activities as a drug development company. We also recognize that raising corporate value and returning profits to our shareholders through these business activities, and fulfilling our accountability to the stakeholders are important events for achieving our mission. For these reasons, our basic policy is to effectively function corporate governance by securing “compliance” and “transparency” of management, while enhancing the monitoring and supervisory system of external directors and the audit system of corporate auditors.

<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.”

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