

## **Intellim Ties Up with SMO Iberica, Aiming to Enter US Market in 2012(Nov.8.2011)**

The Osaka-based CRO intellim Corporation has entered into a business cooperation agreement with the SMO Iberica Co., Ltd. (Kyoto City), and will take a stake in the company. In its cooperation with Iberica, which has its own clinical pharmacology facilities in Japan and the US, and has a reputation for pharmacokinetics (PK) trials, and safety and bioequivalence studies, intellim intends to enhance its PI study support business and its full line of services for PII and PIII studies, and post-marketing surveillance (PMS). Iberica aims to increase the number of its project contracts by strengthening its sales force through the tie-up.

This is intellim's second business cooperation agreement with an SMO following an agreement concluded with Sehma Co., Ltd. (Fukui City) in February.

Iberica is an affiliate company of the CRO Iberica Holdings Co., Ltd. (Fukuoka City). Iberica Holdings conducts, in collaboration with Kurume University, PK studies in volunteer patients with hepatic function disorder or kidney function decline. In the US, the company conducts a contract business mainly in clinical pharmacology studies through its subsidiary Iberica USA Inc. (New Jersey).

Utilizing the know-how of Iberica and Iberica Holdings, intellim plans to meet the diverse needs of pharmaceutical companies by creating a global structure that establishes evidence quickly in early clinical studies. Intellim will be responsible for monitoring, data management, and the statistical analysis business, while Iberica will be responsible for the clinical study support business.

For the time being, they will focus on business expansion in Japan, but intellim is also considering plans to start business operations in the US from 2012. "In the Asia-Pacific region, more and more clinical trials move away from Japan. Intellim would like to halt the trend through US operations and start contract businesses in Asia in the future," said Masakuni Ukita, President and CEO of intellim.

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