
New Company for the Development of Wood-derived Medicinal Products Oji Pharma Co., Ltd. Is Established

Oji Holdings Corporation (President: Masatoshi Kaku; Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo) has established Oji Pharma Co., Ltd., a new company with the objective of developing, manufacturing and marketing medicinal products, and has also determined a policy for the new company.

1. Profile of the new company

- (1) Company name: Oji Pharma Co., Ltd.
- (2) Representative director: Masaru Yokoyama
- (3) Business line: Development, manufacture and marketing of medicinal products
- (4) Location: 7-5, Ginza 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo
- (5) Established: April 1, 2020
- (6) Capital: 10 million yen
- (7) Investment ratio: Oji Holdings Corporation 100%

2. Business policy

The new company aims to commercialize Sulfated hemicellulose (PPS), an active ingredient made from hemicellulose, a major wood constituent, for use as a medicinal product. PPS is a macromolecular sulfated polysaccharide produced from broad-leaved trees through a technology extracting, separating and purifying the different constituents from wood at a high purity. Collaborative R&D activities with universities and pharmaceutical companies led us to new findings on the inhibition of blood coagulation, anti-inflammatory effects and moisture retention. Based on these findings, we will continue R&D activities, narrowing the target to disease areas where these characteristics may be fully utilized. Derived from wood, PPS will enable the reduction of risks from viral infection and the consideration of religious limitations in its use, in terms of the development of medicinal products that inhibit blood coagulation. For this reason, PPS is expected to serve as an alternative to the pig-derived heparin, the current mainstream blood coagulation inhibitor. The Oji Group will globally offer new value of medicinal products made from renewable wood resources.

Contact
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